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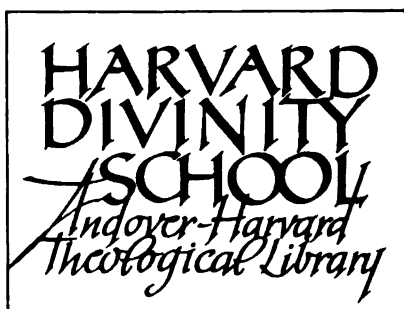
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THE LIFE OF SAMUEL JOHNSON,

1791.





Robbins, Thomas, 1777-1856.

DIARY

OF

THOMAS ROBBINS, D. D.

1796—1854.

PRINTED FOR HIS NEPHEW.

Owned by the Connecticut Historical Society.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

EDITED AND ANNOTATED

BY

INCREASE N. TARBOX.

VOLUME II.

1826-1854.

BOSTON:

BEACON PRESS: THOMAS TODD, PRINTER.

1887.

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# DIARY OF REV. THOMAS ROBBINS, D. D.

1826.

## JANUARY.

1. Wet. Afternoon it rained hard. Preached with old notes on Col. ii: 6. Administered the sacrament. Finished and preached my sermon on Ps. xc: 10. We have had twenty-two deaths the year past. Meeting full for such a day. We had a solemn season. Had no conference. Prepared this diary. Endeavored to devote myself to God for the ensuing year.

2. Rode out and dined with the January meeting.<sup>1</sup> It appeared better than in years past. Have pretty severe trials. Attended the monthly concert. A good meeting. Cold and freezing. Read.

3. Read. Rode out. It is not severe cold. Am pretty feeble. Wrote.

4. Wrote. Read expositors on the genealogies of Matthew and Luke. Attended the church conference. Thermometer 14°.

5. Thermometer at 8°. Wrote an expositor for the *Observer*.<sup>2</sup> Wrote late. It cost me a good deal of labor. Worked some. The ground is very hard.

6. Thermometer 14°. Rode to Hartford. Visited Mr. Wilcox.<sup>3</sup> He is very feeble. Paid \$7.50 for our meeting-house stoves—a donation. Paid for coins fifty cents. Got a few pamphlets. Attended our evening prayer-meeting. Quite full. Tired. My bank dividend was only two per cent.

7. Rode to Enfield to exchange. Warm. Very good riding. My brother at home. The circumstances of this society have lately much improved.

8. My brother went early to E. W. Wet and rainy. Preached on Acts xiii: 2, all day. At evening preached, with a written sermon, on Eph. ii: 14. The ground very wet. Visited a dying child.

9. Rainy. Rode home. Crossed and visited at Pine Meadow.<sup>4</sup> The river is quite open. Very muddy. Read.

10. Read newspapers. Worked some. Warm and faint. Thermometer at 60°. Read Smith's *Virginia*.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Of the civil authorities of the town.

<sup>2</sup> Connecticut *Observer*.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Carlos Wilcox, first pastor of the North Church. He was settled there in 1824; left in 1826. He was a man of fine poetic nature, but destined to an early death. He was born in Newport, N. H., Oct. 22, 1794, and died at Danbury, Ct., May 29, 1827.

<sup>4</sup> Pine Meadow is that part of ancient Windsor now known as the town of Wind-

sor Locks. Dr. Robbins made his journey home from Enfield by first passing the Enfield Bridge, coming down on the west side to Pine Meadow, then down to the Scantic Ferry, where he recrossed to East Windsor Hill. Though it was now the heart of winter, he tells us that the river was "quite open."

<sup>5</sup> This is the account given by John Smith of his early visits to Virginia.

11. Wrote an exposition. I think I cannot bear so much study as in years past. Read the Bible, which I have, latterly, too much neglected. Thermometer about 40°.

12. Rode out to Scotland.<sup>1</sup> Paid Mr. Wells \$10 for old newspapers. It was about half a dollar a year. I have now nearly a file of the *Courant*, from its beginning in 1764. But little frost in the ground. Looked over the old papers. Read the Bible. Received of Mr. Wells \$9 for grass he had of me summer before last.<sup>2</sup>

13. Arranged my old newspapers. Thermometer 28°. Wrote. Had a full prayer-meeting. Read the Bible.

14. Wrote a sermon on Gen. v: 24. Quite rainy. The rains of this winter are of great benefit to the ground. My eyes are pretty poor.

15. Wet, and very bad going. The fifth wet Sabbath in succession. Thin meeting. Expounded on Luke v: 27 to vi: 17, and preached the sermon written yesterday. Had a good conference. Visited.

16. Read the Bible. Wrote. Rode to Hartford. Cold and tedious. Paid for the *Christian Spectator*,<sup>3</sup> last year, \$3, for the *Missionary Herald* \$1.50, for new pamphlets purchased during the past year \$1.79. Had several *Registers*<sup>4</sup> given me. My list of them now wants but two.

17. Rode to Wintonbury and attended Ministers' Meeting. Preached on Acts xiii: 2. We had a good meeting. The riding very rough.

18. Rode home.<sup>5</sup> Looked at Judge Trumbull's<sup>6</sup> library. His best work is given to Yale College. Visited.

19. Thermometer at 16°. Read. On the 17th paid for the *Mirror*,<sup>7</sup> for a year, \$2. Wrote. Rode out. The riding very good.

20. Wrote an exposition. Walked and visited. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

21. Paid for oats \$5.50. Wrote a sermon on Ps. cvi: 23. I write less accurately than I used to do. Wrote late.

22. Wrote notes and preached on Luke xiv: 18, and preached on Ps. cvi: 23. Thermometer 12°. A pleasant day after five wet Sabbaths. Visited.

23. Thermometer 15°. Rode to Coventry. Was disappointed of obtaining a quantity of ancient newspapers, which have been recently destroyed.<sup>8</sup> Tarried with Mr. Calhoun.<sup>9</sup> Good riding.

<sup>1</sup> This was a village in East Hartford, now known as Burnside.

<sup>2</sup> This seems to imply that Dr. Robbins was the owner of land somewhere in the vicinity.

<sup>3</sup> The *Christian Spectator*, begun in 1819 at New Haven; published ten years as a monthly, and then ten years as a quarterly, when it was suspended.

<sup>4</sup> *State Registers* of Connecticut probably.

<sup>5</sup> He went evidently by way of Hartford, and not by Scantic Ferry.

<sup>6</sup> John Trumbull, author of *McFingal*.

<sup>7</sup> The Connecticut *Mirror*.

<sup>8</sup> He was gathering and preserving the contents of old attics.

<sup>9</sup> George A. Calhoun, D.D., one of the strong and able ministers of the State; a trustee of Yale, 1849-1864; pastor at North Coventry, 1819-1867.

24. Last night and today it has snowed considerably. Rode home. Bad going. Got some pamphlets of Mrs. Hunt, sister of Dr. Strong.<sup>1</sup> Read. Sleighs are out.

25. Looked over pamphlets and papers. Wrote. Paid a blacksmith \$3.64. Wrote, transcribing my will. Severe cold.

26. Thermometer at 2°. Finished my will, except signing. Began to transcribe my General Association sermon for the press. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>2</sup> The sleighing is poor. The river is frozen.

27. Thermometer three below zero. Wrote on my transcribing. Read Smith's *History*. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

28. Wrote a sermon on John x: 27, 28. Had to write late. Am much affected with my tremor.

29. Expounded on Luke vi: 17-39, and preached the sermon written yesterday. Read. Attended a singing meeting. Yesterday it became quite warm. Thermometer above 40°. Today a little above freezing.

30. Thermometer about 20° all day. Read Smith's *History*. Gave a poor man \$1. Worked, piling and carrying in wood. Last evening received a good letter from my brother James. It snowed the greater part of the day.

31. Last night it became very windy, and drifted the snow very much. A very tedious day. Thermometer at zero, then rose to 3°, sunk to zero at noon, and continued to sink till night, with a clear sun. The air filled with snow. Wrote to my brother James. Finished reading Smith's *History*. Read the Bible. Few people to be seen abroad. Thermometer at bed-time six below zero.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Thermometer at sun-rise 14° below zero. It has not been so cold for several years. It rose to 14° above. Walked and visited. Got a few old newspapers. Wrote. Read the Bible.

2. Thermometer 12°. The weather moderates. I have taken a cold. Wrote, copying my sermon. At evening rode to Wapping and performed a marriage.<sup>3</sup> People go in sleighs, but it is poor.

3. Thermometer 28°. Wrote on my copying. Walked and visited. It snowed, but the sleighing is poor. Attended the prayer-meeting. Yesterday received a letter from C. Sherman, of Suffield,<sup>4</sup> requesting me to attend with an ecclesiastical council there, then in session. On account of my engagement at Wapping, I could not go.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Nathan Strong, of Hartford, was son of Rev. Nathan Strong, the life-long minister of what is now North Coventry. Mrs. Hunt was one of his daughters, living in Coventry.

<sup>2</sup> Between Edward Goodwin, of Hartford, and Sarah Mills. This was not Mr. Edward Goodwin, of Hartford, who has only very recently passed, in a good, ripe old age, like his father and brothers.

<sup>3</sup> The parties to this marriage were Marvin Grant and Abigail Belcher, both of Wapping.

<sup>4</sup> This was the Charles Sherman with whom he used to correspond in New Haven, where he was connected with one of the banks. His home now was at Suffield, where he held an important position both in church and town matters.



4. Thermometer at 5°. Rode to Hartford. Have something of the influenza. It is very extensively prevalent, but not very severe. The Emperor of Russia is dead.<sup>1</sup> He was very near my age. Wrote. Read the Bible.

5. Preached, all day, an old sermon on 2 Thes. ii: 13. Attended the funeral of a child. Stormy. Much oppressed with influenza. Read.

6. Read. People move with sleighs, but the sleighing is poor. Afternoon, kept Tudor's school. At evening attended the monthly concert. Quite hoarse and feeble. Mr. Killam,<sup>2</sup> executor of the late Mrs. Day,<sup>3</sup> paid me \$500, to be held as a fund for the benefit of this church and society.

7. Rode to Hartford and met with association. Several were absent. We had a good session. My brother preached well. We were very well entertained at Mr. Linsley's.<sup>4</sup> Afternoon and evening quite rainy.

8. The association licensed two candidates.<sup>5</sup> Did errands. Rode home. Quite muddy. Attended our church conference. Yesterday received a letter requesting me and a delegate to attend a council at Suffield.

9. Rode out. Mr. Sprague,<sup>6</sup> of West Springfield, called here. Gave him a good many valuable pamphlets.<sup>7</sup> Wrote. At evening, Deacon Reed and Mr. Charlton called on me.

10. Walked and visited. The influenza has become very prevalent. Read. Quite rainy. Looked over newspapers.

11. Read. My health is poor. Concluded not to try to write a sermon. Worked some at my library. Wrote. Read the Bible. Wet. Thermometer in the morning at 40°. The ground thaws.

12. Wrote notes and preached on 1 John v: 9. Preached an old sermon on Ps. lxxxiv: 11. Baptized a child.<sup>8</sup> It thawed a good deal and is very muddy. I cough considerably. Received a letter from my sister, and one from Mr. Ely, of Simsbury. Read. Feel much debility.

13. I believe I took cold yesterday. My influenza has returned, and is very severe. My head is exceedingly pressed. Received a letter with a very valuable box of books, as a present from my excellent friend, Mr. Samuel S. Stebbins,<sup>9</sup> of Windsor. It consists of twelve volumes of Rosenmüller on the Old Testament, and six volumes of his Greek Testament, with annotations. All executed in the elegant German manner. The greatest present, by far, that I have ever had for my library. Took medicine.

<sup>1</sup> Alexander Paulowitch, who came to the throne in 1801, and died in December, 1825. Nicholas, his brother, succeeded, and was publicly crowned at Moscow, Sept. 3, 1826.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. James Killam.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Mary Day, widow, who died March 15, 1825.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Joel H. Linsley, pastor of the South Church, 1824-1832.

<sup>5</sup> Horatio N. Hubbell and Bennett Roberts.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. William B. Sprague.

<sup>7</sup> Dr. Sprague was young yet, having been graduated at Yale in 1815, but the taste which was strong in him through life was already showing itself.

<sup>8</sup> Elizabeth, daughter of Wyllis Stoughton.

<sup>9</sup> Johann Georg Rosenmüller's *Scholia in Vetus Testamentum*, Leipsic edition, consisted of eleven volumes, and *Scholia in Novum Testamentum*, Leipsic, 1815-1835, six volumes. These books came from the library of the late Rev. Samuel Stebbins.

14. Am very ill. Walked a short distance and saw a sick child. Could not attend the funeral of an infant on account of my illness. Wrote some. Worked some at my library. I have toward 1,500 volumes. Can do but little.

15. Kept house almost wholly. Sent a messenger to inform Mr. Burt,<sup>1</sup> of Manchester, that I cannot preach at his fast on Friday. Wrote and read some. Thermometer in the morning at 16°.

16. Thermometer near freezing. Walked and visited. Many people are afflicted with the influenza, and I think it is unusually severe. Wrote to Mr. Stebbins, of Windsor. Read the Bible. Can study but little.

17. Walked and visited considerably. I think I have never known so many sick here. Got quite fatigued. Am pretty feeble, but my malady, through mercy, appears to be wearing off. Thermometer about 18°.

18. Thermometer about 15°. Wrote. Rode to Wapping and visited the sick. It is thought that two thirds of the people in this town are unwell. Read the Bible.

19. Expounded on Luke vi: 39 to vii: 18. Meeting quite thin, and a great deal of coughing. Preached an old sermon on Deut. ix: 5. At evening attended conference. Am quite feeble.

20. Visited the sick. Rode to Hartford. Paid for old newspapers \$1.80. It snowed some. Our winter is very irregular. We have many sick.

21. Walked and visited the sick. Quite rainy. Read. My sight is manifestly impaired.

22. Cold and blustering. Rode with Deacon Reed to Suffield to attend a council. We crossed at Warehouse Point, with my brother, after a detention of near three hours. It was bad, but the Lord helped us. Attended the business before the council.<sup>2</sup> Things appear very bad. We sat late.

23. Attended the business of the council all day. Took great pains to reconcile the contending parties. But the prospect is unfavorable. We were up quite late in preparing the result. Got much fatigued. Kindly entertained at Dr. Pease's.

24. The council published their result in the morning. I fear we shall have to meet again. Rode home. Mrs. Moore<sup>3</sup> died yesterday. Several others are hard sick. Visited them. At evening attended the prayer-meeting. Very tired.

25. Walked and visited the sick. I think we have not had so much sickness since 1816. Mr. Olcott, one of our best men, is very low. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Moore. Am troubled with a cough. Prayed in six sick houses.

26. Preached with old notes on 2 Pet. ii: 1. Wrote an addition to an

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Enoch Burt, pastor at Manchester (formerly Oxford parish, East Hartford), 1824-1828.

<sup>2</sup> This council seems to have been called for the settlement of difficulties between the church and its pastor, Rev. Ebenezer Gay.

A colleague was settled with Mr. Gay that year (1826), and Mr. Gay died in the following year. The precise nature of this church quarrel does not appear, but it was some time before the breach was healed.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Eliza Moore, aged twenty-four.

old sermon, and preached on Prov. ix: 12. Thermometer at 56°. Very bad going. After meeting walked and visited the sick. Meeting quite thin. Very tired.

27. It snowed and rained the most of the day. Wrote. Dr. Tudor is very low. Attended the funeral of Mr. Olcott.<sup>1</sup> He is a great loss to us. He died of influenza. Read.

28. The death of the Emperor Alexander produces a great sensation in Europe. Wrote. Attended the funeral of a colored man.<sup>2</sup> Rode out and performed a marriage.<sup>3</sup> Wet and rainy. The going is extreme bad. Read.

#### MARCH.

1. Rode to Hartford. Rainy and wet. I think I never saw the traveling here so bad. Signed and completed my will. Paid Dr. Strong<sup>4</sup> \$5 for pamphlets. For the most of them I gave four cents each. Visited sick persons in East Hartford. Very little moving.

2. Visited the sick. Most of them are hopefully gaining. Performed a marriage in this neighborhood.<sup>5</sup> Rainy and dark. I do but little besides attending to the sick.

3. Wrote. Rode out and visited. Visited the family of a man who died today.<sup>6</sup> Read. Wet and dark weather. Omitted our prayer-meeting.

4. Dr. Tudor is very low. Wrote the most of a sermon on 1 Tim. iv: 8. I write slow and poorly. There seems to be no prospect of clear weather.

5. Finished and preached my sermon on 1 Tim. iv: 8. Attended the funeral of the late Mr. Lyman. Very tired. Had no conference. The nights are wet and very dark, and the going very bad. Have some cough.

6. Visited the sick and others. Am quite feeble. Our principal epidemic now is pneumonia. Attended the monthly concert. It was quite thin. Tarried out.

7. Dr. Tudor died last night, aged ninety-three. He graduated in 1750,<sup>7</sup> and has been first in the catalogue for near four years. Rode and visited the sick. Took cold and was quite unwell. My labors are fatiguing. Received, some days since, a letter from Sidney Mills,<sup>8</sup> at Yale College.

8. I took a sweat last night, and, through mercy, am better. Wrote a brief biography of Dr. Tudor, and delivered it at his funeral. Mr. Wheaton,<sup>9</sup> of Hartford, was present, and read the service at the grave. Wet and rainy.

<sup>1</sup> Eli Olcott, aged seventy.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Thomas Palmer, aged seventy-two.

<sup>3</sup> Between Julius Hale, of Glastonbury, and Eliza H. Bissell, of East Windsor.

<sup>4</sup> This was Dr. Nathan Strong, physician in Hartford, son of Dr. Nathan Strong, the eminent divine. Nathan Strong, M. D., was a graduate of Williams College, 1802, and died in 1837. He was son of Dr. Strong by his first wife, daughter of Solomon Smith, of Hartford. These pamphlets were, without doubt, from Rev. Dr. Strong's library.

<sup>5</sup> Between Nelson Skinner, of Vernon, and Fanny Skinner, of East Windsor.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Nathan Lyman, aged fifty-eight.

<sup>7</sup> Was seventy-six years out of college. References have been so frequently made to him that we need not now repeat the facts concerning his life.

<sup>8</sup> Sidney Mills, afterward a Presbyterian minister, was graduated at Yale College that very year (1826). He was born in Canton, Ct., March 29, 1799, and, after laboring in several places, died in Fairfax County, Va., in 1774.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. Nathaniel Sheldon Wheaton, D. D., then rector of Christ Church, Hartford, afterwards President of Trinity College.

9. Rode and visited. Attended the funeral of a little child of six years. The sick seem not to diminish. My cough is quite tedious. I hardly find any time for study. The weather continues dark and wet. Loaned \$62 of the money of the Day legacy.

10. Last night it rained hard. Wrote considerably. In the afternoon the weather cleared off warm and pleasant. The first clear sunshine since Sabbath before last. The sun has barely appeared a few times, without clear shining, full twelve days. The most of the time it has been thick, cloudy, and dark, and every day more or less rain. The thermometer has been the whole time, I believe, above freezing. The ground very wet, and roads exceeding muddy. A most uncommon time. At evening attended the prayer-meeting. I have a good deal of cough.

11. Last night my cough was very hard. Am quite feeble. Read. Can do but little. Wrote an obituary notice of Dr. Tudor. Took medicine. A pleasant day.

12. Expounded on Luke vii: 19-36, and preached an old sermon on Job xxvii: 8. Spoke with difficulty, but with greater ease than I feared. Read. Attended a singing meeting.

13. Last night my cough was very severe. Rode out and visited the sick. The roads have dried very much in a short time. Read Calmet's *Dictionary*,<sup>1</sup>

14. Wrote on a piece for the Connecticut *Observer*. Walked out and visited. Read the Bible.

15. Walked and visited the sick and mourners. Received a letter from Mr. Ely, of Simsbury. Wrote. Have many hindrances. Cold.

16. Walked and visited. Have but little time for my studies. Visited a school. We have a high and tedious wind. I do not recover from the influenza. Have much debility. Have much to do. Paid a merchant \$1.33.

17. Thermometer about 19°. Hindered by company. Wrote. At evening attended the prayer-meeting. Am disappointed of having some persons unite with our church which I have expected. Late in the evening found that a neighbor, who owes me about \$80, was in a failing state, and succeeded in getting an assignment of property in a demand on the town. Was out quite late.

18. Rode very early to Scantic and saw two of the selectmen, and got them to accept of my claim.<sup>2</sup> The man is insolvent, and the saving of the debt is a providential favor. Assisted in examining a young woman for our communion. Had a fatiguing day. Found bad riding.

19. Am pretty feeble. My cough is troublesome. Preached an old sermon on Dan. xii: 10. Thin meeting. Some snow and wet. We have the painful account of the death of Mr. Fisk,<sup>3</sup> another missionary in Palestine. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Augustine Calmet was born, Commercy, in France, in 1672. He was a notable scholar, and his two great works were *Commentaire Litteral* and *Dictionnaire de la Bible*.

<sup>2</sup> On the man who had failed.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Pliny Fisk, a native of Shelburne,

Mass., a graduate of Middlebury College, 1814. He sailed for Syria in 1819, and was very successful. He died at Beirût, Oct. 23, 1825. A memoir of him was written by Dr. Alvan Bond, of Norwich, Ct. His memory is held sacred in the New England churches.

20. Wet and rainy. Rode to Hartford. Carried books to the binder. Did errands. Paid for a few pamphlets ninety-two cents. Got wet. Very tired. Wrote to Sidney Mills at college, and sent \$70 to two Everest beneficiaries. Read.

21. The late failure in this neighborhood makes much trouble. Rode to Wapping and visited two schools. Visited the sick and the afflicted. Cold and blustering. Much fatigued. Mr. Gaylord,<sup>1</sup> of Norfolk, came here and tarried. My labors seem to increase.

22. Walked and visited. Visited a school. Have much difficulty in getting out the school visitors. Wrote. Our roads are mostly settled.

23. Walked out and visited. Wrote the most of a sermon on Jer. v: 9. Assisted in examining a young woman for our communion. Had to write late.

24. Fast. Preached with old notes on Ezra viii: 21. Finished and preached my sermon on Jer. v: 9. Wet, and thin meeting. We are in a very stupid state. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Very much fatigued.

25. On the 22d paid \$5.60 for fourteen bushels of oats. Visited the sick. Rode to East Hartford and Hartford. The water is rising fast. Did errands. Went to Mr. Hawes<sup>2</sup> to make an exchange. Cold. Paid for corks seventy-eight cents. A little before ten in the evening there was a cry of fire, which proved to be very alarming. Several buildings were burned in the center of the town. A good Providence remarkably blest the means used to arrest it. I got quite fatigued.<sup>3</sup>

26. Mr. Hawes rode to East Windsor and returned after meeting. A very raw and rough day. Preached on Ps. l: 5 and Eph. ii: 14. Something hoarse. At noon attended the funeral of a poor laborer—a stranger in town—who was burnt last evening in one of the houses, unknown at the time. At evening rode home, and attended the conference. The water is high.

27. Read considerably. Wrote. The water is higher than it has been for three or four years. It is a great favor. Had a number of books bound, which make a valuable addition to my library.

28. Read. Walked and visited the most of the day. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>4</sup> The approaching electors' meeting produces some electioneering, and it is well that it is no oftener than once a year.

29. Wrote, copying my association sermon. Rode out. Disappointed in attending to an object which I wished to dispose of. Cold and windy.

30. Wrote. Visited a school, large and well instructed. I lament that I can find no more time for study. Yesterday rode to Wapping and visited sick persons.

31. Rode to Wapping and visited the sick. Cold and tedious. The roads

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Asahel Gaylord.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Joel Hawes.

<sup>3</sup> Under the old system of passing water in pails, everybody felt that they must lend a hand at a fire. Dr. Robbins was half sick,

and was to preach next day, but he turned out, with the rest, to help. He was always ready to take hold of hard work, if needed.

<sup>4</sup> Between Lester Brewster, of Coventry, and Lucretia Grant, of East Windsor.

pretty well settled. Preached a preparatory lecture, with old notes, on Ps. li: 12. Dr. Strong, of Hartford, came here and brought me some of his father's books. Paid him \$35 for twenty-four volumes. Montanus's<sup>1</sup> Hebrew Bible is very valuable. Paid him \$1 for pamphlets. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Both meetings quite thin. Much fatigued.

#### APRIL

1. Wrote a sermon on Rom. iii: 3. My tremor is burdensome, and I fear increases. Read. Warmer and quite dry. I write but poorly.

2. Wrote notes and preached in the forenoon on Zech. xiii: 7. Administered the sacrament. The church quite full. Admitted two young women<sup>2</sup> into the church. Preached the sermon written yesterday. Much fatigued. Had a very full conference. We had a solemn day. I pray for a divine blessing.

3. Rode out and saw a sick child. Wrote. Our people did pretty well at the electors' meeting. Wrote. Rode to Hartford. Brought up books and pamphlets that were Dr. Strong's.<sup>3</sup> Attended the monthly prayer-meeting. Quite thin.

4. Rode out. Testified at the court of probate for two wills. Attended a long examination of our academy. The performance was very good. Visited.

5. Rode to Wapping and visited the sick. Wrote to Mr. Benedict, of Vernon,<sup>4</sup> in answer to a letter I received from him yesterday. Rode to Hartford and got books which I have had bound. My library has lately been much enlarged and improved. Paid for an old book fifty cents.

6. Read the Bible. Wrote the plan of a book-case. It snowed considerably. Visited a school. Worked, bottling cider.

7. Read the Bible. Walked and visited. Visited Tudor's school. It performed very well. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Quite tired.

8. Wrote on my catalogue of books. Rode to Wapping and attended the funerals of two men, of fifty-seven and sixty-four, who died suddenly, and both intemperate. Visited a sick man. Could not attend to write a sermon. My brother came here, late in the evening, and tarried.

9. Wet and rainy. My brother rode to Manchester to exchange. Expounded on Luke vii: 36 to viii: 16, and preached an old sermon on Acts v: 20. Rode to Wapping and attended the funeral of a woman<sup>5</sup> who died yesterday of a consumption. Very tired. The funeral very large.

10. It snowed fast the most of the day. My brother came in, in the morning, and staid till near night. Quite tedious. Read. Wrote on pecuniary accounts.

<sup>1</sup> Benedict Arias Montanus. His polyglot Bible, in eight volumes, was very valuable. He was one of the most learned divines of his generation. He was born in 1527, and died at Seville, in Spain, in 1598.

<sup>2</sup> Abigail Olcott and Marcia Gleason.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Nathan Strong, pastor of First Church.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Amzi Benedict, pastor at Vernon, 1824-1830.

<sup>5</sup> Widow Mary Drake, aged 73. His funerals at Wapping were frequent.

11. Thermometer in the morning at 10°, and rose during the day to 29°. Cold and tedious. The snow blew very much. It is seven or eight inches deep. Sleighs move a good deal. It has hardly been better sleighing through the winter.<sup>1</sup> Read the Bible. Wrote on my catalogue. Kept very much in.

12. On the 10th assisted in bottling cider. We have put down 260 bottles. Wrote and worked on my library. Read the Bible. Thermometer in the morning about 15°, and rose a little above freezing. The snow wastes. My tremor embarrasses my writing.

13. For three days past I have not been out of our yards. Wrote to H. Ellsworth,<sup>2</sup> of Hartford, about going to Europe. Rode to Hartford. Bad riding. Attended the funeral of old Mrs. Drake. Read. Thermometer in the morning about 10°. Paid for pamphlets forty-four cents. Read late.

14. Wrote on my catalogue of books. The weather is warmer and the most of the snow is gone. Yesterday read Judge Gould's<sup>3</sup> very excellent oration. Reckoned accounts with Mr. Wolcott, which we have not done before since March 8, 1819. His charge for my board and horse-keeping was but \$104 a year. I procure my liquors, and grain for my horse. I owed him \$187.66. He gave in \$47.66, in consideration of my assistance in his building, etc.; I gave him my note of \$831.25, given him at our last reckoning. He treated me liberally. Wrote. At evening attended our prayer-meeting. Donation, \$3.

15. Visited the sick. The thermometer rose to 67°. Wrote. Rode to Vernon to exchange with Mr. Benedict. The snow is mostly gone. Vegetation begins to appear. Bad riding.

16. Mr. Benedict rode early to East Windsor, and returned after meeting. Wet and rainy. Meetings pretty thin. The people here have a favorable prospect of erecting a new meeting-house. Preached on Ps. cvi: 23, and Eph. ii: 14.

17. Last night we had a good deal of rain. Rode home through Wapping. Visited there. Paid \$10 for the last volume of Calmet's dictionary. Read. There has been a disgraceful duel at Congress.<sup>4</sup> Received a letter from my brother.

18. Visited the sick. We now have quite a number. Rode to Wapping and attended a funeral. Thermometer at 70°. Wrote.

19. Last night it rained. Rode with Eveline<sup>5</sup> to Pine Meadow. Bad riding. Rode to Suffield. Saw Mr. Mann,<sup>6</sup> of Bristol, now preaching there

<sup>1</sup> This is the eleventh of April, and those who are in the habit of saying that the season of spring came on earlier when they were young will do well to heed this, and many similar facts presented in this diary. Seasons varied then as now.

<sup>2</sup> We suppose this to be Henry L. Ellsworth before spoken of, son of Chief-Justice Oliver Ellsworth.

<sup>3</sup> Judge James Gould, LL. D., connected

with the Litchfield Law School. What was the occasion of this oration we do not know

<sup>4</sup> Between Henry Clay and John Randolph. Neither of them killed or wounded.

<sup>5</sup> Eveline Wolcott, youngest daughter of Mr. Abiel Wolcott, now twenty-three years old. They went to call on her sister Frances, Mrs. Harris Haskell.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Joel Mann, pastor at Bristol, R. I., 1815-1826.

I hope their difficulties may be reconciled. Mr. Gay<sup>1</sup> is likely to be dismissed. Returned to Pine Meadow.

20. Rode home. Warm. Vegetation advances rapidly. Visited fourteen families. A man at Deacon Reed's, from Boston, is very low with a consumption. Tired.

21. Quite cool. Visited the sick. I fear disease is increasing among us. Finished my regular course of visiting for the year, beginning at the first of May last. Have visited all the families in the society since that time—176. I have been in arrear for two or three years past, but all are now brought up. In a few instances persons have moved away and have not been visited. The year past I have visited a great deal. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Quite thin. Cold and windy. My brother sent me an excellent letter received from cousin William Le Baron.<sup>2</sup> Uncle Lemuel<sup>3</sup> has been very sick.

22. Jack's<sup>4</sup> fleece unwashed, weight seven pounds. Well washed it would probably have been about three pounds. Attempted to write a sermon, but was prevented by other calls. Last night Mr. William Chadwick,<sup>5</sup> of Boston, died at Deacon Reed's of a consumption, having arrived here for the benefit of his health about three weeks ago. His parents came here a few hours after his death. This is the last of their five children, all of whom have died of a consumption. Was with them considerably. In the evening they went off with the poor widow for Boston. Visited the sick. Quite cold and windy.

23. Wrote notes and preached in the forenoon on Ps. cxxx: 7. Afternoon preached an old sermon on Job xiv: 7. After meeting Mr. Sprague, brother of the young widow of Mr. Chadwick, who arrived here today, went off, with his corpse, for Boston. Attended the evening conference. Very tired. Tarried out.

24. Visited. Rode to East Hartford and attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Olmstead. Mr. Fairchild went with me. Wet. Read.

25. Wrote. Had company. Walked and visited the sick and others. Was out late.

26. Rode to Enfield and preached for my brother at the annual meeting of their charitable associations. Their collections are liberal. Mrs. Robbins<sup>6</sup> is feeble.

27. Returned. Visited. Rode to East Hartford and procured some old newspapers for several years. Paid for them \$4.75. Paid for two old books fifty cents. My file of letters is yet quite incomplete.

28. Worked all the forenoon in the garden. Wrote to my cousin W. Le Baron, of Rochester. I am pretty feeble. Attended our evening prayer-meeting.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Ebenezer Gay, pastor there, 1793-1837. Mr. Mann was his colleague, and he was not dismissed.

<sup>2</sup> William Le Baron, son of Lemuel.

<sup>3</sup> Lemuel, minister of Rochester, Mass.

<sup>4</sup> This refers to some sheep with which we are not acquainted. A dirty fleece, four pounds dirt and three pounds wool.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. William Chadwick, shoe merchant.

<sup>6</sup> His brother Francis's wife.



29. Wrote the most of a sermon on Heb. xii: 16. My eyes are quite poor. I wrote slow. Vegetation is backward. Cold and wet.

30. Finished and preached my sermon on Heb. xii: 16. Expounded on Luke viii: 16-41. Pleasant and full meeting. Attended the evening conference. Saw blossoms on the daffs on the 25th.

#### MAY.

1. Wrote. Prayed and dined with our military company. Visited a man very sick. Sidney Mills,<sup>1</sup> our beneficiary, came here to see me. Attended our monthly concert. Thin and gloomy.

2. Visited the sick. Rode to New Haven to attend the election. Hindered at Hartford. Got in late. Much fatigued.

3. Attended the election. The ministers, about fifty, had a meeting in the morning and agreed to form a convention. They were kept gratuitously by families, and were well treated by public officers. Dr. Beecher<sup>2</sup> preached well. Very warm. Saw Mr. Battell and many friends. Saw cousins S. and P. Battell. Mr. Nash<sup>3</sup> preached in the evening for the Domestic Missionary Society. Settled a long account with Gen. Howe and gave up his note. His book account was \$33.32. He paid me \$31.44 to balance the note. I paid his book account and seventy-five cents for quills. Am very kindly entertained at Mr. Roger Sherman's.<sup>4</sup>

4. Made some calls. Rode home. The heat quite oppressive. The dust very tedious. Very tired. A man<sup>5</sup> has died in my absence. The thermometer today has been 82°. Saw blossoms on the early fruit-trees.

5. Rode out with Ursula. She is pretty poor. Attended a funeral. Visited. Wrote. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Thermometer 80°.

6. Yesterday we had our first asparagus. We might have cut on the 2d. Saw daffa blossoms on the 25th. Wrote the most of a sermon on 2 Cor. v: 19. Am quite languid. Thermometer 72°. Had no fire in my chamber.

7. Finished and preached my sermon on 2 Cor. v: 19. Very dry and a tedious dust. My people are pretty slack about attending public worship. We had our annual missionary contribution and collected \$32.05. There was no brief from the assembly.<sup>6</sup> Attended the conference.

8. Last night we had some rain. Greatly needed. Wrote to Mr. E. B. Haskell. Paid a tailor eighty-two cents. Rode to Glastonbury with Ursula.

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<sup>1</sup> Sidney Mills, before noticed, who was in the Senior class at Yale, was a native of Canton, and was assisted by the Everest fund in his studies for the ministry. He became a Presbyterian minister, and died in Virginia in 1874.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Lyman Beecher, who went that very year from Litchfield to Boston, to the Hanover Street Church.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Ansel Nash, of Tolland.

<sup>4</sup> Roger Sherman, the signer of the Declaration, died in New Haven in 1793. The

Roger Sherman named in the diary had a hospitable home near the college.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Elisha Ranney, aged forty.

<sup>6</sup> It has been before stated that these contributions in the Congregational churches of Connecticut, in the month of May, for missionary purposes, were taken by order of the State. It seems to be implied here that a brief statement was prepared and sent out to each church, which this year was wanting, and the contribution therefore, as Dr. Robbins implies, was not so large.

They have a great work of grace there. Saw Mr. Griswold, their present preacher. Paid Mr. Lockwood<sup>1</sup> \$2.50 for books and \$2.50 for pamphlets. Saw blossoms on the apple-trees.

9. Rode to Hartford. Got books at the bindery. Wrote. Hindered by company.

10. Quite warm. Rode to Vernon and attended the meeting of the female society for promoting revivals of religion. An interesting and useful society. Met with the directors of the Annuity Society. Rode to the lower part of Scantic and performed a marriage.<sup>2</sup>

11. Wrote on the business of the Ministers' Annuity Society. Rode to Hartford and attended the annual meeting of the same and of the board of directors. The society have lost two presidents in two years. Very dry and dusty. Traded \$3.38. Fruit-trees appear well. People are planting.

12. Wrote the most of the day on the business of the Annuity Society. Am pretty languid. My cousin, Mrs. Gridley,<sup>3</sup> and Gen. Mattoon<sup>4</sup> called here. Thermometer at 82°. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

13. Walked and visited. The heat very severe and the dust tedious. A remarkable season. Mr. Clark<sup>5</sup> came here from Suffield to exchange with me. Thermometer at 92°. Rode to Pine Meadow.

14. Rode early to Suffield. Preached on Ps. 1: 5 and Eph. ii: 14. Attended a third meeting and preached without notes on Job xlii: 5, 6. Much affected with the heat, and his congregation is rather small. Saw Mr. Gay. He feels very badly. I fear he will make much trouble here.

15. Conversed with various persons respecting ecclesiastical concerns here. They have much anxiety on the subject. The heat still more severe. Afternoon rode to Enfield and home. My thermometer yesterday was 93° and today 97°. Paid a shoe-maker \$2.25. Much fatigued.

16. Mr. Bidwell<sup>6</sup> came from college and spent some time. Wrote. Visited. Thermometer at 97°. At evening set out for Norfolk.

17. Last evening set out on a journey on account of the heat and dust, and did not stop, except twice to bait my horse with oats carried with me, till I arrived at my brother's, at Colebrook, a little after sunrise. Rode to Norfolk. My mother is quite well. Much fatigued.

18. Mr. Battell is at the Assembly.<sup>7</sup> Visited Mr. Emerson. Brother F. and his wife came here. Yesterday afternoon the weather changed, and it

<sup>1</sup> Rev. William Lockwood.

<sup>2</sup> Between Daniel N. Cone and Diantha Ladd.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Gridley is Mrs. Olmsted with her new married name.

<sup>4</sup> Gen. Ebenezer Mattoon was a Revolutionary officer, born in 1755, in Amherst, Mass. He was graduated at Dartmouth, 1776. After serving faithfully in the war of the Revolution, he retired with the rank of major, and since then had held many prominent civil

offices. He died in Amherst, 1843, aged eighty-eight.

<sup>5</sup> Some minister of the name Clark, who was supplying the pulpit at Suffield. He was not settled there.

<sup>6</sup> Walter H. Bidwell, in the class of 1827. For many years a preacher, and then the owner and publisher of the *Eclectic Magazine*, New York.

<sup>7</sup> Connecticut General Assembly, which this year held its session at New Haven.

is cooler. But we get no rain. At evening preached at a stated conference on Eph. ii: 14. The people here evince a good regard to the memory of my father.

19. My mother rode in my sulky to the burying-ground, my brother and I walked by her and visited father's grave. Philip Battell came home from Middlebury College. He is Senior. Afternoon left Norfolk and rode to Canton. Tarried at a tavern. Gave Sally Laurence \$1. On Wednesday gave \$10 to my mother. Last evening received a letter from my brother James. The dust very severe.

20. Rode quite early and got home in the morning. There have been two deaths here in my absence, an aged woman and a man.<sup>1</sup> Rode out. Something fatigued. The thermometer on the 17th was at 96°, since that it has been cooler. Afternoon attended the funeral of Mr. Ephraim Wolcott. Mr. Griswold came here from Glastonbury to exchange. In the evening rode down there.

21. Preached on Ps. l: 5, and 1 Thess. v: 3. There is a great and very good work of grace here. Mr. Griswold has been instrumental of much good. Near ninety are supposed to have got hope. The aspect of the congregation is very favorable. Quite warm. Preached in the evening without notes on John xii: 21. Meetings very solemn. Much fatigued. Mr. Griswold labors here as an evangelist, and labors hard. Put up at Col. Plumer's.

22. Made calls. Rode home. The crops suffer much from the drought. Thermometer at 88°. Read. Am quite languid. Read late.

23. Rode to Hartford with Eveline. Did errands. Our assembly do very poorly. They are entirely controlled by a few demagogues. Got three valuable folios, Livy<sup>2</sup> and Bochart,<sup>3</sup> sent from New Haven. Read. Thermometer 86°.

24. Worked at my books. Wrote considerably. Rode out and visited. Thermometer 87°. People are quite alarmed at the drought.

25. Rode to Hartford with Ursula. She is pretty feeble. Got things for Eveline. The river is getting low. Thermometer 82°. Wrote. Saw Mr. Seth Terry.<sup>4</sup> Walked out and visited.

26. Mr. Scarborough, the attorney here, has lately failed and gone off, leaving his family. He was quite esteemed. It has produced a great sensation. He owed me \$20. Cool, but no rain. The grass is turning brown. Walked and visited. Wrote. At evening attended the prayer-meeting.

27. Wrote on a sermon on Isa. lv: 6. Thermometer 93°. Have many hindrances. Am not able to study hard. Read.

28. Last night we had a moderate, but most grateful shower. Wrote three pages, finished and preached my sermon on Isa. lv: 6. The Baptists

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<sup>1</sup> Widow Hannah Burnham and Mr. Ephraim Wolcott, the former aged seventy-six and the latter sixty-four.

<sup>2</sup> The Latin historian.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Bochart, a celebrated Oriental scholar, 1599-1567.

<sup>4</sup> Lawyer and prominent citizen of Hartford.

baptized two young women. It appeared to excite much less attention than heretofore. We had a very hard wind. Cool. Attended the conference.

29. Rode to East Hartford and got some ancient newspapers. Paid \$1 for books and twenty-five cents for pamphlets. Cold. Visited a grammar school lately set up here. Read.

30. I believe there was no frost this morning, though it was much feared. Looked over and arranged my newspapers. I have nearly a complete file of the Connecticut *Courant* from its beginning in 1764. Rode out and visited. Thermometer 65°. The drought is distressing.

31. Wrote. Hindered by company. Rode to East Hartford and attended the funeral of S. F. Griswold, a victim of intemperance. People are evidently alarmed by the drought. Rode to Hartford. Mr. Wilcox<sup>1</sup> has been dismissed today from the North Society, in Hartford, on account of ill health. The town of New Haven shows great jealousy of Hartford. Procured catechisms, etc., for the children. On the 29th wrote to Rev. Prof. Fitch,<sup>2</sup> of New Haven.

#### JUNE.

1. Wrote two inscriptions for tombstones. Wrote. Visited. Rode to Wapping and visited the sick. Thermometer 87°. The most of vegetation appears to be stationary or failing. Numbers are ill from the effects of the influenza.

2. Wrote. Read the Bible. Afternoon attended the first catechising for the season. Formed a Bible class of youth. At evening had a serious prayer-meeting. We had some light showers. Warm and sultry.

3. Rode to Poquonnock and attended a funeral. There was much delay. The people there evince a great want of gospel institutions. The heat very oppressive. Thermometer 94°. Towards night and in the evening we were favored with some most refreshing showers. Received from Hartford a pair of spectacles, which I selected on Wednesday. They almost restore my sight. The cost is \$4. It forms an era in my life.<sup>3</sup>

4. Expounded on Luke viii: 41 to ix: 12, and preached an old sermon on Matt. vi: 24. We should have had a meeting for prayer, on account of the drought, but for the showers of last evening. The heat severe. Thermometer 94°. Towards night we had a violent thunder-shower. There was a good deal of rain. There has been but little before since April 18th. Walked out. Had no conference.

5. Wrote. Read the Bible. Cool. Wrote a report on the Everest fund for General Association. Attended the monthly concert. Thin and disheartening.

6. Worked in the garden. Rode to Windsor and attended association. We had less business than common. Most of the members present.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Carlos Wilcox, a brilliant young divine, destined to an early death. He died at Danbury, Ct., the following year (1827), at the age of thirty-three.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Eleazar T. Fitch, D. D., Professor of Divinity at Yale College. He taught, some

eighteen years before, the academy at East Windsor Hill.

<sup>3</sup> He was nearly forty-nine when he began to use glasses. With some the necessity comes earlier, and with some later, and with some not at all, even in extreme old age.

7. After we had finished association business, and the members all gone but me, Mr. Loomis and Mr. Hathaway, from Suffield, came and consulted Mr. Rowland and me respecting Suffield affairs. We agreed to go there next week. Rode home. Warm. On the 5th I eat a few green peas. Attended a marriage.<sup>1</sup>

8. Rode to Pine Meadow with Eveline. So warm that I staid till towards night. At evening attended our church conference. Thermometer 93°.

9. Wrote. My tremor is bad. Read the Bible. Yesterday received a singular letter from Mr. Marsh,<sup>2</sup> of Haddam. Rode out. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Much oppressed with the heat. Thermometer 94°.

10. Wrote the principal part of a sermon on Isa. xlix: 26. I write slow, both mechanically and intellectually. Thermometer 90°. The dust is very tedious.

11. Wrote notes and preached on Ps. li: 10. Afternoon Mr. Gillett,<sup>3</sup> late of Gilead, preached for me. At evening attended the conference. The ground is again very dry. Thermometer 92°. The drought is extensive and severe.

12. On the 10th received a letter from Mr. Ely of Simsbury. Wrote. Walked and visited. Towards evening rode to Pine Meadow. Cool. Thermometer about 80°.

13. Rode in the morning, with Mr. Rowland, to Suffield, and conversed with people there all day, laboring to devise means to reconcile those who are at variance. At the close it grew worse, and we broke up in painful disappointment, and Mr. Rowland went home. I remained and preached in the evening, without notes, on John x: 27, 28. We had a good meeting.

14. In the morning early had a serious and tender prayer-meeting. I spoke freely on the dangers of this people. After breakfast the alienated parties agreed, voluntarily, to submit their differences to a referee—Dr. Perkins, Mr. Rowland, and me—to meet at Suffield on the 28th instant. Rode to Pine Meadow, Hartford, and home. Received a letter from Mr. Ely, of Simsbury, and one from my sister Battell. Received a valuable pair of boots from Mr. Chadwick,<sup>4</sup> of Boston—a fine present.

15. Mrs. Wolcott is quite feeble. Wrote. Rode to Wapping and visited the sick. Cool. Vegetation is almost at a stand on account of the drought. Wrote to Dr. Perkins and Mr. Rowland.

16. Wrote. Received a letter from Rev. S. E. Dwight.<sup>5</sup> Visited. On the 14th made my annual payments of \$5 to the Annuity Society and \$4 to the Retreat. Have many hindrances. Rode out. Attended the catechising of the children. The Bible class appears well. Had a full prayer-meeting.

<sup>1</sup> The persons married were Jonathan Goodwin, of Hartford, and Clarinda Newbury.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. John Marsh, D. D., pastor at Haddam, 1818–1834. He was the son of Dr. John Marsh, of Wethersfield, Ct., and became the well-known temperance advocate.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Nathan Gillet, pastor at Gilead (a parish in Hebron, Ct.), 1799–1824.

<sup>4</sup> Before mentioned in connection with the death which occurred at East Windsor.

<sup>5</sup> Sereno E. Dwight, D. D., who had just resigned his pastorate of the Park Street Church, Boston.

17. Rode to Hartford. The dust and roads very bad. The drought is more severe than it has been. People are all alarmed. Had made a very good silk coat and vest. Wrote. Paid my book-binder \$20. Thermometer about 80°.

18. In the forenoon expounded on Luke ix: 12-28. Finished and preached my sermon on Isa. xlix: 26. Had a short intermission after the afternoon service, and attended a solemn season of prayer on account of the season. Such a drought so early in the season is not remembered. Our meeting was well attended. Very tired. Many late signs of rain have disappeared.

19. Walked out and visited. About noon it began to rain, and continued moderately till night. A great mercy. Gave a poor woman a Bible. Wrote to Mr. Marsh, of Haddam.

20. Wet and rainy all day. In the forenoon it rained hard. Wrote on my catalogue of books. Vegetation revives. Our people subscribe well for a new bell.

21. Rainy and wet. I cannot remember a time when rain was more wanted, or when it came in a more grateful manner. How should all praise the Lord. Rode to Wapping and visited a sick man. Wrote for my library. Walked out and visited. The earth is greatly refreshed. Mrs. Wolcott<sup>1</sup> is quite poor and feeble.

22. Worked some. The rain appears to be over. Rode to Pine Meadow and to Hartford. Good riding. Wrote to Dr. Perkins. Have a good deal to do for Eveline.<sup>2</sup> Paid Mr. Trumbull<sup>3</sup> for books \$14.25, and for pamphlets \$1.31. Had some pamphlets given me. Paid for a book subscribed for (a hard bargain) \$1.75. Got home late.

23. Yesterday I lost, unaccountably, a five-dollar bill. Wrote. Afternoon rode to Hartford with Mr. Wolcott to get things for Eveline. We had a pretty hard shower. Our prayer-meeting was thin.

24. In the forenoon we had the hardest shower we have had during the week. Wrote the most of a sermon on Eph. vi: 18. Read. The earth is most mercifully supplied with rain.

25. Finished and preached my sermon on Eph. vi: 18. Forenoon preached with old notes on Rom. ii: 5. Had no conference. Visited. Read.

26. Last night and today we had a number of hard showers. We have had about a week of wet. The earth is most graciously, but not redundantly, supplied. Rode to East Hartford and visited the parents of Mrs. Fairchild. Read. Paid a laborer \$29. Read Mr. Dewey's<sup>4</sup> late election sermon at Boston.

27. Received \$12 for my grass<sup>5</sup> last year. Paid for repairs of my sulky

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Abiel Wolcott.

<sup>2</sup> She is getting ready for her marriage.

<sup>3</sup> We understand this to be Judge John Trumbull, author of *McFingal*. He was now a man advanced in life, seventy-six years old. He died in 1831, at the age of

eighty-one. He was a conspicuous member of the Hartford Wits.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Orville Dewey.

<sup>5</sup> We have had a previous reference to his sale of grass. He owned or leased a piece of meadow land.

\$16. Began and wrote some on an oration for Independence, which I was requested, yesterday, to deliver on the occasion. Walked to the meadow and found the grass better than I expected. My brother and wife called here.

28. Rode to Scantic and saw Mr. Bartlett, and rode to Suffield to attend an ecclesiastical reference. Dr. Perkins did not come. Mr. Rowland and I were alone. We had a laborious hearing till 11 o'clock at night.

29. We finished our hearing with the lawyers in the forenoon. Very tired. Towards night published our result, which was accepted by the parties. At evening preached, by desire, on Ps. cvi: 23. Kindly entertained at Mr. Loomis's.

30. Visited during the forenoon and conversed with various persons. I am much encouraged at the prospects of reconciliation and peace which appear. The Lord give them his blessing. Mr. Loomis gave me \$5. Rode home and preached a preparatory lecture without notes on Luke xxii: 28, 29. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Much fatigued.

#### JULY.

1. Wrote what I could. Am poorly able to write. Cannot prepare for tomorrow as I could wish. Read.

2. Wrote notes and preached in the forenoon on Matt. xxvi: 29. Administered the sacrament. The church quite full. Preached an old sermon on Isa. v: 4. The meeting cut short by a shower. Had no conference.

3. Rode out. Good Mr. Hallock,<sup>1</sup> of Canton, has gone to heaven. Wrote on my oration. Mr. Andrews,<sup>2</sup> of Danbury, called here and made a long stay while I was in a hurry on my writing. Attended the monthly concert. Wrote late. Received a letter from Mr. Rowland. Wrote to him on Saturday.

4. Finished and delivered my Independence oration. We had a very pleasant celebration. None here before since 1807. About two hundred dined. A good many from East Hartford and Windsor. My brother was here and assisted me. We had some light showers. Our best people were generally present. All behaved well. Very tired.

5. Rode to Hartford with Eveline. The celebrations of the national jubilee appear to have been very numerous and cordial.<sup>3</sup> Paid for books \$1.50; for repairing my sulky \$1.50. Gave a neighbor \$1. Have purchased twenty-three volumes of Judge Trumbull's books, and paid for them \$15.75. Some of them are quite valuable. A very fine and growing season. Vegetation has done remarkably since the rains.

6. Read Potter's<sup>4</sup> *Antiquities of Greece*. A very valuable work. Wrote. Walked out. Am quite languid.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jeremiah Hallock, graduated at Yale, 1788, pastor at Canton Center, 1785-1826.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William Andrews, pastor at Danbury, Ct., 1813-1826.

<sup>3</sup> The public observance of the day was coming more and more into use.

<sup>4</sup> John Potter, of Wakefield, Eng., 1674-1747. At his death he was Archbishop of Canterbury.

7. Rode to Wapping and visited. The heat returns after a long time of mild weather. Thermometer 90°. Attended the catechising and evening prayer-meeting. Much fatigued. We have an account of the death of the venerable and aged President Adams,<sup>1</sup> on the 4th instant, one of the first of American statesmen. Received a letter from Rev. E. Clarke,<sup>2</sup> of Suffield, one from Dr. E. Tudor,<sup>3</sup> of Middlebury, and one from Mr. Wheaton,<sup>4</sup> of Hartford, informing me, most unexpectedly, of my election to a seat in the corporation of Washington College.<sup>5</sup> I think I cannot accept of the place.

8. Am too feeble to write a sermon. Walked and visited. Thermometer 94°. Received a letter from S. Williams, of Hartford. Read. Wrote. People have begun harvesting. Had cucumbers.

9. Preached an old sermon on 2 Cor. v: 17. Full meeting. Thermometer 87°. Attended the conference. Had read Dr. Mason's sermon in the *National Preacher*.<sup>6</sup>

10. Received a letter from Rev. N. Porter. Wrote to Mr. Rowland. Walked out. The heat severe. Thermometer 90°. Set out on a journey to New Haven. Rode to Meriden.

11. Rode to Wallingford and New Haven. Was unsuccessful in inquiring for pamphlets. Much oppressed with the heat. Can do but little. Walked out. Saw Mr. Mills, of Norfolk. His son at college is sick. Visited friends. Yesterday morning heard of the death of Mr. Jefferson. He and Mr. Adams both died on the 4th instant. An astonishing concurrence of events. Minute guns were fired yesterday at Hartford. Newspapers are in mourning. Mr. Adams was ninety, Mr. Jefferson eighty-three. The latter, I believe, has never given any evidence of a belief in Christianity.<sup>7</sup>

12. Rode very early to Bridgeport. Went to Mrs. Waterman's. Mr. Waterman has left a valuable library. Yesterday looked at the large library of the late Dr. Morse.<sup>8</sup> Not equal, I think, to mine. Called at Milford. Rode to Mr. Swanton's, of Orange. Can do but little on account of the heat. The mosquitoes between Bridgeport and Stratford are insupportable. People are generally harvesting, and the harvest is pretty good. Better than has been expected. Paid for pamphlets \$1.

13. Paid Mr. Swanton for books, some quite rare, \$6.50, and for pamphlets fifty cents. Rode to New Haven. Visited at college. Called on Mrs. Whitney.<sup>9</sup> Saw Mr. Battell's daughters.<sup>10</sup> The heat seems not to abate. The dust severe. Left New Haven after four o'clock, came to East Hartford, a heavy rain came on, and very dark, and I had to stop and stay. Minute guns

<sup>1</sup> One of the most remarkable coincidences in our national history was the death of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson on the same day, and that day the 4th of July, 1826.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Elam Calhoun Clark, a graduate of Williams College in 1812.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Edward Tudor, graduate of Middlebury College, 1821.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Nathaniel S. Wheaton.

<sup>5</sup> Now Trinity College.

<sup>6</sup> Sermon of Dr. John M. Mason.

<sup>7</sup> Jefferson was a free thinker in matters of religion.

<sup>8</sup> Dr. Jedediah Morse, of Charlestown, lived in New Haven during his last years, and his library was there. He died there in this year, 1826.

<sup>9</sup> Mrs. Eli Whitney.

<sup>10</sup> Mr. Battell's eldest daughters were probably at school in New Haven.



were fired in the afternoon at New Haven on account of the deaths of the Presidents.

14. We have had a pretty heavy and very refreshing rain. Rode home. The thermometer for the three past days has been from 90° to 96°. Very much fatigued. Visited a school. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Quite thin. Cool. Mr. Wolcott's principal harvest-day was the 12th. Read.

15. Wrote. Read. Afternoon rode to Suffield on an exchange. Mr. Rowland is to supply me. Cool. Vegetation is very flourishing. Hindered.

16. Preached on Phil. iii: 13, 14 and Acts xiii: 2. Administered the sacrament. The most of the church were present, and better united than they have been for a long time. I hope God designs good things for them. They have given Mr. Mann<sup>1</sup> a call with great unanimity. We had a meeting in the evening and Mr. David Sherman<sup>2</sup> preached. Very tired. Tarried at Mr. Gay's.

17. Visited families. It will be a good while before there can be a full reconciliation here, but I hope it may be effected through a divine blessing. Rode to Pine Meadow. The afternoon was quite rainy and I did not come home.

18. Rode home. The ground quite wet. Rode to Hartford and assisted Mr. Wolcott about furniture. Rode to Northington and met with our Ministers' Meeting. Was late. The public exercise was in the evening, and I preached on Phil. iii: 13, 14. I hope our meeting may be improved.

19. Looked over the remains of old Mr. Hawley.<sup>3</sup> Paid for pamphlets \$1.88. Rode to Farmington. Looked at the books of Gov. J. Treadwell.<sup>4</sup> Rode to Wethersfield and attended a public meeting. A number of ministers were present. There is a great work of grace there. A very pleasing work of grace is begun in East Hartford. The Lord extend it gloriously. Rode home.

20. Wrote. Read. My eyes seem to grow more dim. The death of our two old Presidents, at the peculiar time of its occurrence, excites much attention. Wrote to Mr. Mann, of Bristol. Walked out.

21. Rode to Wapping and visited a sick man. We had a shower. Pretty poor hay weather. Gave a poor woman \$1. Attended a catechising and the evening prayer-meeting. Wrote to the postmaster of Hinsdale, N. H. Visited.

22. Wrote letters to Mr. Wheaton, of Hartford, declining a place in the corporation of Washington College, to Mr. Rowland, of Windsor, to Mr. Yale, of New Hartford. Warm and sultry. Rode to Hartford with Eveline. There was a short but very powerful shower. Did errands. Eveline went home and I staid to preach tomorrow at the North Meeting-house. Mr. Kellogg, of Northington, went to supply me.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Joel Mann, late of Bristol, R. I.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Rev. David A. Sherman, graduated at Yale in 1802, and afterwards President of Tennessee College.

<sup>3</sup> He means by *remains*, old books and pamphlets. Rev. Rufus Hawley, pastor there, 1769-1826, had just died.

<sup>4</sup> Of Farmington.

23. In the morning attended the large Sabbath-school. Preached on 1 Thess. v: 3 and Eph. ii: 14. This congregation has much increased. They feel their destitute state. At evening rode home. Quite warm.

24. Am quite languid. Read. Taken up with company. Visited a sick man.

25. Rode to Wapping and visited. People generally are getting their hay—a pretty good crop. Wrote. We fear Mrs. Wolcott has a dropsical affection. Whortleberries are very plenty.

26. Walked and visited all day. We had a hard shower. We have several sick persons. Eat succotash.

27. Rode to Hartford and Farmington. Paid Gov. Treadwell's family for books \$6; pamphlets \$2.50. The hay comes in well.

28. Wrote. Our family are in poor health. Looked over pamphlets. Our evening prayer-meeting was pretty thin. We have no hope but in the unmerited mercy of our Saviour.

29. Had a new cherry book-case brought me by the workman. It is a very good one. It is designed for Bibles and expositors. Wrote a part of a sermon on Rev. iii: 18. Wrote slow. My sight fails.

30. Wrote early. Expounded on Luke ix: 28 to 51. Finished and preached the sermon begun yesterday. Full and solemn meeting. At evening had a full and serious conference.

31. Wrote. Walked and visited. Rode to East Hartford and saw Mr. Fairchild. The revival there is great. It is hopefully advancing this way.

#### AUGUST.

1. Rode to Enfield and back in haste. My brother's elder step-son is in difficulty in New York. Had a small pine book-case brought home. Rode to East Hartford and attended the interesting union meeting near Glastonbury. It was full and very solemn. The work is great and advancing. Mr. Fairchild appears very well. Preached without notes on Num. x: 29. Showery.

2. Quite warm. Rode to Wethersfield with company and attended the public meeting of people from that and the neighboring towns. The work of God goes on all around us. O that nothing may stay its progress. Spoke in the meeting. There is no preaching, but several ministers speak. Much fatigued by the heat. Mrs. Wolcott appears to have the dropsy, and we fear it is rapidly advancing.

3. Rode with Ursula to Hartford, who is gone on a steamboat excursion with many others. Rode to Manchester to get some woman for domestic labor; unsuccessful. Fine hay weather. Wrote. Yesterday wrote to Judge Edwards, of New York,<sup>1</sup> in behalf of my brother's son. Much fatigued. Prepared for my journey, and rode in the evening to Hartford to go to Norfolk.

4. Was called in the night and set out at half after one in the stage.

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<sup>1</sup> Judge Ogden Edwards.

The morning quite cold. Got to Norfolk early. My mother is uncommonly well. Very tired. Mr. Battell absent. The season is late, but good.

5. Visited a sick woman. Wrote to Dr. Tudor, of Middlebury, and sent him, for his sister Sophia, \$52. Gave my mother \$5. Mrs. Battell very kindly let her best hired woman come home with me to help us for a while. Left Norfolk half after three, and got home at 11 P. M. Found a carriage for me at the bridge, but we broke down before we got home.

6. Much fatigued by my journey. Visited a mourning family. Preached with old notes on Amos iv: 11, and an old sermon on 2 Cor. v: 10. Attended the funeral of a child who died in my absence. After meeting visited a Sabbath-school in the upper part of East Hartford. Rainy, and we had no evening conference. Am pretty feeble. Mrs. Wolcott appears to decline.

7. Read. Attended the funeral of an aged woman at the poor-house belonging to the North Society. Visited. At evening our concert of prayer was thin.

8. Attended to my library. My book-cases are hardly sufficient for it. Visited a man very sick three times. Attended the weekly meeting at East Hartford. Very large and solemn.

9. On the 7th received a letter from W. T. Williams,<sup>1</sup> of Lebanon, and one from Rev. E. Clarke, of Suffield. The same day we had here a council of physicians on Mrs. Wolcott's case. Yesterday received a town order of \$82 for a debt against J. Bragg,<sup>2</sup> which I have feared I should lose. Rode and visited the sick. Read. At evening attended our church conference. Very thin. Wrote.

10. Visited a mourning family. A very healthy man died last night, after a short illness. Visited the Long Hill school. Attended the catechising of the children. They performed well.

11. Had but little time for myself. Rainy. Attended a solemn funeral. Preached a lecture in the north part of the town, without notes, on Luke xiii: 4, 5. Had a good number. I hope to have the meeting continued weekly. At evening attended the prayer-meeting. Much fatigued.

12. Worked some at my library. It rained without intermission all day. A great deal of water fell. Wrote the most of a sermon on Matt. xxv: 6. The dimness of my eyes increases.

13. Wet and rainy. Thin meetings. Expounded on Luke ix: 51 to x: 11. Finished and preached the sermon on Matt. xxv: 6. Had a good conference. I hope we see some tokens of a gracious visit from God. The ground is very wet.

14. Read. Wrote. Wrote to Dr. Janeway,<sup>3</sup> of Philadelphia. On the

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<sup>1</sup> William Trumbull Williams. He was graduated at Yale in 1795. He was the son of Hon. William Williams, signer of the Declaration of Independence. The wife of William Williams was the daughter of the first

Gov. Jonathan Trumbull. Hence the middle name of the son. Hon. William Williams was the son of Solomon Williams, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> The man who failed.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Jacob J. Janeway, D. D.

11th wrote to W. H. Bidwell,<sup>1</sup> of Yale College. Worked at my library. It makes me too much labor. Cloudy and wet.

15. Wrote to Rev. G. Allen,<sup>2</sup> of Shrewsbury. Mr. Burt,<sup>3</sup> of Manchester, and Mr. Lee,<sup>4</sup> of Monroe, called on me. Rode with them to East Hartford and attended the weekly meeting. Wet and something showery. Preached without notes on Isa. xxviii: 17. The meeting not so full as last week.

16. Rode to Hartford. Paid for my spectacles and case \$4.25. Paid a merchant tailor for a silk coat and vest \$22. Rode to Wethersfield and attended the public meeting. The work here is still great. Very showery. Got home late. The ground is very wet. Much fatigued.

17. Worked some. Hot and sultry. Rode to Wapping and visited a man apparently near death. Walked out. At evening attended a new conference. It appeared very favorably. Introduced Mr. Nettleton's hymns.<sup>5</sup>

18. On the 16th received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Battell, one from my brother James, and one from G. A. Alden.<sup>6</sup> Walked and visited. Warm. Preached my weekly lecture at the south part of the town, on Luke xiii: 4, 5. Wet. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

19. Rode to Pine Meadow, expecting help tomorrow. Miss Eunice is very feeble, and I think cannot continue long. Very warm and faint. Mr. Gaylord,<sup>7</sup> of Hartland, came here to spend the Sabbath with me. I am quite languid and feeble. Thermometer, I conclude, near 90°.

20. Early in the morning rode to Mr. Bartlett's and saw Mr. Vaill,<sup>8</sup> the Arkansas Indian missionary. Young Mr. Gaylord preached for me, and very well. The heat severe and very oppressive. The air is damp. Thermometer 91°. At evening Mr. Vaill came here and preached a good missionary sermon to a full and much interested meeting.

21. Mr. Vaill and Mr. Gaylord spent the most of the day with me. My brother came here. Looked over pamphlets with Mr. Gaylord. Read.

22. Worked at my bottles. Wrote. Had my sulky thoroughly repaired. Read. Rode to East Hartford and attended the public meeting. Not so full as sometimes. Preached on 1 Pet. iv: 7.

23. Rode to Hartford with Eveline and attended an auction. Made considerable purchases. Visited.

24. Rode to Wapping and visited the sick. One man apparently near dying. Attended the catechising of the children. They do well. Read the Bible. We have wet, damp, and warm weather, and very enervating.

25. Walked and visited. We have some sick. The appointed afternoon

<sup>1</sup> Walter H. Bidwell, who graduated at Yale in 1827.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. George Allen, who studied theology with Dr. Robbins. He was graduated at Yale, 1813, was settled at Shrewsbury in 1823. Died in Worcester, Mass., 1883, in his ninety-second year.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Enoch Burt.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Chauncey G. Lee.

<sup>5</sup> *Village Hymns*, long used in New Eng-

land, especially for prayer and conference meetings.

<sup>6</sup> Son of Rev. Francis Robbins's wife, of Enfield, by her first husband, Gideon S. Alden.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Flavel S. Gaylord, a graduate of Williams, 1816, son of Rev. Nathaniel Gaylord, pastor at West Hartland, 1782-1841.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Herman L. Vaill. Received the honorary degree of A. M. from Yale, 1824.

meeting at the south part of the town was omitted on account of the rain. Wrote. Our evening prayer-meeting was thin.

26. Rode to Hartford with Eveline, in company with Mr. Haskell and Frances. Procured articles. Wet and warm. On the 24th received a letter from Mrs. Battell and one from Mr. Yale,<sup>1</sup> of New Hartford. Towards night began a sermon on Jer. xvii: 5, 6.

27. Rode to Wapping and attended the funeral of Mr. Grant. A great many people. Very tired. A favorable day and no wet. Had no conference.

28. Wet and hard showers. It is a very wet season. Many oats are lost, as they cannot be harvested. Warm and sultry. Am very languid. Read. Paid for a book fifty cents.

29. Wrote. Worked some. Rode to East Hartford, and attended the meeting. Mr. Griswold<sup>2</sup> preached. I fear the work in the lower part of the town is not advancing. Wrote three short pieces for publication. The water has had a sudden and pretty great rise.

30. Rode to Hartford and met with the general and principal officers of the brigade. Was appointed on a committee to prepare a military report. Rode to Wethersfield. Was too late to attend the afternoon meeting. Preached in the evening to a full house, without notes, on Isa. xxviii: 17. Received a letter from Mr. Bidwell,<sup>3</sup> at Yale College.

31. Saw the foundation of the new State Prison.<sup>4</sup> It appears well. Rode home. Afternoon walked and preached at the south part of the town on Luke xiv: 18. At evening attended a conference. We have now had three pleasant days after more than a fortnight of almost constant cloudy and wet. Our meetings are well attended.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Rode to Canton and saw the debtors of the Everest fund. Mr. Porter was not present, and Mr. Hallock is gone to a better world. The debtors did well. All that are there paid their annual interest—more than \$200. Got home late. Wet and sultry.

2. Visited three women hard sick. Am not able to write a sermon today. Had company. Visited. The constant damp and warm weather is very languid.

3. Expounded on Luke x: 13 to the end. Preached with very short notes on Isa. xxviii: 17. Did poorly. Had a good conference. Much fatigued. Received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Battell, and one from Dr. Janeway, of Philadelphia. The heat very oppressive.

4. Rode early to Warehouse Point. Very sultry and oppressive heat. Attended a training at Wapping. The company did well. Attended the monthly concert. Visited the sick. Was out late. Read.

5. The thermometer today and two days past 86°, but a very languid

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Cyrus Yale, a graduate of Williams College, 1811, pastor at New Hartford, Ct., 1814-1834. Dr. Edward D. Griffin was pastor here, 1795-1801.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Samuel Griswold, probably, a graduate of Yale, 1818.

<sup>3</sup> Walter H. Bidwell.

<sup>4</sup> At Wethersfield.

and oppressive heat.<sup>1</sup> Wrote. Wrote letters to Mr. Battell, Col. White, of Danbury, W. T. Williams,<sup>2</sup> of Lebanon, and Col. Belcher, of Hartford, and preached at the meeting without notes on Ps. cvi: 15. Visited. I fear the attention in East Hartford is declining.

6. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Bristol. On the 4th paid a blacksmith ninety-three cents. Wrote three inscriptions for tombstones in a letter to Mr. Griswold, Washington. Visited the sick. At evening attended the church conference. We conclude to form an association in aid of foreign missions. The brethren appear to feel the importance of much prayer for a revival of religion here.

7. Wrote to my brother. Rode out. Attended the catechising. Read. Wrote on a military report.

8. Rode to Wapping and visited. Many people are gone to Manchester to attend a camp-meeting. It is a matter of festivity. Received a letter from my brother and wrote him in return. Wrote. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

9. Walked and visited the sick; one woman very low. Wrote a part of a sermon on 2 Kings ii: 9, 10. Received a letter from Mr. Battell. Towards night my sister and her daughter Urania<sup>3</sup> came here. Wrote late.

10. Was called early to see Mrs. Olcott, apparently near her end. Preached with old notes on Ps. cx: 3, and my sermon begun yesterday, not finished. Warm and sultry. At noon we had a hard shower. At evening we had a good conference. Many people are gone to camp-meeting<sup>4</sup> and our meetings were thin.

11. Mrs. Olcott<sup>5</sup> died this morning. Visited the afflicted families. Paid the stage-driver for Urania to go to Enfield fifty cents. Rode with Mrs. Battell and her child<sup>6</sup> to Hartford. She took her girl Louisa<sup>7</sup> with her, who has been with us five weeks. The heat oppressive. At evening attended a full conference. Late, my brother and his niece, Miss Gibbs,<sup>8</sup> came here on their way to New Haven. Quite tired.

12. My brother went off. Paid a blacksmith thirty-one cents. Wrote. Prepared for my journey. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Olcott. Set out for New Haven, rode to North Haven, and tarried at a private house. Rode late.

13. Rode to New Haven. A pleasant but warm day. Attended Commencement. The exercises were good. A great collection of people. Got acquainted with Mr. Cox,<sup>9</sup> of New York. The largest class graduated that

<sup>1</sup> The old style and new style September heat.

<sup>2</sup> William Trumbull Williams, Esq.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Joseph Battell, of Norfolk. Her daughter Urania was born May 30, 1814, and was now twelve years old, afterward the wife of Hon. James Humphrey, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

<sup>4</sup> On the old ground at Manchester.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Clarissa Olcott.

<sup>6</sup> This child was probably Ellen Battell, about a year and a half old, now the wife of

Azariah Eldridge, D. D., of Yarmouth, Mass. She was the youngest of the family.

<sup>7</sup> Louisa was the colored girl who came from Norfolk, a little while before, to live in the Wolcott family.

<sup>8</sup> This was his wife's niece.

<sup>9</sup> Samuel Hanson Cox, D. D., LL. D. At that time he was pastor of the Laight Street Church. A most unique and notable man, father of Bishop Arthur Cleveland Coxe, D. D., of Western New York.

ever has at any college in this country—ninety-nine. Three of the scholars are from Colebrook. The alumni of the college met and took measures to form a society. Attended the *Concio ad Clerum*. Mr. Lewis<sup>1</sup> preached well.

14. Attended a prayer-meeting in the morning—very thin. Attended the meeting of the Education Society. Rode to Bridgeport. Looked over Mr. Waterman's<sup>2</sup> books. Attended a meeting in the evening with young Mr. Waterman. We had a hard shower. A new minister is like to be settled here.<sup>3</sup>

15. Paid Mr. Waterman for six volumes \$22. Two of them were rare Bibles, which I am glad to procure. Returned to New Haven. Called at Judge Johnson's,<sup>4</sup> at Stratford. He gave me a few valuable pamphlets. I think his library is larger than mine. Paid Gen. Howe his account against me for books, \$16.25. Paid for pamphlets here and at Milford eighty-eight cents. Left New Haven after sundown and rode to Meriden. Mosquitoes are very thick.

16. Rode home early. Quite cool. Visited the sick. Some pretty low. Mrs. Wolcott's disorder increases. Wrote a will for a sick woman. At evening rode to East Hartford to make an exchange. Found Mr. Ludlow,<sup>5</sup> of New York, at Mr. Fairchild's. Much fatigued by the business of the week. Received a letter from Sophia Tudor.

17. Last night was very cold, but there was no frost to destroy vegetation. Mr. Ludlow preached in the forenoon remarkably well. I preached in the afternoon on Rev. iii: 18. Rode home and preached in the evening without notes on John i: 12. A solemn meeting. Visited a sick man hard sick.

18. Wrote on a military report. Rode to Hartford and met with a military committee. Wet. I have many calls. Read.

19. Walked and visited the sick. Rode to East Hartford with company, and attended the union meeting. Mr. Ludlow preached. Visited. I hope to get a few private prayer-meetings established here.

20. A child in the neighborhood, of three years old, had about eighty drops of laudanum given her by mistake. It appeared a good while in a dying state, but has got better. Rode to East Hartford and met with the military officers of the regiment. Marched with them. They performed well. Visited.

21. Visited a child very sick. We have a good many sick. Visited a school. Attended our catechising. The last for the season. The children have done well. I hope the Bible class may have a blessing. At evening wrote. The first time I have had for myself since I took my journey.

22. Yesterday received a letter from Col. Grannis, of Southington.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Isaac Lewis, Jr., of Greenwich.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Elijah Waterman, pastor of the First Church in Bridgeport (formerly Stratfield), 1806-1825.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Franklin Y. Vaill was settled there in the following month (October, 1826).

<sup>4</sup> William Samuel Johnson, LL. D., Stratford, Ct., 1727, graduated at Yale, 1744, died in Stratford, 1819. Dr. Robbins speaks of the place as Judge Johnson's, according to the old and familiar designation.

<sup>5</sup> Probably Rev. Henry G. Ludlow.

Wrote. Afternoon preached at the south part of the town on 1 Peter iv: 18. Attended our evening prayer-meeting. After which visited a family where a child had just died. Visited other sick persons. Was out quite late.

23. Much fatigued. Wrote to my brother. Wrote the most of a sermon on Ps. l: 22. Wet. Hindered by company. Mrs. Wolcott had an operation for her dropsy, and nearly eighteen pounds of water were taken from her. The operation was not so tedious as was expected. Wrote late.

24. Preached with old notes on 1 Cor. i: 17. At noon attended the funeral of a child. Cold and rainy. Finished and preached my sermon on Ps. l: 22. Thin meeting. Had no conference.

25. Rode out and visited the sick. Afternoon rode to Hartford to see about my lawsuit, which is expected to come soon to trial. Attended the evening meeting. Am fatigued with continual labor.

26. Visited the sick. Rode to East Hartford with my delegate and met with the consociation. The session was full; all the churches represented but one. Henry G. Ludlow, of New York, was examined, appeared remarkably well, and was ordained in the evening as an evangelist.<sup>1</sup> I was scribe and gave the right hand. It was a solemn meeting.

27. The session of the consociation was interesting. The state of religion, by the accounts, is more favorable than it has been for several years. We had considerable difficulty with a young man who applied for license, but was not examined. Left the consociation before they got through to attend on the regiment. They appeared, conducted, and performed unusually well. Dark and wet. We were dismissed late. The evening very dark. Did not come home. Heard Mr. Ludlow preach in the evening.

28. Walked early to Hartford. Rode home. Warm and faint. Was called to see a sick man, very low. Saw him repeatedly. He died towards night.<sup>2</sup> Preached a preparatory lecture with old notes on Isa. lvi: 1. Afternoon we had frequent and copious showers. The lecture quite thin. Visited the sick.

29. Rode to Hartford. People have had a very bad time to get in crops. My cause does not come on this week. Assisted Eveline. Afternoon preached at the south part of the town on Matt. xi: 28. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. A good deal unwell and very tired.

30. Mrs. Wolcott is very poor, and the water collects again very fast. She went away to make trial of the Suffield water. Wrote. Am some better, but feeble. Attended the funeral of Mr. Moore. Fine weather.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Have been unable, through business, fatigue and ill health, to prepare sermons. Preached with old notes on 1 Thess. ii: 10. Administered the sacrament. The church pretty full. Preached an old sermon on Isa. lix: 1-3. Baptized a child of Mr. Moore,<sup>3</sup> who was buried yesterday. Preached long. At evening attended the conference. Weak and very tired.

<sup>1</sup> In 1837 he was settled over the College Street Church in New Haven, where he remained till 1842. He was afterwards in Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Peter Moore, aged thirty-one.

<sup>3</sup> Charlotte Frances, daughter of Mrs. Lucy Moore. Such a baptism was fitted to move the hearts of the congregation.



2. Attended the funeral of a young woman,<sup>1</sup> who died at Middletown and was brought home. Visited a school at Wapping. Attended the semi-annual examination of our academy. The school is small. The performance was good. Attended the monthly concert. Quite thin. My lungs are weak.

3. Visited the sick and others. Visited two schools. Wrote. Have been unwell with a bowel complaint for a week. The fall crops are like to be good.

4. Rode to Hartford. My cause, through "the law's delay," is not like to be on this week. Gen. Howe and Mr. R. S. Skinner,<sup>2</sup> of New Haven, came here from Hartford and dined. Quite warm. Mr. Sprague<sup>3</sup> was here while I was gone. He gave me a very valuable volume of old Mr. Hooker,<sup>4</sup> of Hartford. On Monday Charles Olmsted,<sup>5</sup> of East Hartford, gave me an ancient folio and returned my Vol. II. of Lardner, which I supposed to be lost. Rode to Pine Meadow and returned in the evening. Mrs. Wolcott is quite comfortable, but nothing seems to arrest her disorder. Pained with my complaint.

5. Had the privilege of spending the whole day in my study without intermission. Purchased three acres of meadow land of William Tudor for \$195.<sup>6</sup> Gave B. Skinner a note of \$100, and paid Mr. Tudor \$95. Very fine growing weather. Wrote. Attended to the business of the Annuity Society. Yesterday paid Gen. Howe for a pamphlet fifty cents. Wrote late.

6. Walked and visited the sick. Preached at Mr. Burnham's on Mark i: 40, 41. Find some new instances of awakening. I feel encouraged that God will do something for us in the greatness of his mercy. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. After which rode and visited the sick.

7. Wrote. Hindered by business and company. Wrote the most of a sermon on Prov. xxiii: 26. Wrote five pages in the evening. I grow inaccurate in my writing.

8. Wrote. Expounded on Luke xi: 1-14. Finished at noon and preached the sermon begun yesterday. After meeting rode and visited a sick family. Received a letter, by a messenger, from Dr. Butler and Mr. Bissell, of Suffield, requesting me to go there immediately. Attended the evening conference. All the meetings very solemn. I hope God is with us. At nine o'clock left home and rode to Pine Meadow. Damp and cold.

9. Rode early to Suffield. There was considerable frost. The first we have had. It seems that Mr. Mann has very unexpectedly given a negative answer to the call here. Conversed much with Mr. Mann and others. I believe he took the best course. Attended a church-meeting. Dea. Sherman<sup>7</sup> resigned his office and a new deacon was chosen. At the

<sup>1</sup> Emily May, aged twenty-one.

<sup>2</sup> Gen. Hezekiah Howe and Roger S. Skinner, the latter graduated at Yale in 1813, and long a leading citizen of New Haven.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William B. Sprague, D. D., of West Springfield.

<sup>4</sup> The famous Thomas Hooker, first minister of Hartford.

<sup>5</sup> Charles Olmsted, Esq., a gentleman of wealth and culture.

<sup>6</sup> He is buying more grass land.

<sup>7</sup> Dea. Charles Sherman, at New Haven in the early years of the diary.

request of the church Mr. Mann consented to reconsider the answer he had given to the call. The meeting was serious and harmonious.

10. Left Suffield and rode to Hartford. My case in court delays. Mrs. Wolcott, at Pine Meadow, appears a little better. Rode home. Read. Received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Battell. Wrote. Paid for pamphlets thirty-eight cents. Studied law.

11. Did not go down to attend the cattle-show. Walked and visited the sick and others all day. We appear to have the merciful tokens of the divine presence. Three young women have got hope lately. I hope the work may continue.

12. Rode to Hartford to attend to my case in court. It did not come on. Attended some of the exercises of the Agricultural Society. The annual exhibition was very good. Attended court. The judge presides pretty poorly. Rode home in a very hard rain. Paid for oats \$1.07. Wrote notes for my argument at court.

13. Rode early to Hartford. The ground very wet. My cause for the Ministers' Annuity Society came on about noon. We had an intermission and continued till night. Most of the time in argument. I spoke with Mr. Ellsworth,<sup>1</sup> my attorney. The judge deferred charging the jury till morning. Got Mr. Hooker<sup>2</sup> to ride up and preach for me at the south part of the town—my weekly lecture. Rode home.

14. Rode early to Hartford. The judge told the jury there was little for them to do; he stated the law which governed the case, and they gave a verdict in our favor. It is a signal, providential favor to our Annuity Society. Public feeling was considerably excited and much in our favor. Paid Bull \$5.88. Paid Birge ninety-two cents. Gave a man fifty cents. Much fatigued. Wrote. Read. At evening began to write a sermon, when most unexpectedly Mr. Smith,<sup>3</sup> of Durham, came in to spend the Sabbath.

15. Mr. Smith preached very well, and we had a solemn meeting in the evening. His assistance was a great favor to me. Very fine weather.

16. Mr. Smith went on his journey. Read. Walked out. Afternoon rode to Hartford, having been summoned by Mr. Watson to attend the court as a witness. The cause, as usual, did not come on.

17. Yesterday wrote to my brother and to Mr. Strong, of Somers. On the 15th received a letter from my brother. Have now charged \$2.17 to the Annuity Society, which must be deducted from the charges of several days past. Wrote. Rode to Hartford for Mr. Watson. His cause was withdrawn by his brother, the plaintiff. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>4</sup> Received four volumes of the *Panoplist*,<sup>5</sup> one of the *Herald* in numbers, and forty-six pamphlets—a valuable present from Mrs. Rogers.

18. Have taken a cold. Wrote to Crocker & Brewster, of Boston. Wrote

<sup>1</sup> Hon. William W. Ellsworth.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. David Smith.

<sup>4</sup> The parties were Hiram E. Stoddard, of Wethersfield, and Fanny Filley.

<sup>5</sup> The *Panoplist* began in 1804, and in 1817 passed into the *Missionary Herald*. Previous to the *Panoplist*, the Massachusetts *Missionary Magazine* had run through five volumes, and was merged in the *Panoplist*.

for the Everest fund. Read the Bible. This has been too much neglected. Visited. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup>

19. Wrote. Read the Bible. Visited the last of my summer schools. My brother's step-son, living with Mr. Haskell, conducts badly. Attended in the evening a full and attentive meeting. Mrs. Wolcott came home from Pine Meadow on Tuesday, and today returned. She is some better than she has been.

20. Wrote on the business of the Everest fund. Wrote to Mr. Porter, of Farmington. Walked to Mr. Burnham's and preached on Acts xxviii: 24. Meeting quite thin. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. I think the grace of God is with us. Much fatigued.

21. Looked over pamphlets. Wrote the most of a sermon on Luke xvi: 25. At evening my brother came here on his return from Norfolk. Mother is quite well. He is much afflicted with the conduct of his step-son Alden. Wrote late. Last night we had a hard rain.

22. My brother went away very early. Last night quite rainy. Preached with old notes on Luke iv: 27. Finished and preached my sermon on Luke xvi: 25. Attended the funeral of an elderly woman.<sup>2</sup> Yesterday visited the mourning family. At evening we had a full and solemn meeting. Very tired.

23. Received a letter from Ebenezer Clarke, of Somers, and wrote to him in reply. Rode to Wapping and attended the funeral of an aged man. I fear the Methodist who preaches there is doing injury. Met my brother at Mr. Haskell's. He is much afflicted with the conduct of Alden. Visited. In the morning we had considerable frost. Vegetation has not been stopped before.

24. We had a hard frost. Rode to Hartford with Ursula and Eveline. Paid for domestic flannel \$1.98. Quite cold. Mrs. Wolcott<sup>3</sup> came home with Frances. She appears better. Received a most grateful present of a valuable preaching Bible from the young men in the society. It is in the first style of execution from London.

25. Walked and visited. Our sick are hopefully convalescing. Read the Bible. Rode to Wapping and preached in the evening without notes on Isa. xlviii: 22. Cold and tedious. Tarried at Wapping.

26. Rode home. Visited. Attended the funeral of an infant child. In ten months we have had twenty deaths. In the evening we had an interesting and attentive meeting.

27. Last night was very cold. Wrote. Preached at Mr. Burnham's on Job xlii: 5, 6. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Much fatigued.

28. Wrote on my military report. I was obliged to do this, which prevented me from writing a sermon. At evening wrote notes for preaching. Read the Bible.

<sup>1</sup> Elijah Grant, of New York, and Mary B. Flint were the parties united.

<sup>2</sup> Miss Temasen Newbury, aged sixty-seven.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Abiel Wolcott, in her illness, had been spending some time with her daughter, Mrs. Haskell, at Pine Meadow, on the other side of the river.

29. Preached with the notes written last evening on Esther iv: 13, 14, and an old sermon on Amos iv: 12. Expressed my thanks publicly for the donation of my preaching Bible from the young men here. Had a full and attentive conference. Tarried out.

30. Visited. Wrote and finished my military report. It has made me a good deal of labor. Read. Looked over pamphlets.

31. Received a letter from Crocker & Brewster, of Boston. Wrote to my brother and to Gen. Howe, of New Haven. Read. Walked and visited.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Rode to Hartford with Eveline. Rainy. Procured of Dr. Strong<sup>1</sup> six old volumes of the *Panoplist*,<sup>2</sup> in numbers, for \$7.50, and one London volume of the *Christian Observer*, in numbers, for \$3. I hope to make out a file of *Panoplists*. Attended the evening meeting. Left it before it concluded and rode to Wapping and performed a marriage.<sup>3</sup> Very dark.

2. Looked over pamphlets. Wrote. Visited. Walked to the south part of the town and preached in the evening on Matt. xxiii: 37, 38. Much fatigued.

3. Walked and visited. Read. My brother came here to see me. Wrote to Gen. Howe, of New Haven. On Tuesday I wrote to him and my brother and misdirected the letters.<sup>4</sup> Read. Attended the evening meeting. Gave \$1.10.

4. Worked at my pamphlets. Hindered by company. Wrote the most of a sermon on 2 Kings vii: 3. Wrote nearly six pages in the evening. Have to use my glasses in writing steadily.

5. Expounded on Luke xi: 14-37. Wrote and preached my sermon on 2 Kings vii: 3. It was not quite finished. At evening had a full conference. I fear lest God's good Spirit may be taken from us.

6. Visited. Rode to Hartford with Eveline. Cold and a hard frost. Paid for fifteen pounds of mold candles \$1.95. At evening went to the place of meeting for our monthly concert. It was rainy and very few attended. Read. Received a letter from Gen. Howe, of New Haven, and one from Mr. Benedict, of Vernon.

7. Wrote. Read. Rode to Wapping and attended the funeral of a child, and visited a sick man there and one in Scantic. Rode to Enfield. My brother and his family are in a pretty gloomy state.

8. Rode home. Called at Mr. Bartlett's. There is a good work of grace in that society, apparently increasing. I fear we may be passed over. Cold. Found at my brother's two of my lost books. At evening attended the meeting. Wrote a plan for a foreign mission association. Capt. Bissell<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Nathan Strong, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> The *Panoplist* proper consisted of sixteen volumes, 1805-1820. It was preceded by five volumes of the Massachusetts *Missionary Magazine*, and was merged, 1821, in the *Missionary Herald*.

<sup>3</sup> The parties were George Foster and Betsey Ladd.

<sup>4</sup> Pleasant to know that such an exact and careful man could sometimes make mistakes.

<sup>5</sup> Capt. Aaron Bissell.

paid me \$82—amount of my town order I had of Bragg. I have lost considerable in interest.

9. Wrote to Mr. Benedict, of Vernon. My evening meetings occupy much of my time. Rode to Hartford. Assisted Mr. Wolcott in getting Eveline's furniture. Paid \$1.25 for a pair of gloves. Preached at Mr. Burnham's<sup>1</sup> on Matt. xiv: 30. Very tired. My horse appears to be diseased.

10. Wrote. My brother and his wife called here on their way to New York to attend the trial of their son. Rode out. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Had a long walk.

11. Wrote the most of a sermon on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. Am fatigued with my evening meetings. Read.

12. Wrote notes and preached on Ex. xvii: 11. Finished and preached my sermon on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. Had a solemn audience. Had a full conference. Am weak at my lungs. I fear the Methodists are doing injury at Wapping.

13. Quite cold. Attended to my horse. He is quite diseased. Received of Mr. O. Tudor \$14 for fifty rods of land, which I sold him a good while ago—\$12.50 the principal and \$1.50 for interest. Read. At evening attended a meeting. Visited. Quite cold.

14. Walked and visited. Worked at my library. Read Walsh's *Appeal*.<sup>2</sup>

15. Rode out with Mrs. Wolcott. She is pretty feeble. Began in the afternoon and wrote the most of a sermon for Thanksgiving on Ps. cxvi: 12. Wrote five pages in the evening. It hurts me to study so late.

16. Thanksgiving. Quite warm and pleasant. Finished and preached my sermon on Ps. cxvi: 12. Meeting well attended. Read Walsh's *Appeal*.

17. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Whitman, of Boston, and one from Pres. Humphrey, of Amherst. Wrote to Mr. Bartlett and sent him Pres. Humphrey's letter. Rainy. Set out to ride to Wethersfield, but returned on account of the wet. Looked over pamphlets. Wrote to Mr. Whitman, of Boston. Warm.

18. Worked at pamphlets. Received of my collector \$40. Wrote to Mrs. Battell. Sent my good mother \$5. Last night we had a hard rain. Yesterday the new steamboat<sup>3</sup> went up the river. Afternoon rode to Enfield to supply my brother tomorrow, while Mr. Hooker,<sup>4</sup> of Hartford, is to supply me. My horse travels poorly. Quite cold.

19. Cold. Preached on Rom. iii: 3 and Prov. xxiii: 26. This congregation appears well. The people have much feeling for my brother in his trials. Rode home at evening and attended the meeting at the Hill. Mr. Bissell informed me, when I got to his house, that Alden had had his trial and been honorably acquitted.

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<sup>1</sup> Some private house.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Walsh, LL. D., born in Baltimore, 1784, and died in Paris, 1859. He studied law, but abandoned it for literature. He was an extensive writer and editor of periodicals. In 1819 he published *An Ap-*

*peal from the Judgments of Great Britain respecting the United States.*

<sup>3</sup> This we suppose to be the little boat which for several years was used on the river between Hartford and Springfield.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

20. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Mitchell,<sup>1</sup> editor of the *Spectator*. Rode to Wethersfield and engaged a place for two of my Norfolk nieces at Mr. Emerson's school. The North Society in Hartford have given a call to Mr. Spring,<sup>2</sup> of Abingdon, to settle with them. At evening attended our interesting inquiring meeting. Nine young females were present. Read. The account of Alden's acquittal is favorably mentioned in the New York paper.

21. We had some scattering snow the most of the day. Mr. Strong, of Somers, called here. Wrote. At evening attended the meeting. Visited.

22. Looked over three spelling-books. There is a prevalent inclination to introduce new elementary works and Walker's pronunciation.<sup>3</sup> At evening performed a marriage.<sup>4</sup> Wrote on an inscription for a tombstone. Visited.

23. It snowed considerably. The ground is covered. Cold and tedious. Visited. Worked at pamphlets. At evening my brother and his wife came here and tarried, on their return from New York. Their son was honorably acquitted, but the expenses of the affair amounted to about \$1,000.<sup>5</sup> The prosecution was totally unfounded. Preached in the evening at Mr. Burnham's on Matt. xi: 30. Took a cold.

24. Cold. The ground hard frozen. Read. Mr. Wolcott's sister, Miss Eunice,<sup>6</sup> who has ever been a member of this family, died today at Pine Meadow, with the decline of age, aged seventy-six. She has long been quite feeble and has been taken good care of by that kind family. At evening attended the prayer-meeting. We are about to remove the up-street meeting<sup>7</sup> to another house, having been at one house, Mr. L. Bissell's, about twelve years. We had a contribution—\$1. Was up late. Read Winthrop's *Journal*.

25. Visited. Wrote. Afternoon rode to Windsor and up to Pine Meadow. Mr. and Mrs. Wolcott went up. The roads are bad.

26. Attended the funeral of our good friend, Miss Eunice, in the forenoon. Did not go with the mourners to the grave, but came home and attended our afternoon meeting. Preached an old sermon on John viii: 24. Preached at the funeral without notes on 1 Cor. xvi: 22. The afternoon and evening quite rainy. The storm pretty violent. Had no conference. Read. Received of my collector \$50. On the 24th received a church letter from Suffield. Mr. Mann is expected to be installed there.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Mitchell, editor of *Christian Spectator*, 1824-1829, was born in Chester, Ct., 1794, and graduated at Yale, 1821. Was pastor at Newtown, Ct., Fairhaven, Ct., and Northampton, Mass. Author of *Principles and Practices of the Congregational Churches of New England*, and of several other volumes.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Samuel Spring, brother of Dr. Gardiner Spring, of New York. Dr. Samuel Spring's longest ministry was at East Hartford, where he died, 1877. He was a man of

choice character and an excellent preacher, a graduate of Yale, 1811. He was a son of Dr. Samuel Spring, of Newburyport, Mass.

<sup>3</sup> We still meet occasionally some relics of Walker in men who say dhuty for duty, etc.

<sup>4</sup> Between Joseph N. Newbury and Jane E. Mills.

<sup>5</sup> One of the incidental wrongs perpetrated by law, which cannot very well be helped.

<sup>6</sup> Miss Eunice Tudor.

<sup>7</sup> Neighborhood meeting held in private house.

27. Rode to Wapping and attended the funeral of an aged man. The roads very wet. Visited there. Afternoon attended our inquiry meeting. Rode out. Have a good deal to do for Eveline. Cold. Received a letter from Mr. Bartlett. Wrote to him and to my brother.

28. Rode to Hartford. Paid the bank \$150. Did errands. At evening attended our meeting. Had a sermon read. Am oppressed with labor.

29. Have a good deal to do in connection with the wedding. Rode to Hartford in haste. Paid for oats, five bushels, \$2.25. Grain is unusually high. At evening married Edgar Bissell<sup>1</sup> to Eveline Wolcott. I came to this family when she was four years old, and have had considerable care of her education. She seems to me much like a daughter. We had a very pleasant wedding—above forty guests.

30. We have very pleasing weather this week, though it has been a rainy month. Eveline went away. She has very good furniture. Visited a private grammar school. The performance was very good. Preached at Mr. Burnham's on 2 Peter iii: 11. Meeting full. Read Dryden's *Virgil*.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Wrote. Rode to the Hill and dined at Mr. Bissell's. Assisted in putting up some of their furniture. Dr. N. Dwight<sup>2</sup> is now there practicing for the cure of stammerers. At evening attended the prayer-meeting. Quite full.

2. Am pretty feeble. Worked at my things. Wrote the most of a sermon on Luke xix: 43, 44. Wrote more easily than usual.

3. Very cold. In the forenoon we had no fire in the meeting-house. Put on my flannel. Expounded on Luke xi: 37 to the end, and finished and preached the sermon begun yesterday. At evening had a full and solemn conference. We seem to wonder why it is that God is, to such a degree, passing by us in the influence of his grace.

4. Walked and visited. The ground is hard frozen. Visited a school. At evening attended the monthly prayer-meeting. Had the assistance of Dr. Dwight. The work of God is great in the North Society.

5. Rode to Wapping and visited their two schools. Attended our evening meeting. Met with the school visitors, and they resolved to introduce a new spelling-book in our schools—much to my regret. We have winter weather.

6. Worked at my chamber; gave testimony before the court of probate. Attended our inquiry meeting. It appears encouraging. Wrote. The thermometer has been as low this week as 14°. The ground is hard frozen. Received of my collector \$150.

7. Began to write a sermon on 2 Tim. iii: 16 for the installation at Suffield, if I should be called to preach on the occasion. Rode to the upper part of East Hartford and attended the funeral of a child, visited a sick man,

<sup>1</sup> Son of Capt. Aaron Bissell, of East Windsor Hill. He (Edgar) was born in 1800, and his wife in 1804.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, a younger brother of Pres. Timothy Dwight—a minister and a physician.

and preached at Mr. Burnham's in the evening on John v: 25. During sermon I became very weak and feeble at the lungs.

8. Walked and visited. People are reluctant about joining our society. Visited a school. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Heard of the death of Mr. Ep. Bissell<sup>1</sup> at Genesee. Warm. Thermometer at temperate.

9. Quite rainy. Wrote on my sermon for installation. It requires much labor. Worked some. Was up late.

10. Preached with old notes on Matt. xxvi: 56. Dr. Dwight<sup>2</sup> preached for me in the afternoon. At evening had a full meeting. The meeting-house is well lighted with the new lamps. Read the President's Message. Received of my collector \$209. Paid Mr. Wolcott's and Tudor's taxes—\$93.94. Paid Waterman for two book-cases \$22.50. For repairs of my sulky \$24.65. To Mr. Haskell \$16.94. Paid taxes, including the highway tax, \$18.14.

11. Wrote what I could on my sermon for ordination. Had to consult the works of the fathers. Our society had their annual meeting. It did better than I feared. Wrote late. Warm and pleasant.

12. My cousin, Francis Alden, called on me. Rode to Suffield and met with the council, quite respectable, for Mr. Mann's installation. Mr. Vernon,<sup>3</sup> the expected preacher, arrived in the evening and released me of the burden. My sermon could not well have been finished. Mr. Gay acted badly before the council. The examination in the meeting-house was before a large assembly. Dr. Dwight rode up with me. Bad riding.

13. We had a pleasant installation. I gave the charge. Had no time to write more than short notes. The people are very much united and appeared very happy. I never saw Suffield appear so well. Quite warm. Rode to West Springfield and spent the night with Mr. Sprague.<sup>4</sup> He went on a little before me. Got something wet in a squall.

14. Mr. Sprague gave me near an hundred valuable pamphlets. Rode to Suffield and home. Suffield people appear quite sensible of what I have done for them. At evening preached at Mr. Burnham's on John xv: 7. Quite cold and tedious.

15. Rode out. Conversed with E. Wolcott. Looked over pamphlets. Attended our evening prayer-meeting.

16. Assorted pamphlets. Wrote. Paid a blacksmith \$1.51. Wrote the most of a sermon on Ezek. xxxvii: 1-4. Wrote six and a half pages in the evening. Very warm and pleasant. Thermometer at 60°.

17. Last evening received pamphlets and printed letters by mail. Expounded on Luke xii: 41. Finished and preached my sermon on Ezek. xxxvii: 1-4. Thermometer at 62°. At evening had a very full conference. I trust we are not forsaken of the Lord.

<sup>1</sup> Epaphras Bissell, whose wife was Jerusha Wolcott, daughter of Mr. Samuel Wolcott, removed from East Windsor, some years before, to New York State.

<sup>2</sup> Nathaniel Dwight was educated for the ministry, but followed the medical profession.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Thomas Vernon, a native of Newport, R. I., a graduate of Brown University, 1816, pastor at Rehoboth, Mass., 1826-1827.

<sup>4</sup> William B. Sprague, D. D. Dr. Robbins and Dr. Sprague had tastes, literary and historical, very much in common.



18. Visited a sick man. Our people sold their pews. They did not do very well. Attended our inquiry meeting. Received of my collector \$50. Was up late. Visited.

19. Rode to Hartford. Paid \$15.09—the amount of our collections at the monthly concert for the year—to the Hartford County Auxiliary Society. Gave to the same object \$5 for a New Year's gift. Bought books. Have now almost a complete set of the *Panoplist*. Got the thirty-seventh and last number of Clarke's Bible, which has been publishing about fifteen years. Cold and tedious. Attended our evening meeting. Paid my subscription for lamps in the meeting-house \$4. Read in *Eulogies on Adams and Jefferson*.

20. Thermometer in the morning 18°. Wrote. Wrote to Bangs & Emory, New York. Looked over books. Read. At evening preached at Mr. Burnham's on 2 Cor. iv: 3, 4. Full meeting. Quite cold.

21. Rode out and visited a school. Read the Bible. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup> Cold and rainy.

22. The ground and trees covered with ice, which soon perished before the sun. Wrote letters to the directors of the Ministers' Annuity Society. Wrote to Mr. Cooke, of Hartford. Wrote on my library catalogue. Attended our evening prayer-meeting. Mr. A. Gaylord<sup>2</sup> came here and tarried. My mother is well.

23. Wrote the most of a sermon on Ezek. xviii: 32. Wrote six pages in the evening. Have many hindrances. I am not so much troubled with a tremor as I have been.

24. Thermometer about 15° in the morning, and did not rise above about 20°, with a clear sun. Thin meeting. Finished and preached all day my sermon on Ezek. xviii: 32. Had a full conference. Read. The cold is tedious.

25. Thermometer at 10°. Wrote on my catalogue of books. I have added much more to my library this year than any former one. A severe cold day. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>3</sup> Read.

26. Thermometer in the morning up to freezing. Snow and rain. Wrote on my catalogue of books. Rode out. At evening a hard rain. Our evening meeting was prevented by it. Read the Bible.

27. Rode to Manchester and attended the dedication of the new meeting-house. Received a letter from Mr. Burt for that purpose on the 24th. They have a fine house built for about \$3,000. Mr. Hawes<sup>4</sup> preached and Mr. Burt made the dedicatory prayer. Towards night it grew cold and tedious. On my way home performed a marriage.<sup>5</sup> Thermometer at midnight at 6°. Read the Bible.

<sup>1</sup> The parties united were Charles R. Belknap, of Ellington, and Elenora Stoughton.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Asahel Gaylord, of Norfolk.

<sup>3</sup> The persons married were Joseph Cheney Simpson and Mary Alexander.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Joel Hawes, of Hartford. He was

already coming to have a good degree of that power and influence which he held through a long life.

<sup>5</sup> The parties united in marriage were Leavitt Denslow, of Windsor, and Rhoda Gillett.

28. Thermometer at 1°. My ink is frozen. Thermometer at 9°, at noon, and did not exceed 13°. Kept house the most of the day. At evening rode to Mr. Burnham's and preached on Luke ii: 48. Read the Bible. Wrote on my library catalogue. Read.

29. Thermometer at 1°. It rose in the course of the day to 19°. Visited sick persons. Visited a school. The ground very hard frozen and something icy. It is said to be good sleighing at the northward. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Paid for oats \$2.10. Wrote.

30. Thermometer at 12°. It snowed lightly the most of the day. Read. Wrote a sermon on Jer. ix: 1. Wrote late. Thermometer up to 25°.

31. It snowed moderately the most of the day. Thermometer about 24°. People went to meeting in sleighs. Preached with old notes on Num. xiv: 8, and the sermon written yesterday. Had no conference. Thin meeting. At evening visited. We have several sick persons. Thanks be to God for the mercies of another year.



1887.

JANUARY.

1. It snowed steadily through the day. Cold and tedious. Thermometer about 20°. Met with the civil authority. Their meeting appeared better than usual for a few years past. Afternoon rode out and performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup> At evening visited. Our monthly prayer-meeting was omitted on account of the storm. Endeavored to commit myself to the keeping of God for the coming year.

2. Thermometer about 10°. Walked and visited. The snow is much blown. We have a number of sick. The evening meeting quite solemn. Read.

3. Thermometer about 20°. Rode to Hartford with Mr. Wolcott. Very good sleighing. Crossed on the ice. Paid for a penknife \$1.50. Broke the one I have used for a good while on Monday. At evening walked out and performed a marriage.<sup>2</sup>

4. Thermometer in the morning a little below zero. Wrote. Visited a school. There is a great deal of sleighing. At evening preached at Mr. Burnham's on Rev. xxii: 12. Made this almanack. Am fatigued with care and labor.

5. Filed my letters for two years past. Yesterday Mr. Mann,<sup>3</sup> of Suffield, called here. Thermometer this morning at 1°. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture with old notes on Ps. iv: 6. Very fine sleighing and much improved. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Very frosty. Thermometer at bed-time at zero.

6. Thermometer at 3° below. Wrote. Wrote a sermon on 1 Cor. vii: 31. Six pages by candle-light. Read. We have had twenty deaths in the past year. There have been at Wapping thirteen—more, I believe, than any year since I have lived here.

7. Thermometer at 4°. Full meeting. Preached with old notes on Rom. vii: 22, and my sermon on 1 Cor. vii: 31. Administered the sacrament. Had a full conference. I trust we had a good day.

8. Thermometer about 15°. Visited Mr. Rowland. Fine sleighing and good crossing. Read. Hindered by company. It thawed and injured the sleighing some. Paid for dressing cloth sixty-seven cents.

9. Thermometer almost up to freezing. Rode to Hartford. Paid a bank debt. Saw a fire which appeared dangerous for a time, but did no great damage. Paid for oats \$1.25. Afternoon and evening it snowed hard. Our evening meeting was quite thin. Read.

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<sup>1</sup> The parties to the marriage were Hiram Buckland, of Springfield, and Harriet Grant, of Wapping.

<sup>2</sup> Between Nathaniel Wales, of East Hartford, and Betsey Hosmer, of East Windsor.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Joel Mann.

10. We have a pretty heavy body of snow. Kept in. Wrote on my library catalogue. Thermometer in the morning about 10°. At evening had an inquiry meeting; pretty thin. I think the Divine Spirit is still with us. Wrote. Read the Bible.

11. Thermometer about 4°. Mr. Pratt,<sup>1</sup> agent of the American Tract Society, called on me. Rode down to see Mr. Fairchild. Walked out. At evening rode with company to Pine Meadow and returned. Very good sleighing. Three of my neighbors went to Mr. Burnham's and attended the meeting for me.

12. Thermometer at 12°. Walked and visited. Rode to Hartford to see Mr. Linsley. At evening we had a hard snow. Went to the school-house, but we had no meeting. Wrote.

13. Thermometer about up to freezing. The body of snow is about fifteen inches deep and very heavy. . Paid a tailoress seventy-five cents. On the 11th received a letter from my cousin, Joseph Battell, now in Hartford studying Spanish.<sup>2</sup> Wrote to Mr. Sprague, of West Springfield. Paid for the *Mirror* newspaper for a year \$2. Received a letter from Mr. Linsley, of Hartford. Read.

14. Thermometer about 16°. Rode early to East Hartford to exchange with Mr. Fairchild. He rode to East Windsor and returned after meeting. Cold and windy. The sleighing not good on account of the quantity of snow. Preached on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4 and Ezek. xviii: 32. At evening rode home and attended conference.

15. Thermometer 12°. Worked some. Rode to Mr. Bartlett's. The snow in some places quite drifted. Read. Thermometer in the evening at 7°.

16. Rode out and visited. Mr. Bidwell, from college,<sup>3</sup> called here. Read Dr. Channing's new and able Unitarian sermon.<sup>4</sup> Attended our evening meeting. Cold and tedious. Thermometer in the morning at 15°, in the evening at 6°. Wrote.

17. Observed by my people as a special fast on account of the present state of religion here, in which we have but little of the divine influences, which are abundant in the adjacent places. In the forenoon we had a prayer-meeting; afternoon Mr. Linsley, of Hartford, was here and preached. The meetings were unexpectedly full and very solemn. The people appear to feel their wants. The coldest day we have had. Thermometer at sunrise 04°.<sup>5</sup> It rose to 13°, and no higher through the day, with clear sun. At evening we had a solemn and full conference, notwithstanding the cold. In the evening thermometer at 2°. I bless God for this day, and hope it may have

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Miner G. Pratt, graduated at Middlebury College, 1823, and in 1826 and 1827 was agent of the American Tract Society. After being settled in two or three places, he became agent of the American Colonization Society, making his home at Andover, Mass. He died in 1884, in his eighty-fifth year.

<sup>2</sup> He had a love of languages and acquired

them with facility. As a boy he was sent to Canada to learn French.

<sup>3</sup> Walter H. Bidwell. He was to graduate the following September.

<sup>4</sup> The particular sermon here referred to we do not find it easy to identify.

<sup>5</sup> With a cipher before the figure he means below zero.

a divine blessing. A Mr. Chapin,<sup>1</sup> of West Springfield, a candidate, came here and tarried.

18. The cold seems to be terrifying. Thermometer at sunrise 07°. It then sunk, and at eight o'clock it was 11° below zero. At noon it was at 9°, but rose no higher in a clear day. Worked at my wood. Wrote. At evening thermometer at zero; rode to Mr. Burnham's and preached to a small audience on John i: 39. At my return suffered much from cold; thermometer at 03°. At bed-time it was at 06°.

19. Thermometer at sunrise, viewed carefully, was 20° below zero. I believe I have had this instrument eight or nine years, and I think it has never been so low. It rose to 9° and no higher, with clear sun. Read. Afternoon rode to Mr. Rowland's. At evening attended the prayer-meeting. The cold very severe. It makes our meetings less useful. Mr. A. Gaylord and his niece came here and tarried. Thermometer at bed-time zero.

20. Thermometer at sunrise, same as yesterday, 20° below zero. Am almost overcome with the cold. The thermometer rose no higher than 7°, with clear sun. Worked some. Could not write a sermon as I intended. Read the Bible. Wrote. Thermometer at bed-time at 06°.

21. Thermometer a little after sunrise was almost 24° below zero.<sup>2</sup> It was more than 23 1-2°. Greater cold than at any time since I have kept an instrument. There is an immense quantity of snow north, east, and west of us, and it has been a very cold season at the south. The mercury rose very slow, though with a clear sun, but in the afternoon it was at 11°. The meeting-house in the forenoon was very cold. Preached an old sermon on John xv: 25. Meeting full for such a day. Had a pretty full and serious conference. Thermometer in the evening about zero.

22. Thermometer in the morning at 6° below zero. Visited. Was in at Col. Grant's. Rode to Wapping and visited. In the evening preached there on Mark v: 25-27. Had a very attentive meeting. There is a considerable seriousness there. Much fatigued by labor and the severity of the season. The weather moderates.

23. Rode to Hartford. The sleighing very fine. The late cold is thought to have been equal to any since 1780. Saw my cousin J. Battell.<sup>3</sup> Paid for socks \$1.17. Afternoon and evening it snowed considerably. Our meeting was omitted. Wrote. Thermometer in the morning at 15°, and did not vary much through the day. Had books bound.

24. Thermometer about 15°. Wrote. Attended to my books. A full series of the *Panoplist*,<sup>4</sup> etc., makes a valuable addition to my library. Visited. A woman<sup>5</sup> died with a child-bed fever. At evening attended our anxious meeting, which appeared well. Wrote to Mr. Burt, of Manchester.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Chester Chapin probably. He had been a candidate for some years. He was settled in Ohio in 1831.

<sup>2</sup> The writer of this note once, and only once, in his life has seen the thermometer 24° below zero, twenty miles west of Boston.

<sup>3</sup> His nephew, Joseph Battell, Jr.

<sup>4</sup> Sixteen volumes, beginning with 1806, when it was merged in the *Missionary Herald*, in which it continues and is likely to continue.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Sylvia Bissell, aged twenty-six.

25. Thermometer 14° below zero. Wrote to Gen. Howe, of New Haven. Rode to Wapping and visited. The snow very deep and heavy. Preached at Mr. Burnham's on 2 Cor. v: 17. Had company. Read the Bible.

26. Thermometer at 20°. Walked and visited. Wrote. Attended the funeral of the woman lately deceased. At evening our prayer-meeting was quite full and solemn. Thermometer rose above 40°. There is nearly two feet of snow on the ground, and very heavy.

27. Thermometer nearly at freezing. Paid for barley for my horse \$3.30. Rode to Hartford. Very pleasant. Thermometer up to about 45°. Paid for thirteen volumes of Judge Trumbull's<sup>1</sup> old books \$5. Received a letter from Gen. Howe, of New Haven, and one from Rev. Mr. Ludlow,<sup>2</sup> of New York.

28. Thermometer about freezing. Rode early to Windsor and made an exchange with Mr. Rowland. Wet and some rain. Preached on Prov. xxiii: 26 and Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4. Thin meeting. They have very good singing here. After meeting attended the funeral of a child. Rode home and attended a very full conference.

29. Thermometer about 27°. Read Robinson's *Abridgment of Hume's History*. Rode to Wapping and visited. At evening preached there on Ps. xxv: 11 to a full meeting. The Baptists are making a good deal of effort here. The snow is thawed some, but the weight not much diminished.

30. Thermometer about 26°. Rode out and visited. Went into the academy. Attended our evening meeting. I have many things to try and discourage me. I hope in God.

31. Thermometer 28°. Yesterday received a letter from Dr. Woodward, of Wethersfield.<sup>3</sup> It snowed moderately the most of the day. Wrote to Mrs. Porter, of Augusta, N. Y., and to Rev. Mr. Ludlow, of New York. Read in the English *History* abridged. Did not go out of our yard during the day.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Thermometer about 15°. Walked and visited. We have considerable addition to our bed of snow. Wrote questions on the English *History*.<sup>4</sup> At evening rode to Mr. Burnham's and preached on 1 Thess. v: 3. Very cold. Meeting pretty thin.

2. Thermometer at 2°. Last night at midnight it was 05°. Read and

<sup>1</sup> Judge John Trumbull.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Henry G. Ludlow, an evangelist, afterwards settled at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and at the College Street Church in New Haven. He was father of Fitz Hugh Ludlow, a prominent magazine writer.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Bayard Woodward, a native of Torrington, settled in 1809 in Wethersfield, became physician to the State Prison, and was one of the founders of the Retreat for

the Insane at Hartford. Afterward superintendent of the State Lunatic Asylum at Worcester. His last years were at Northampton. A very eminent man in his profession.

<sup>4</sup> This *Abridgment of Hume's History* had been prepared for schools, and Dr. Robbins appears to have been employed simply in preparing for it a full and fitting set of questions.

wrote on my history. It snowed some. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Was out late. Am fatigued with my labors.

3. Thermometer about 34°, and rose to 47°. The snow settles. Rev. Mr. Parsons,<sup>1</sup> of Vermont, called on me. He is visiting in this town. Wrote. Read the Bible. Read expositors. My active labors make it something difficult for me to study closely.

4. Thermometer about 15°. Mr. Parsons preached for me in the forenoon, and in the afternoon at Wapping. Preached in the afternoon an old sermon on 1 Thess. v: 19. At evening preached at the conference without notes on Isa. v: 4. Visited a sick woman.

5. Thermometer 16°. It snowed the most of the day. Very cold. The thermometer rose very little. Rode to Hartford. Paid \$5 for charity. Attended our monthly prayer-meeting. Quite thin. Mr. Parsons was with us.

6. Thermometer 15°. Rode to Manchester and met with the association. Mr. Parsons went with me and was much pleased. We licensed Mr. Justin Marsh.<sup>2</sup> The snow is deep, covered with crust, and very solid. It is pretty bad traveling.

7. We had a pretty full and important session. Rode home. Visited at Wapping. At evening attended our inquiry meeting. Pretty thin. Thermometer this morning was at 02°. We had company.

8. Thermometer nearly at freezing. Wrote to Mr. Hooker,<sup>3</sup> of Hartford, and to Mr. Benedict,<sup>4</sup> of Vernon. Received a letter from him on the 6th. Walked to the mill neighborhood and preached in the evening on Mark v: 25-27. Had a pretty full meeting. Some of my people conduct badly. Received a letter from my brother James, one from Bangs & Emory, of New York, and one from W. H. Bidwell, at college.

9. Walked and visited. We have several sick. Have severe trials. At evening attended our prayer-meeting. Read. Am quite feeble. Thermometer in the morning about 12°. Yesterday 25°.

10. Thermometer 24°. Last night we had a good deal of snow. It is now said to be in the woods about thirty inches deep. Rode out and visited. Conversed with E. Wolcott. Read. Read the Bible. It grew cold all day.

11. Thermometer about 16°. Windy. A very tedious day. Preached an old sermon on Ex. xxxii: 9-14. The roads quite bad. Had no conference. Read.

12. Thermometer 04°. Read English *History*. We have the pleasing intelligence that Frances Haskell yesterday had a son. Wrote off my biographical sketch of Dr. Tudor<sup>5</sup> for Dr. Woodward,<sup>6</sup> of Wethersfield. At evening rode to Wapping with difficulty, attended a meeting, and preached

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Justin Parsons, a native of Northampton, Mass., and settled at Pittsfield, Rutland County, Vt., 1814-1831.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Justin Marsh, a graduate of Amherst College, 1824. A native of Montague, born 1796, died at Portland, Mich., 1872.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Amzi Benedict.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Elihu Tudor, who, as we have seen in previous notes, had a very peculiar history.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. Samuel B. Woodward.



on Isa. v: 4. Meeting thin. I was not much expected on account of the cold and bad going. People have been out much breaking paths. Late in the evening Mr. and Mrs. Battell came here.

13. Mr. Battell went away and left Sarah. Attended the funeral of a child. Read. Wrote. At evening attended our meeting. Warm and thawy. Thermometer about 25°. Sent to my mother \$5. Paid towards my window-shutter \$1.25, and have paid \$2 before. Visited a sick woman.

14. Thermometer 24°. Walked and visited all day. I have severe trials.<sup>1</sup> Great complaint of the depth and weight of the snow.

15. Walked out. Read and wrote on my history. Afternoon and evening it snowed and rained a good deal. Thermometer in the morning about 25°; during the rain about freezing.

16. Thermometer about freezing. Walked and visited. Attended our evening prayer-meeting. It thaws and the snow is almost full of water.

17. It is warm and the going is very bad. The snow settles. Last evening Miss Susan McClure<sup>2</sup> died of a consumption. Visited the family after I returned from our meeting. Visited them today. She died quite unexpectedly. Wrote a sermon on Job xvi: 22. Am poorly able to write. Got along better than I feared.

18. Expounded on Luke xii: 41 to xiii: 10, and preached the sermon written yesterday. Attended the funeral of Miss McClure. At evening had a meeting and long conversation with several members of the church.<sup>3</sup> Very bad walking and riding. Last evening the thermometer was at 20°, but this morning near freezing. It rose to 50°.

19. Read. Rode to Mr. Fairchild's and with him to Hartford, and attended the meeting of the committee of association on the subject of schools. Very blustering and tedious.

20. I am quite feeble. Thermometer about 12°. Wrote. Wrote to Dr. Chapin<sup>4</sup> and Judge Welles,<sup>5</sup> of Wethersfield. Walked and visited. I think our commotion here is subsiding. At evening attended our meeting. I conclude not to continue this meeting any further at present. I am not able to attend so many meetings as I have done for some months past.

21. Read. Walked and visited. I think my visits had better be more exclusively of a religious nature. At evening it was rainy and bad going, and we had no inquiry meeting.

22. It is warm and thawy constantly, but the snow subsides very slow. In the morning Mr. Battell's children came here on their return home. Rode out and visited. Preached at the mill neighborhood in the evening on John iv: 29.

23. Rode to Pine Meadow. Eveline with me from her house, and visited

<sup>1</sup> His repeated reference to trials now may be due to what was going on in his parish.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. McClure had five daughters, and this we suppose to be one of them. She was thirty-eight at her death.

<sup>3</sup> Probably with reference to troubles arising in the church and parish, which were taking on a more and more disagreeable and disturbing form.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Calvin Chapin, Rocky Hill.

<sup>5</sup> Judge Martin Welles.

at Mr. Haskell's. They have a very promising infant son, and Mrs. Haskell appears to be recovering very favorably. I hope the blessing of God will be upon them. Wet and poor sleighing, but no bare ground. At evening attended our prayer-meeting. Received a letter from Mr. Porter, of Farmington, and one from J. Holbrook,<sup>1</sup> dated at Brooklyn.

24. Am quite feeble. Concluded not to attempt to write a sermon. Wrote. Wrote to Tutor Badger,<sup>2</sup> of Yale College, and to John Holbrook, Esq., of Pomfret. It rained considerably. Read the Bible. Am much troubled with dissipated thoughts.

25. Wrote notes and preached on Luke vii: 42, and an old sermon on Matt. xxvi: 35. Warm and wet. At evening attended the conference. Bad going. Visited.

26. Read. Wrote to H. Olmsted, Esq., Wilton. Paid \$5 for ten bushels of oats. Worked, draining off the water from the road. Rode to Wapping and preached in the evening on Gen. xxxii: 26. The ground begins to appear a little.

27. Walked out. Read. Visited a school. Read and wrote on my historical questions.

28. Rode to Enfield and attended a little while the Ministers' Meeting of that vicinity. The ground begins to be bare. Very bad sleighing. An aged man<sup>3</sup> died suddenly this morning. Visited the family.

#### MARCH.

1. Walked out and visited. Read and wrote questions on my history. At evening rain and snow prevented me from attending an appointed meeting.

2. Rode out and visited. Am quite feeble. The difficulties here give me great anxiety.<sup>4</sup> Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

3. Am unable to do much in study. Rode to Scantic and visited a sick man. Attended the funeral of the late Mr. Grant. Read. Am much oppressed with gloom. The Lord be my helper.

4. Preached with old notes on Isa. lxi: 2. Wrote an addition to an old sermon, and preached it, on Ps. lxxiii: 24. Sleighing as good as for some time past. Thermometer this morning about 5°. Attended the evening conference. My troubles dissipate my mind.

5. Rode to Hartford. Thermometer about 10°. The roads bare towards Hartford. The crossing on the ice is about done. Paid Gleason for two years of the *Spectator* and two of the *Observer*, pamphlets, etc., \$13.31. Exchanged \$8 in old Eagle Bank bills for eighty cents. Attended the meeting of the committee on schools. We formed ourselves into a society for the promotion of the object. I was appointed the chairman. Cold. Attended

<sup>1</sup> John R. Holbrook, of Pomfret, Ct.

<sup>2</sup> Tutor Badger was afterwards Milton Badger, D.D., a native of Andover, Ct., a noble hearted, able, and very useful man, pastor at South Church, Andover, Mass.,

1828-1835. Secretary of American Home Missionary Society, 1835-1872.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Aaron Grant, aged seventy-one.

<sup>4</sup> A serious opposition to Dr. Robbins was growing up in the parish.

our monthly concert. We formed an Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Association. I hope it may do good. Read late.

6. Wrote. Walked and visited. It rained considerably. Got something wet. The snow goes very slowly.

7. Rode to Scantic and attended a funeral with Mr. Bartlett. Better sleighing than wheeling. Walked out and visited. Read and wrote on my historical questions.

8. Wrote on my questions. Cold. Walked out. Preached in the evening at Mr. Burnham's on John i: 12. Rode in a chaise, but much worse than in a sleigh.

9. Rode out. I know not what God designs for me. My trials are great. Some of my people act very badly. At evening had a full prayer-meeting. Bad going, muddy and wet. I can get but little sleep.

10. Devoted the day to private duties. Read the Bible. Am feeble and unable to bear but little labor.

11. Expounded on Luke xiii: 11 to the end, and preached an old sermon on 1 Peter i: 17. The road is very muddy and hard traveling. Some sleighs yet appear. There is still a heavy weight of snow on the ground. Attended the evening conference. Very tired.

12. Read in the Adams and Jefferson *Eulogies*.<sup>1</sup> Read and wrote on my historical questions. Read late. We had considerable rain.

13. Walked and visited all day. The river is breaking up. I hope we may have an addition to our church. Many efforts are made against me, but I hope the Lord is my stay.

14. Rode to Wapping and visited. Conversed with persons respecting a religious profession. The frost is getting out of the ground. Am quite feeble.

15. Cold. Walked and visited the sick and others. Find it fatiguing. I can perform but little.

16. Wrote. Wrote on my questions. Rode out and visited. I have always found it a great labor to bring on persons for a religious profession. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Was out late.

17. Received a letter a few days since from Tutor Badger, at Yale College. Walked out. Afternoon assisted the church committee in examining some persons for our communion. Read the Bible. Am unable to study much.

18. Preached with old notes on Gen. xxii: 13, and an old sermon on 2 Sam. vii: 14. Wet. At night we had a hard rain. Read. Am quite nervous. Sleep very poorly. Propounded six persons for our communion.<sup>2</sup> I hope we are not wholly forsaken.

19. Wrote to John R. Landon,<sup>3</sup> Esq., of Litchfield. I think I am in the

<sup>1</sup> This was an octavo volume published in Hartford in 1826, entitled *Eulogies on Adams and Jefferson*.

<sup>2</sup> These were Olive Johnson, Minerva Risley, Tirzah Filley, Eveline Rollo, Juliette Loomis, and Almena W. Grant.

<sup>3</sup> John R. Landon, Esq., was one of the official men of Litchfield. The Landon family was one of the ancient families of Litchfield, and from generation to generation furnished men for the service of the town, in various capacities.

way of my duty. Rode to Hartford. The riding very bad. Attended the meeting of our School Society. It appears well. The river rises. Read late.

20. Wrote. Read the Bible. Rode to Wapping and visited a school. Paid a tailor \$10.22. Quite cold. Visited the sick.

21. Rode to Hartford and attended the installation of Mr. Spring.<sup>1</sup> The council was quite small. The parts were well performed. Dr. Spring preached one hundred and two minutes.<sup>2</sup> Attended a meeting of the president, secretary, etc., of the Retreat. Paid for continuation of Rapiñ Thoyras,<sup>3</sup> three folios procured some time since, \$25. Paid for a pair of shoes, water-proof, \$3. Much ice running in the river.

22. Wrote to Mr. McLean,<sup>4</sup> of Simsbury. Visited at the poor-house. The roads begin to be settled. Am quite languid. Paid \$1, my subscription, to our Foreign Missionary Association. At evening preached at Mr. Burnham's on Luke xxiv: 32. Thermometer rose to 60°.

23. Wrote on my historical questions. Mr. Bartlett called and spent some time with me. Hindered by company. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

24. Began and wrote a part of a sermon on Ps. li: 17. Received an unexpected request from Mr. Hawes to exchange tomorrow. Am quite nervous. Read.

25. Rode early to Hartford. Mr. Hawes rode up with my sulky, and returned after meeting. Preached on Ps. cvi: 23 and 1 Thess. v: 3. Saw Mr. Battell. Very glad of the opportunity. Returned and attended the conference. There has been a bad accident in one of the Hartford steam-boats.

26. Wrote. Rode out. Visited a school, which performed very well. Had no one of the visitors with me. Thermometer above 60°. I get fatigued easily.

27. Left home early and rode to Brooklyn<sup>5</sup>—forty-two miles. Some of the way the ground is not settled and the riding quite bad. Very warm. Rode a part of the time without an out-coat. There has been a meeting here today of school visitors from most of the School Societies in the county. I came here to attend it, but I did not know the hour and it was too late. They did very well. They have much zeal and unanimity for the improvement of the common schools. Conversed with several gentlemen on the subject. Tarried with Rev. Mr. May,<sup>6</sup> by whom I was very kindly treated.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Samuel Spring, D. D., son of Rev. Samuel Spring, D. D., of Newburyport, born in Newburyport, graduated at Yale, 1811, settled at Abington, Mass., 1822-1826, at the North Church, Hartford, 1827-1833, at the church in East Hartford from 1833 till his voluntary retirement from the ministry—but still lived in the town, and died there, in 1877, at great age, honored and beloved.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Gardiner Spring, of New York. His sermon was too long, but the charm of his eloquence would make it seem shorter.

<sup>3</sup> Paul de Rapiñ Thoyras, author of a famous English *History*, before mentioned.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Allen McLean.

<sup>5</sup> Brooklyn, Ct.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Samuel J. May, born in Boston, 1797, was pastor of the Unitarian church in Brooklyn—the only one of that order in the State. Rev. Mr. May died at Syracuse, N. Y., where he was settled in the ministry, July 1, 1871—a most genial, able, and cultivated man, and prominent as a wise Christian reformer.

28. In the morning rainy. Went into the county court.<sup>1</sup> Called on Rev. Mr. Edson.<sup>2</sup> I am glad that I came here on this occasion. Warm. Afternoon rode to Mansfield.

29. Last night tarried at the tavern. Yesterday Mr. May gave me three volumes of old and valuable books. The weather changed yesterday afternoon and became quite cold. Afternoon visited the south school—in fine order. Very tired.

30. Yesterday, after I got home, received a letter from Rev. Mr. May, of Brooklyn. Rode out and visited. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture, with old notes, on 1 Cor. v: 8. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. We have the highest flood in the river, I think, that has been since I have lived here. It appears to be almost wholly from melted snow. The snow here has been almost wholly gone for some days. On my late journey people plowing.

31. Wrote. Looked over some books. Wrote a sermon on John xxi: 15. I think my health is improved by my late journey. Vegetation begins to start. Wrote late.

#### APRIL.

1. Preached with old notes on Luke xxii: 15, 16, and my sermon on John xxi: 15. Administered the sacrament. Received some women to the church. Full and solemn meetings. I hope God was with us. Had a full conference. Not so much fatigued as I expected.

2. Opened the electors' meeting with prayer. The meeting was thin, and but little interest seemed to be felt. I left it soon. Visited. Wrote. Wrote a church letter to Mr. Calhoun,<sup>3</sup> of Coventry. At evening had an interesting meeting at the monthly concert. Read.

3. Rode to Hartford. Quite warm. Visited the Wyllys family.<sup>4</sup> Col. Hezekiah Wyllys, the last male member of that memorable family, lately died, aged eighty. Looked over many old papers there and received a number as a present. The late high water has done considerable damage. Traded. \$5. Have many things to attend to.

4. Rode to Vernon and attended the dedication of their very fine new meeting-house.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Benedict preached very well. Attended a meeting of the directors of the Ministers' Annuity Society. Broke my sulky. Visited a sick woman in Wapping.

<sup>1</sup> Brooklyn was the shire town of Windham County.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Ambrose Edson was pastor of the Congregational church in Brooklyn, 1824–1830.

<sup>3</sup> George A. Calhoun, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> George Wyllys was one of the chief men of Hartford in the very infancy of the town—was Assistant, Deputy Governor, and Governor. His son Samuel was Assistant. Hezekiah, son of Samuel, was Colonial Sec-

retary, 1712–1734. George, son of Hezekiah, was Secretary, 1734–1795. Samuel, son of George just mentioned, was a Revolutionary general, and died in Hartford, 1823. The Hezekiah mentioned in the diary was probably a brother of Gen. Samuel. It was on the old Wyllys estate that the famous oak stood in which the charter was hidden.

<sup>5</sup> The writer of this note was there, as a boy of twelve years, living in Vernon with an uncle, after his father's death.

5. Looked over old manuscripts. Wrote. Visited Tudor's school. It appeared remarkably well. A great number of branches have been studied. Wet and rainy. This prevented my attending an evening meeting, which I had appointed. Mr. and Mrs. Haskell<sup>1</sup> came here with their infant son.

6. Visited the Hill school. It has done better than usual. There was a great Methodist meeting here, and four young persons were baptized by immersion. Wrote letters respecting the school business to Rev. J. Marsh,<sup>2</sup> of Haddam, Rev. S. J. May,<sup>3</sup> Brooklyn, J. Alsop, Esq.,<sup>4</sup> Middletown, and Mr. J. P. Brace, Litchfield. Yesterday the thermometer was at 76°, today at 70°. The water is quite high again, but not equal to last week. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. The ground has become green with grass.

7. Wrote. Wrote a letter to Mr. H. Olmsted,<sup>5</sup> of Wilton, and one to Orestes Wilson, of Yale College. We expect to make him our principal beneficiary of the Everest fund. Wrote the remainder of a sermon begun a fortnight ago on Ps. li: 17. Wrote with little tremor.

8. Expounded on Luke xiv, and preached my sermon on Ps. li: 17, latter part. Visited a sick woman. At evening had a full conference. Last evening received a letter from Rev. Mr. May, of Brooklyn. Visited.

9. Rode to Hartford. Did errands. Dined with Mr. Gallaudet.<sup>6</sup> Looked over papers at the Wyllys house. Wet. The rain prevented me from attending the appointed meeting in the evening. Paid for the last year's *Missionary Herald* \$1.50. Wrote.

10. Read manuscripts. Visited. Wrote to Rev. C. A. Goodrich,<sup>7</sup> New Haven, and J. Hall, Esq.,<sup>8</sup> Ellington. The school business takes a good deal of my time. Thermometer at summer heat.

11. Rode to Hartford and attended the dedication of the South Meeting-house. I think it is the best house in the State.<sup>9</sup> Mr. Linsley<sup>10</sup> preached

<sup>1</sup> Mr. and Mrs. Harris Haskell, of Pine Meadow (Windsor Locks).

<sup>2</sup> John Marsh, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel Joseph May, just before noticed.

<sup>4</sup> This was John Alsop, brother of Richard—both poets and literary men, though Richard was the more distinguished. They were sons of John Alsop, of Middletown, a wealthy merchant and member of Continental Congress.

<sup>5</sup> Hawley Olmsted, LL. D., then teaching at Wilton, afterwards the very successful teacher for several years of the Hopkins grammar school. Orestes Wilson, the proposed beneficiary, had probably been a member of his school at Wilton. Mr. Olmsted died very suddenly in New Haven, in 1868. He had a most excellent reputation.

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, LL. D.,

born in Philadelphia, and a pioneer in the work of the education of the deaf and dumb. He began this work in 1817. He was educated for the ministry. His middle name was from his mother, who was descended from one of the early settlers in Hartford. He was graduated at Yale in 1805, and from Andover Theological Seminary, 1814. He died in 1851, at the age of sixty-four.

<sup>7</sup> Prof. Chauncey A. Goodrich, D. D., Yale College.

<sup>8</sup> Graduate of Yale, 1802, afterwards tutor, but now at the head of the Ellington Academy, which he founded.

<sup>9</sup> That church edifice is now nearly sixty years old, but fair, large, commodious, much better for the purposes of worship than many costly and splendid churches recently built.

<sup>10</sup> Joel H. Linsley, D. D., the pastor, afterwards pastor of Park Street Church, Boston.

well. Brought home a large quantity of the Wyllys MSS. There are some valuable articles.

12. Looked over MSS. Visited. Warm. Visited our academy. The pupils are rather few, but they performed well. Have no time to prepare for Fast. Received a letter from A. Holt, of Hartford. Saw blossoms on the daffas, and some on a fruit-tree.

13. Fast. Preached an old sermon on Deut. vii: 7, 8. There was a Baptist meeting and one person immersed. Our meeting rather thin. At evening preached at Long Hill on Titus ii: 14. Our society matters give me much anxiety.

14. Sat in my chamber without a fire. We had a good cutting of asparagus. Looked at the Wyllys papers. Walked out and visited. At evening rode to Mr. Bartlett's to exchange. Attended a private prayer-meeting in the evening at the Hill.

15. Mr. Bartlett rode down with my horse and returned after meeting. Wet. Meeting rather thin. Preached on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4 and Ps. li: 17. Returned in the evening and attended the conference. Much fatigued.

16. Wet, but we get but little rain. Looked over old papers. The grass is so forward as to be blown by the wind, and has been so for two or three days. Towards night rode to Pine Meadow. Received a letter from my brother, informing me of the melancholy death of his good neighbor, Esq. Potter.<sup>1</sup>

17. Rode home. Received a letter from Mr. Hyde,<sup>2</sup> of Bolton. Had a good visit at Pine Meadow. Read. Wrote. Visited.

18. Walked in the meadow and concluded to lease my land. The water is getting down, after being up an unusually long period. Rode to Enfield and returned. My brother is much afflicted with the death of Esq. Potter. He has much to do. The revival there appears well. In the neighboring towns there is a great dislike of the abuse I receive from two or three of my people.<sup>3</sup> Paid for repairs of my sulky \$4.50. Visited. Cold and high winds. We have had two hard frosts.

19. Cold. I think it is quite favorable on account of vegetation.<sup>4</sup> Rode to Hartford. Had my Clarke's Bible well bound.<sup>5</sup> It makes a valuable addition to my library. Walked and visited. Preached in the evening at Mr. Burnham's on Matt. xx: 30. Quite dusty.

20. Wrote. Rode out and visited. There seems to be more talk about our society matters than there has been. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> Elam O. Potter, Esq. It is natural to conclude that he was a son of Rev. Elam Potter, who was a former pastor of the Enfield Church.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Lavius Hyde.

<sup>3</sup> This narrows the difficulty which before has only been spoken of in the general.

<sup>4</sup> That is, lest vegetation should advance

too rapidly and afterwards be injured by frosts.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Adam Clarke's *Commentary on the Bible*, which had been issued in numbers from 1810 to 1826, making eight volumes. The work was now completed. Dr. Adam Clarke was born in Moybeg, Ireland, 1760, and died in London in 1832.

21. Had a long conversation with Dr. Reed. Wrote a part of a sermon on Isa. iii: 10, 11. Much hindered. Wrote late.

22. Finished and preached my sermon on Isa. iii: 10, 11. Last night we had a favorable rain. Received a good letter from my sister. Attended the evening conference. Much fatigued.

23. Walked out. Gave Horace Martin a lease of my land for five years. for thirty dollars a year. Paid seventy-five cents for the lease. Wrote. Rode to Hartford. Attended a meeting of the Society for Schools. Met with the committee of the Convention of the Clergy. At evening had a few brethren of the church at my chamber. Paid for linen \$3.22.

24. Wrote. Rode out and visited. Was prevented attending an evening meeting by the rain. Wrote a plan for the improvement of our school system. Read.

25. Last night we had a very hard rain. Rode to Wapping and attended the funeral of a colored man. Cold and tedious. The roads very wet. Rode to Bolton. The Female County Society for the Promotion of Revivals<sup>1</sup> met there. The meeting was thin. Mr. Patterson,<sup>2</sup> who has been employed by them in the Western country, was there and preached in my stead. I assisted in the exercises. Rode to Hebron. Tarried at Dr. Strong's.<sup>3</sup>

26. Had considerable conversation with Dr. Peters<sup>4</sup> respecting our school business. Rode to Coventry and dined with Mr. Calhoun,<sup>5</sup> and rode with him to Tolland and attended a large meeting of school visitors and others. They passed some important resolutions. Rode home after, near sun-down. Quite cold.

27. Wrote. The water is again high. Blossoms appear considerably. Wrote on a plan for the improvement of the schools. Visited the sick. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. My health is good.

28. Paid \$1.33 towards the window-shutter at the meeting-house. Wrote on a sermon on Heb. xi: 6. Finished it in good season. Quite wet. Read.

29. It rained moderately, but without intermission, all day. Preached with old notes on 1 Kings xxii: 28, and the sermon written yesterday. Meetings very thin. Read the Bible.

30. Worked at our shade-trees. Am quite languid. Wrote to my sister. Walked out. Received a letter from Mr. May, of Brooklyn. Visited the sick.

#### MAY.

1. Wet and rainy the most of the day. Cold. Looked over the Wyllys manuscripts. Read the Bible. The commotion among my people seems to revive. In God alone is our help. Walked out.

<sup>1</sup> This was an organization which existed for some years.

<sup>2</sup> This Rev. Mr. Patterson was a man, probably, who belonged at the West, and was very likely a Presbyterian. No Congregational minister of the name Patterson seems to have been settled in Connecticut, and none of the name raised up there.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Lyman Strong (not Dr.) was settled in Hebron, 1825-1830. He was a graduate of Williams College, 1802.

<sup>4</sup> John S. Peters, M. D., LL. D. The former title came from Yale, 1818, and the latter from Trinity College, 1831; Governor of Connecticut, 1831-1833, and died in 1858.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. George A. Calhoun.



2. Rode to Hartford and attended the election. The new Governor<sup>1</sup> does not make a very interesting appearance. Attended the meeting of the Connecticut Bible Society. Attended the meeting of the Convention of the Clergy. Quite cold. The Hartford streets are very muddy. Mr. Lewis<sup>2</sup> preached very well. Have a good deal to do about the school business.

3. This morning there was a good deal of frost. Wrote. Walked out. Rode to Hartford and attended our School Society. I hope the Lord will give a blessing upon our exertions. At evening several of our people had a meeting relative to our ecclesiastical matters.

4. Spent the most of the day looking over the returns from the School Societies. Received a paper from the meeting of last evening. My nervous system is much affected.<sup>3</sup> Attended our evening prayer-meeting. Cold.

5. Attempted to write a sermon on Heb. vii: 25. Am so feeble and my nervous system is so much affected that I could write but little. Walked out. Rode and visited a sick woman. Warm.

6. Warm. Had no fire in my chamber and went to meeting without a great coat. Expounded on Luke xv. Preached an old sermon on Luke xi: 13. We had our missionary contribution and collected \$24.25. The meeting last Sabbath was very thin, and many were uninformed respecting it. Baptized a child.<sup>4</sup> Attended the conference. Pretty thin.

7. Had a poor night. My nerves much affected. The apple-trees are in blossom. Dined and prayed with two military companies. Wet. The companies went into the meeting-house. Attended the monthly concert. Very thin.

8. Rode to Hartford. Signed a memorial to the General Assembly respecting the schools. Cold and tedious. Looked over the school returns. Had company.

9. Rode to Enfield to consult my brother. Great are my trials. Warm. Gave a man who has sustained a loss \$5.

10. Spent the most of the day in preparation, and at evening met with an informal meeting of the most of the members of the society, and replied to written statements a certain man had presented against me. They were unsupported by proof, and the meeting voted that no order could be taken on them. We had a hard rain.

11. Am quite feeble. Rode out. Conversed with a man who I hope has recently been made a subject of grace. Worked at the school returns. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Visited a sick woman very low. Wrote to my brother.

12. On the 10th rode quite early to Hartford, and attended to the business of the annual meeting of the Ministers' Annuity Society. My nervous system

<sup>1</sup> Gov. Oliver Wolcott, of Litchfield, after eleven successive years of service, gives place now to Gov. Gideon Tomlinson, of Fairfield. Whatever his personal appearance, he made a good and able Governor. He was in office three years.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Isaac Lewis, Jr., colleague with his father, Dr. Isaac Lewis, of Greenwich, Ct.

<sup>3</sup> The missive evidently a disagreeable one, but what was the nature of the difficulty we do not know.

<sup>4</sup> Jerusha, daughter of Benjamin Gillett.

is much affected. Wrote and finished a sermon which I began on the 5th. Visited a sick woman. The blossoms are very full. Received a letter from Mr. Hawes and others—a committee of our clerical convention.

13. Wrote notes and preached on John iii: 7, and the sermon mostly written yesterday on Heb. vii: 15. Baptized two children of Mr. Birge,<sup>1</sup> of Hartford. Very pleasant. Attended the evening conference.

14. Was employed laboriously making a digest of the school returns. Had Tudor's assistance all day. At evening preached at the mill on John ix: 25. Had quite an interesting meeting.

15. This morning there was some frost. Wrote and finished my digest. Rode to Hartford. Called on the Governor. He is an agreeable man.<sup>2</sup> At evening attended the meeting of our Society for Schools, and made my report. The society was reorganized and adopted a constitution. Saw Mr. Battell. The Assembly do but little.

16. Rode out. Conversed considerably with Capt. Bissell. Quite warm. Rode to Hartford. Saw Mr. and Mrs. Battell. Met in the evening with the managers of our School Society. I fear we shall not effect much. Rode home late. The season very favorable.

17. Last evening received a note from Prof. Doane<sup>3</sup> informing me that he is to preach in our academy next Sabbath. Wrote to him in reply. Mrs. Wolcott was taken very unwell yesterday raising blood. Today she has had another very bad turn, and is very low. I think in both cases not much less than two quarts. The thermometer rose to 83°. Went into the meadow and run out my land. Took off my flannel. Wrote to my brother. Wrote on the school papers.

18. Last night Mrs. Wolcott had another turn of raising blood. She is very low. Wrote. Occupied with company. Had a full prayer-meeting.

19. Rode to Wapping, etc., and visited the sick and others. Cool and dusty. Wrote. At evening rode to Hartford to exchange with Mr. Spring.

20. Mr. Spring rode to East Windsor with my horse and returned after meeting. Preached on Ps. cvi: 23 and Isa. iii: 10, 11. This congregation is large. At evening rode home. Mrs. Wolcott is some better. Mr. Doane preached today at our academy. The first Episcopal meeting here, I believe, since I have lived in town. I know not what God designs for us.<sup>4</sup>

21. On the 16th received a letter from B. Ely, Esq., of Simsbury. Have now written to him in reply. Visited the sick. Towards evening rode to Hartford and attended a meeting of the managers of our Society for Schools.

22. Am quite languid. Read the Bible. Afternoon rode to Hartford

<sup>1</sup> Henry Warner and Martha Ripley, children of Mr. Backus W. Birge, of Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> In spite of what was said a little while before about his personal appearance.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. George W. Doane, D. D., LL. D., afterwards Bishop of New Jersey, but now Professor of Rhetoric in Washington (Trinity) College, Hartford. He was assistant

minister and rector of Trinity Church, Boston, 1828-1832.

<sup>4</sup> There had been an Episcopal society at Warehouse Point for many years, as we have seen, but no other one was formed until a small society grew up in that part of East Windsor known as Broad Brook, which still continues.

in the rain. At evening appeared before the committee of the Assembly with Mr. Gallaudet, and explained and argued the subject of our Memorial in Behalf of the Schools. We were well treated by the committee. It rained steady and hard. Paid \$1 to the treasurer of the Society for Schools. Tarried with Mr. Gallaudet.

23. We have had a hard rain and it was much wanted. Conversed with members of the Legislature. Wrote a form of a bill for them on the subject of our application, by particular request. At evening visited Col. Grant's. Performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup>

24. Yesterday Mr. Wolcott found and secured a good swarm of bees.<sup>2</sup> Wrote. Looked over the Wyllys papers. Afternoon rode to Enfield. Preached in the evening to a good meeting on Ps. li: 17. There is a good work of grace here.

25. Rode home. Visited the sick. Warm. A very fine season for vegetation. Afternoon attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Grant. Read the Bible. Wrote. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

26. Wrote a sermon on Num. xxiii: 19. Was called in the afternoon to see Mrs. Moore—in a very low state. She died soon after I left her.<sup>3</sup> Warm. The heat oppressive. Thermometer at 88°.

27. Expounded on Luke xvi, and preached the sermon written yesterday. Thermometer at 86°. After the meeting attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Moore. At evening attended the conference. Very tired.

28. Last night much troubled with nervous affections. Wrote. Read. On Saturday received a letter from W. W. Ellsworth,<sup>4</sup> of Hartford. Afternoon Mrs. Robbins, wife of my cousin Chandler Robbins, of Boston, came here. Walked out.

29. Had a long talk with Dr. Reed. I think the prospect of my continuing here is doubtful. Wrote to Mr. Battell. I can do but little. Rode out and visited. Got home late.

30. Rode to Hartford with Tudor. He has gone on a journey in poor health. Saw members of the Assembly. Am considerably unwell. Walked out with Mrs. Robbins. Rode to the Hill and conversed with four men respecting the state of our society. Was out late. I hope to know my duty.

31. Walked and visited the most of the day. At evening preached at the poor-house on Heb. iv: 9. Quite cool. Troubled with a bad diarrhœa. Got home late. On the 30th Orestes Wilson,<sup>5</sup> our principal Everest beneficiary, called on me. He appears well.

#### JUNE.

1. Had a fire in my chamber. Wrote. Mr. Anderson,<sup>6</sup> of Hartford,

<sup>1</sup> The parties united were Jason Sage, of Hartford, and Sarah W. Birge.

<sup>2</sup> Wild bees, which he succeeded in hiving.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Anne Moore, aged seventy-six.

<sup>4</sup> Afterwards Governor, and Judge of the Superior Court—a son of United States Chief-Justice Oliver Ellsworth.

<sup>5</sup> He has been named once before in this connection.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. James Anderson, of Hartford, graduated at Andover in 1828. He was yet in the seminary when he called upon Dr. Robbins, but was also employed in this Sabbath-school agency. He was settled in Manchester, Vt., 1829-1858, and died in that town, 1881.

an agent for Sabbath-schools, called on me. I can do nothing on the subject on account of the unsettled state of our society. Read. Walked out. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

2. Rode to Hartford. The Assembly rose yesterday, after a very poor session. The business of the schools was continued to the next session. We much feared a frost this morning, but I believe there was none. I am poorly able to do any business. Wrote.

3. Preached with old notes on Mal. iii: 2, and an old sermon on 1 Thess. v: 3. Full meeting. Attended the funeral of an aged woman at the poor-house. Had a full conference. Very tired.

4. Rode to Wapping and visited. We have some tokens of the grace of God. Warmer. A very fine season. Am much debilitated. Wrote. At evening had a good meeting at the monthly concert. My cousin, Mrs. Robbins,<sup>1</sup> went to Enfield.

5. Rode to West Suffield and attended association. We had an addition of four new members to our number. We have now, by the addition of Suffield, twenty-two societies, and all supplied with ministers.<sup>2</sup> We were much occupied with business. In the morning paid \$1 on my highway tax. Very warm.

6. The association were very busy and adjourned in the afternoon. Warm and dusty. Rode home. They are beginning to work at the canal at Enfield Falls.<sup>3</sup> Things grow no better among my people.

7. Rode to Hartford and attended the interment of the remains of Mr. Wilson, who died at Danbury. Had an interview with Mr. Fairchild and heard some unexpected intelligence.<sup>4</sup> Wrote. The season very fine. I have done but little lately. Received a letter from my sister Battell.

8. Wrote a report of the Everest fund for General Association. Wrote to Col. Tallmadge,<sup>5</sup> of Litchfield. I pray for divine guidance and favor. Am very languid. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Thermometer 84°.

<sup>1</sup> Wife of Chandler Robbins. This Chandler Robbins, it may be remembered, was the oldest son of Rev. Chandler Robbins, D. D., of Plymouth, and was born in 1762. He was a graduate of Harvard College, 1782, and had lived in Hallowell, Me., where he had been judge of probate. His last years were in Boston, where he died, May 18, 1834, at the age of seventy-two. His wife, then visiting at East Windsor and Enfield, was Harriet Lothrop. The Dr. Chandler Robbins, Unitarian minister of Boston, a man greatly beloved, who has recently passed away, was the son of Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D., and was born in Lynn, Mass., 1810, but his family soon removed to Roxbury.

<sup>2</sup> This was the Hartford North Association.

<sup>3</sup> The canal which, after being used for navigation for some twenty years or more, now supplies the water power for Windsor Locks, that village owing its existence largely to this canal.

<sup>4</sup> Perhaps relating to what was passing in Dr. Robbins's own parish.

<sup>5</sup> Col. Benjamin Tallmadge, born at Setauket, L. I., 1754. He was a Revolutionary officer, and was graduated at Yale, 1773. He died at Litchfield, 1835. His father was Rev. Benjamin Tallmadge, and a son of his was Col. William S. Tallmadge of the war of 1812.

9. Mr. Fairchild called on me. Wrote to Rev. Stephen Peet,<sup>1</sup> of Euclid, New Connecticut. Afternoon wet and rainy, which prevented me from riding to Enfield, as I designed. Read the Bible.

10. Rode quite early to Enfield to exchange with my brother. A very warm and sultry morning, but it grew cool all day. Preached on Num. xxiii: 19 and Isa. iii: 10, 11. Full meeting. There is a good work of grace here. Propounded fifteen persons for the communion of the church. At evening preached without notes on 1 Thess. v: 9. Quite cool. Much fatigued.

11. Rode home. Afternoon rode to Hartford and settled with Mr. Talcott, of Marlborough, the lawsuit between him and the Ministers' Annuity Society. It would otherwise have been tried this week at the court of errors. He acceded to the propositions I made and stopped the suit. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Robbins,<sup>2</sup> of Berlin. Paid in our missionary contribution. Paid \$5—my annual payment to the Ministers' Annuity Society. Had \$15.42 paid back to me by the treasurer of that society, which I had advanced for expenses.

12. Walked out. Warm. Thermometer 86°. Wrote. My care of public objects makes me a good deal of labor. At evening rode out and conversed with persons relative to our society matters. They do not know what to do. Our association agreed to observe this day, individually, as a day of fasting, etc., before God. I think I have had some enlargement and submission in pleading with him for my dear brethren and myself, for our churches and societies, that we may be upheld, sustained, prospered by the grace of God; that he would sustain the vine of his own planting and plead his own cause. It is a day of rebuke and threatening, but Jesus is mighty. I do leave all with him. I am not my own, etc.

13. Walked and visited. Visited a family greatly afflicted. Thermometer 87°. Wrote on the business of the Ministers' Annuity Society. Rode out.

14. I have received of the society since May 1st, by the Day fund, \$30. Worked on the complicated calculations of the Annuity Society. Rode to Hartford and assisted in procuring a Sabbath-school Union for the county. Paid \$4—my annual payment to the Retreat.

15. Wrote for the Annuity Society. Wrote to Mr. Talcott, of Marlborough, and to Rev. Royal Robbins, of Berlin. Looked over the Wyllys papers. Attended our evening prayer-meeting. Rainy.

16. Rode out and visited at Wapping. Am little able to study. I fear divine judgments are coming upon this town in divisions and animosities.

<sup>1</sup> Stephen Peet was a native of Sandgate, Vt., 1795, was graduated at Yale, 1823. After his seven years' pastorate at Euclid, O., he went to Wisconsin, and became one of the great organizers in the early history of that State. A very useful man. He died in 1855.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Royal Robbins, a native of Wethersfield, and a graduate of Yale, 1806, was

pastor at Kensington parish, Berlin, Ct., 1816-1859. He was the author of some popular books for schools, and was a prominent public writer. He was the father of Royal E. and Henry A. Robbins, of the firm of Robbins, Appleton & Co., of Boston, owners and managers of the American Watch Company, Waltham, Mass., whose watches are scattered all over the earth.

17. Expounded on Luke xvii, and preached an old sermon on Gen. xxvii: 38. There was an Episcopal meeting at the Hill. Wet and rainy. Had a full conference. Examined and propounded a young woman for the church.

18. Am much fatigued. Rode out. Read. I do but little. At evening rode down and saw Mr. Fairchild.

19. Attended a funeral in Scantic. Received a letter from Rev. R. R. Gurley,<sup>1</sup> secretary of the American Colonization Society, and wrote him in answer. Wrote for the *Observer*.

20. Wrote. Worked some. Rode out and visited. Read Pitkin's statistics.<sup>2</sup> At evening walked out.

21. Wrote on the papers for the Society for Common Schools. Walked out. Wet. I am able to do but little. At evening rode out.

22. Finished writing on the school papers. Rainy. My nervous system is feeble. At evening attended the prayer-meeting; pretty full.

23. Wrote the most of a sermon on 2 Cor. v: 19. We have had a good visit from Mrs. Haskell<sup>3</sup> and her little son. Quite cool. Had a fire the most of the day. Wrote better than I feared I could.

24. Preached with old notes on Luke xxii: 46, and finished and preached the sermon on 2 Cor. v: 19. Examined and propounded a man for the church. Assisted in commencing our Sabbath-school. Attended the evening conference.

25. Had a poor night last night. Wrote. Worked a little. Rode to Hartford. Paid to be a life member of the Sabbath Union \$5. Paid for a pair of shoes \$2.25. Called on Mr. Fairchild. Attended to the business of the Society for Schools. Got home late.

26. Wet. Walked out. Paid for the window-shutter at the meeting-house \$3. Mrs. C. Robbins came down yesterday from Enfield, and is now at Dea. Reed's. Afternoon set out on a journey to Norfolk. Wet and rainy. Purchased a new umbrella. Was quite incommoded by the wet. Rode to the south part of Canton and tarried at a tavern.

27. Rode early to Litchfield—sixteen miles. Rainy the most of the time. Called on Col. Talmadge. Conversed with him respecting Mr. Fairchild.<sup>4</sup> They have a young Mr. Carroll<sup>5</sup> preaching here, whom they think of settling.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Ralph Randolph Gurley, son of Rev. John Gurley, first pastor in Exeter parish, Lebanon, Ct., 1775-1812, to his death. Ralph R., his son, was graduated at Yale in 1818. He died in 1872. Throughout nearly the whole of his ministerial life he was secretary of the American Colonization Society at Washington.

<sup>2</sup> *Statistical View of the Commerce of the U. S.*, by Timothy Pitkin, LL. D., first published in 1816, and a revised edition in 1835.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Frances (Wolcott) Haskell.

<sup>4</sup> The Litchfield pulpit, made vacant by the departure of Dr. Lyman Beecher to Boston, had not yet been filled, and it is probable that Dr. Robbins spoke a word in behalf of Mr. Fairchild, which did not prove effectual.

<sup>5</sup> Afterwards Rev. Daniel Carroll, D. D., who was settled in Litchfield the following October. He was a graduate of Jefferson College, Pa. His stay in Litchfield was short, 1827-1829, but he was a man of considerable note, though his chief work was done in the Middle States.

Called and dined at Mr. Deming's.<sup>1</sup> Afternoon rode to Norfolk. Showery, but did not get much wet. Found my good mother in a very comfortable state at her own home. I have not been there since last fall. She spent the winter at Mr. Battell's. There is a good work of grace here. Today has been observed here as a fast. At evening attended a meeting with Mr. Emerson<sup>2</sup> and Mr. Beach,<sup>3</sup> of Winsted. The season here is wet and later than with us.

28. Made calls. Am much fatigued. My cousin, Eliza Gridley,<sup>4</sup> and her daughter are here. Mr. and Mrs. Battell are gone to New Connecticut. There is a public meeting, a conference of churches, yesterday and today at Torrington. The revival seems to be through Litchfield North Association. Mr. Battell's family are hopeful sharers in the work. At evening preached at a full and solemn meeting on Isa. iii: 10, 11. Gave my mother \$5, to Sally Lawrence \$1, and traded \$2.25. Mr. Battell has given up the store in part to William<sup>5</sup> and Joseph.<sup>6</sup>

29. Conversed with several friends on divine things. It is evidently a time of God's special presence. Rode home. Called at brother Ammi's. His daughter lives in the house with her parents and has an infant son. Mr. Fairchild preached my preparatory lecture. Met him a little before I got home. He is a little disappointed with regard to Litchfield.<sup>7</sup> Attended our evening prayer-meeting. A very pleasant day.

30. Am much fatigued. Last night was very nervous. Have been much deprived of sleep this week. Wrote the most of a sermon on Luke xxii: 15. Received by mail a number of valuable pamphlets respecting the American Colonization Society from Mr. Gurley, at Washington. Received a letter from Col. Talmadge, of Litchfield, written some time since. Thermometer 89°. My tremor is troublesome.

#### JULY.

1. Finished and preached my sermon on Luke xxii: 15. Afternoon preached an old sermon on Ps. xl: 4. Administered the sacrament. The church very full. Received two members<sup>8</sup> to the church. There was a Baptist meeting and an Episcopal meeting at the Hill. We are in a painful state. Much oppressed with the heat. Thermometer 91°. Attended the evening conference.

2. The heat severe. Scarcely able to go out. Thermometer 93°. Afternoon we had a pretty hard shower, with much thunder. Wrote. Attended the monthly concert.

3. Wet. Read the publications of the Colonization Society. That is

<sup>1</sup> Stephen Deming, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Ralph Emerson, D. D., pastor.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. James Beach.

<sup>4</sup> Formerly Mrs. Olmsted.

<sup>5</sup> William Lawrence, adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Battell.

<sup>6</sup> Their oldest son.

<sup>7</sup> The conjecture just before made was doubtless correct.

<sup>8</sup> Caroline Parmalee and Russell Rockwell were the persons admitted to the church communion.

an important institution.<sup>1</sup> Rode to East Hartford and Hartford. Wrote, by desire of Mr. Fairchild, to Mr. Osgood,<sup>2</sup> of Springfield. His prospects are peculiar.

4. Wrote all the forenoon, under severe heat and much debility, for the afternoon service. Afternoon we had a meeting for the anniversary occasion. Delivered an address, principally on the subject of the Colonization Society. Rainy and the meeting thin. We made a collection which, I think, will be made up to \$10. Visited. Heard a good deal of firing. People have a very unfavorable time for haying.

5. Rode to Pine Meadow. Read in the chaise on the way. The river is quite high. Afternoon a shower most unexpectedly. Much hay was wet. We have a very wet season. At evening rode to Wapping and performed a marriage.<sup>3</sup>

6. Wrote. Walked and visited. Afternoon attended the funeral of a woman at the poor-house. Conversed with Mr. Haskell. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Was out late and took some cold.

7. Had a poor night. Do not feel able to write a sermon for tomorrow. Read the Bible. Made a short visit to a school about to change teachers. Wrote on my historical questions. Read.

8. Expounded on Luke xviii: 1-18, and preached an old sermon on Deut. xviii: 19. It began to rain about meeting-time and rained hard till near night. Thin meeting. We have a very wet season. Had no conference.

9. I sleep poorly nights. Rode to East Hartford and Hartford. Mr. Fairchild thinks of leaving his people. Called on ministers. Had a good visit with Mr. Hawes. Did errands.

10. Read. Wrote. Wrote on my historical questions<sup>4</sup> the most of the day and finished them. At evening rode to Wapping and tarried. The heat oppressive. Thermometer 88°.

11. Rode and visited in Wapping the most of the day. Poor hay weather. The crop of grass is very great. Received a letter from Mr. Ely, of Simsbury. I can bear but little labor.

12. Read the *History of Florence* by Machiavel.<sup>5</sup> Afternoon rode to Mr. Rowland's and saw him. Visited. The most of my people appear more than ever attached to me.

<sup>1</sup> In those years great interest was felt in this society, from very different reasons. Many good men, especially at the North, regarded it mainly as a great missionary society for the evangelization of Africa. Many planters at the South regarded it mainly as an agency for taking away the free blacks of the South, who made their slaves uneasy and rebellious.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Samuel Osgood, D. D., pastor of First Church, Springfield, 1809-1863.

<sup>3</sup> Between Harding Stoughton and Anna Grant.

<sup>4</sup> It will be remembered that Dr. Robbins was simply preparing questions on Robinson's *Abridgment of Hume's History of England*, to be used as a school-book.

<sup>5</sup> Niccolo Machiavelli, called Machiavel in English. He was born in Florence in 1469, and died in 1527. He is a man who has a reputation for cunning and *finesse* somewhat worse than the facts warrant.



13. Wrote to Mr. Ely, of Simsbury, and Col. Humphreys,<sup>1</sup> of Canton. Reviewed manuscripts. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Warm.

14. Looked over manuscripts. Walked and visited. I am too languid to perform much business. People are beginning their harvest. Rode to Windsor to exchange. Read. Thermometer 90°.

15. Mr. Rowland rode to East Windsor. The heat very oppressive. Preached on Numb. xxiii: 19 and Isa. iii: 10, 11. The singing here is very good. Rode to Pine Meadow. Attended a meeting in the evening and preached without notes on Luke xv: 10.

16. Am very languid. Rode to my brother's. He returned from an exchange at Southampton.\* He thinks it best for me to leave my people. Visited Mr. Bartlett and returned home. Read. I am greatly tried with regard to my duty.

17. Wrote. Am quite feeble. Rode to harvest field and carried dinner. The harvest generally is unusually good. Reviewed manuscripts. Mr. Fairchild called to see me. He appears resolved to leave his people, though they are unwilling for it.

18. Wrote to Mr. Hawes and others—a committee of our clerical convention. People are much hurried with their labor. Worked at my manuscripts. Walked out and visited. I think I am called in divine providence to leave my people. It is a subject of almost constant reflection and prayer with me.

19. Walked and visited. Very fine weather. Not very warm. Attended to my studies. On the 14th received a letter from Rev. Mr. May, of Brooklyn.

20. Tried to work some. Am quite feeble. Looked over manuscripts. I do but little. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

21. Walked and visited. Many people are much concerned at the prospect of my leaving here. Studied some. Read. At evening rode to East Hartford to exchange with Mr. Fairchild.

22. Mr. Fairchild rode to East Windsor and returned after meeting. Cool. Preached on Eph. ii: 14 and Isa. iii: 10, 11. The singing here, as well as with us, is poor. Rode home and attended the conference. Am feeble with my complaint. I think Mr. Fairchild will find some difficulty in getting away from his people.

23. On Saturday received a letter from my brother James. Wrote. Am quite feeble. Set out on a journey to Amherst. Rested at Pine Meadow.<sup>3</sup> Rode to West Springfield and tarried with Mr. Sprague.<sup>4</sup> He is considerably unwell.

24. Rode on a good road to Northampton. Dined at Judge Lyman's,<sup>5</sup> with considerable company. Walked to the Round Hill school. A flourishing institution. Called at Judge Howe's. This is a flourishing town. Saw

<sup>1</sup> Probably Arnold P. Humphreys.

<sup>4</sup> William B. Sprague, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Southampton, Mass., where Rev. Vinson Gould was pastor, 1801-1832.

<sup>5</sup> Judge Joseph Lyman, who married for his second wife Miss Robbins, of Milton, Mass.

<sup>3</sup> With his friends, Mr. and Mrs. Haskell.

Mr. Hall,<sup>1</sup> the Unitarian minister. Called on old Mr. Williams.<sup>2</sup> Tarried at Judge Lyman's.

25. Had a poor night. Rode to Amherst to Dr. Gridley's. My cousin Eliza is well settled here.<sup>3</sup> The doctor is an intelligent and deserving man.<sup>4</sup> Saw Mr. Perkins.<sup>5</sup> Attended the examination of a young ladies' school. At evening attended a meeting with Mr. Perkins, and preached without notes on Luke xv: 10. There has been a good work of grace here for a considerable time. People are generally harvesting.

26. We had a hard rain till after noon. Concluded not to ride today. Mr. Perkins called in. Visited Gen. Mattoon.<sup>6</sup> At evening attended an anxious meeting. This town is unhappily divided into too many societies. The college is flourishing.

27. Rode home—forty miles. There is a very fine manufacturing village, wholly new, on Chicopee River, in Springfield. The rain yesterday was extensive. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Concluded with my brother to make a communication to my society next week. Have had a prosperous journey.

28. Read. Am unable to study. Mr. Fairchild called on me. Mr. and Mrs. Haskell are here. Walked out. In the forenoon rode to Long Hill and visited the school there.

29. Expounded on Luke xviii: 18 to the end, and preached an old sermon on John i: 10. Full meeting. Warm. Attended the evening conference. The prospect of parting with this people is most painful.

30. Took a decisive step with regard to my connection with this people, I trust in the fear of God and from a deep sense of duty. Wrote and sent to the society committee a request that they would warn a society-meeting for the purpose of receiving a communication from me. Myself, this society, and the church I have endeavored to commit to the holy wisdom and infinite mercy of God. Walked out. Rode to Hartford. Called on Mr. Hawes. That city is much improving. Received a letter from my brother and wrote him in reply. Paid for a whip \$1.25. Made a donation—\$5. Read.

31. Am troubled with a stiff neck. Received of Horace Morton the payment of some money lent him in April. Read in Robertson's<sup>7</sup> *History of America*. Wrote. Am very languid. Rev. Mr. Pitkin,<sup>8</sup> of New Connecticut, came here and tarried. Thermometer 90°.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Edward B. Hall, native of Medford, graduate of Harvard, 1820, pastor at Northampton, 1826–1829.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Solomon Williams, born in East Hartford, Ct., 1752, graduated at Yale, 1770, pastor at Northampton, 1778–1834.

<sup>3</sup> The fears of Dr. Robbins and others about this marriage proved idle.

<sup>4</sup> Timothy J. Gridley, M. D.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Nathan Perkins, pastor of First Church, Amherst, 1810–1842.

<sup>6</sup> Gen. Ebenezer Mattoon, before noticed; a Revolutionary officer.

<sup>7</sup> Dr. William Robertson, of Scotland, an extensive historical writer. His *History of America* was published in 1777. He was born at Bothwick, Mid-Lothian, 1721, and died in Edinburgh, 1793.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Caleb Pitkin, a native of New Hartford, Ct., and a graduate of Williams College, 1817. He was sent to Ohio by the Connecticut Missionary Society.

## AUGUST.

1. Gave Mr. Pitkin my small globe, and Hopkins's *System*,<sup>1</sup> Witsius's *Covenant*,<sup>2</sup> Butler's *Analogy*, Parish's *Sacred Gazetteer*,<sup>3</sup> and Watts's *On the Mind*, seven volumes, the whole estimated at \$11, for his college.<sup>4</sup> The heat very oppressive. Thermometer 92°. Read Robertson's *America*. At evening walked out. Wrote.

2. Rode to Hartford and attended the first Commencement of Washington College. Ten graduates. A numerous audience. The performances were good. A few of our ministers were present, and politely treated. There was a splendid entertainment. The heat very severe. Carried to the bookseller my questions on Robinson's *Abridgment of Hume*, etc., for which I am to receive \$50. Thermometer, I conclude, about 91°.

3. Wrote. Am very languid. Read Robertson's *History*. Walked out. The crop of hay is very great. Attended our evening prayer-meeting. Thermometer 93°.

4. Read. Revised manuscripts. My mind is greatly burdened with my own prospects and situation of my people. Hindered by company. Thermometer 95°.

5. Wrote notes and preached in the forenoon on Rom. viii: 6. Preached an old sermon on Ex. iii: 24, 25. The heat very oppressive. Our Sabbath-school does well. Thermometer 94°.

6. The heat very severe all day. Thermometer 98 1-2°. We had a sudden shower about two o'clock, or, I think, it would have been a little higher. Read Robertson's *History*. Can do but little. Attended the monthly concert. Pretty thin. People are much oppressed with labor and the heat. Received a letter from my cousin C. Robbins, of Boston.

7. Read. Mr. Fairchild called on me. His society voted yesterday, at his request, to unite with him in calling a council, to whom should be submitted the expediency of his dismissal, which he will desire. We have a better air than for some days past. Thermometer but 85°. Wrote letters to Solomon Stoddard, Esq.,<sup>5</sup> Northampton, Mr. May, of Brooklyn, my brother James, and Mr. Battell. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Clarke,<sup>6</sup> of Blandford.

<sup>1</sup> *System of Doctrine*, by Dr. Samuel Hopkins, in two volumes.

<sup>2</sup> *Economy of the Covenants between God and Man*, by Herman Witsius, an able Dutch divine, 1636-1708, three volumes.

<sup>3</sup> *Sacred Geography or Gazetteer of the Bible*, 1813, by Elijah Parish, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Western Reserve College, at Hudson, O. (now Adelbert College, Western Reserve University, at Cleveland, O.), was formed in 1826, so that Rev. Mr. Pitkin's agency in its behalf was in its early infancy.

<sup>5</sup> Solomon Stoddard, Jr., Esq., justice of the peace and of the quorum. Solomon

Stoddard, minister at Northampton, 1672-1729, made a name so grand and honorable that it was very natural to perpetuate it. The Solomon Stoddard here mentioned, and whose father of the same name was yet living, was born in 1771, and was graduated at Yale in 1790. He was a public man, and several times represented the town in the General Court. He died in 1860.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Dorus Clarke, D. D., born in Westhampton, Mass., 1797, was graduated at Williams College, 1817, pastor at Blandford, 1823-1835, for many years after an editor, died in Boston, 1884, aged eighty-seven.

8. Walked and visited all day. People feel very anxious at the apprehension of my leaving them. Performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup> Thermometer 88°.

9. I sleep poorly nights. Rode to Hartford. Called on Mr. Hawes. I beseech of God to remember me in his great mercies, and make me thankful for every token for good. Read. People are finishing their great ingathering of hay. Seldom so great. Thermometer about 87°. Wrote to Mr. Clarke, of Blandford.

10. Revised manuscripts. Read Robertson's *America*. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Have some favorable intelligence from the Seneca Indians.<sup>2</sup> Thermometer 86°.

11. Fifty years of age. Great is the mercy and long-suffering of a holy God. Wrote a communication to be made to the society, requesting them to consent to a dissolution of my ministerial connection with them. I think it is best that it should be done, and that it is my duty to propose it. Afternoon we had a hard and very seasonable rain. Read.

12. Rainy through the night and the morning. Forenoon meeting quite thin. Preached an old double sermon on Acts xv: 9. The ground is quite wet. Sultry. Attended the evening conference.

13. Rode to Enfield and visited my brother. His wife is gone to the eastward. Received several pamphlets by mail. Read.

14. Wrote. Our society had a meeting and I sent to them a communication stating that, in view of the circumstances of the society, I considered it my duty to request them to consent to a dissolution of my pastoral relation. They voted twice on the question of concurrence, and could not get a vote. I am disappointed. Cool.

15. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Silliman, of New Haven.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Fairchild called on me and brought me a letter for the church to attend a council for his dismission. Wrote to Dr. Ely, of Philadelphia. Added to my coins \$4. Rev. Messrs. David Sherman<sup>4</sup> and Elam Clarke<sup>5</sup> called and dined here. Looked over manuscripts. Read the Bible.

16. Walked and visited. Afternoon a hard rain. The society held an adjourned meeting and got a vote of eleven to eight<sup>6</sup> to comply with my request for a dismission, and some who were present did not vote. Read Robertson. My condition is solemn and critical. I am soon to be without a home.

17. Revised manuscripts. There is a Methodist camp-meeting at Man-

<sup>1</sup> The parties were Otis Hayes and Eliza Ann Strong. This was Dr. Robbins's last marriage service during his ministry in East Windsor. Since his ministry there began, he had united one hundred and seventy-three couples, besides a very considerable number of wedding services performed by him outside of his own parish, in East Hartford, Manchester, Scantic, etc.

<sup>2</sup> The American Board was then maintaining a preacher, Rev. Thompson S. Har-

ris, and three or four lay helpers among the Seneca Indians, of New York.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. Benjamin Silliman, LL. D., Yale College.

<sup>4</sup> David A. Sherman, graduated at Yale in 1802, and tutor at Yale, 1804-1810. Afterwards President of East Tennessee College.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Elam C. Clarke, a graduate of Williams College, 1812.

<sup>6</sup> A very small vote on so important a matter.

chester. Wrote to my brother. At evening had a full and affecting prayer-meeting. The people are tender and solemn. Had fire in my chamber the most of the day.

18. Walked and visited. The poor people are alarmed at the prospect of my leaving them. Read. Warm.

19. Expounded on Luke xix: 28, and preached an old sermon on Nahum i: 15. Many people are gone to the camp-meeting. Had a full evening conference. Was out late.

20. Am very languid. Walked out. Mr. Fairchild called on me. Rode to Hartford. Had some coins given me. Visited Mr. Hawes. Got home late.

21. Wrote to Mr. Fairchild. Read the *Spectator*.<sup>1</sup> Am very languid. Rode out and visited. The Methodists make some commotion here. Wrote letters respecting the Everest fund.

22. Revised manuscripts. Rode out. Went into the water. Have paid lately, to Benjamin Skinner, \$104.94, and taken up a note which I gave him, last fall, for W. Tudor. At evening rode to Hartford. Called on Mr. Fairchild. Was out late. Visited a sick family.

23. Wrote a communication for the church, similar to the one which I presented last week to the society, requesting them to consent to a dissolution of my pastoral connection. Had company. Attended the church meeting in the afternoon and presented my communication. I retired, and they voted six affirmative and nine negative. There were twenty-four members present. The others declined voting, and are understood to be in the negative. And some of the affirmative votes were in consequence of my explicit request. The number in favor of my leaving the society is very small.<sup>2</sup> It is a gloomy time.

24. Wrote. Mr. Battell and three of his children called here on their return from Amherst, dined, and made me a pleasant visit. Attended the funeral of an aged woman.<sup>3</sup> Visited a small private school. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. We have cool nights.

25. Read the Bible. Revised manuscripts. Had company. Wrote. I have felt very poorly able to write sermons this summer.

26. Wet. Thin meeting. Wrote notes and preached in the forenoon on Matt. iii: 8. Afternoon preached an old sermon on 1 Cor. ii: 9. Towards night quite rainy. Read. We have the pleasing account of a public treaty between Great Britain, France, and Russia, in favor of the Greeks.<sup>4</sup>

27. Last night and during the forenoon we had a hard rain. Revised manuscripts. Walked out and visited. People are greatly distressed at the prospects of my leaving them. I think, however, it is unavoidable.

<sup>1</sup> Not Addison's, but the *Christian Spectator*, published at New Haven, now in its ninth year, and completed in twenty volumes in 1838.

<sup>2</sup> The votes taken, both in the parish meeting and in the church, do not indicate positive dissatisfaction to any large extent,

but they do betray a certain apathy and indifference.

<sup>3</sup> Widow Anna Roberts, aged seventy-four.

<sup>4</sup> This was called the Treaty of London, and was signed by these three powers July 6, 1827.

28. Rode to East Hartford and met with the council; which, after much deliberation and hesitation, decided unanimously to dismiss Mr. Fairchild. The people appear to believe, under the existing state of things, that it is best. Wrote. We have latterly frequent northern lights. We have cool nights.

29. Rode to Enfield and made a short visit with my brother. Judge Terry<sup>1</sup> there is thought to be near his end. We had an adjourned church meeting. I renewed my request that they would consent to my dismissal. But eight members were present, and they concluded to adjourn without taking any vote. I am quite disappointed. I know not what the Lord designs for me. Two of the brethren called on me in the evening.

30. Wrote. Rode to Hartford. Did errands. Preached a sacramental lecture for Mr. Fairchild on Luke xxii: 15. He read me his farewell sermon. Got home late. Mr. Gaylord, of Norfolk, came here and tarried.

31. Yesterday wrote to Mr. Battell. Wrote. Mr. Bacon, of New Haven, called and spent the afternoon with me. Quite warm. At evening we had a shower, which prevented my attending the prayer-meeting. Esq. Brockway,<sup>2</sup> of New Connecticut, called here and tarried.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Walked out and visited a school. Thermometer about 85°. Rode out and visited. The state of feeling among my people is very trying.

2. Expounded on Luke xix: 28 to the end, and preached an old sermon on Hab. iii: 17, 18. Many of our people went to East Hartford.<sup>3</sup> The heat oppressive. Thermometer 86°. At evening, on account of my expected absence tomorrow, we had our monthly concert of prayer. Pretty full. Quite tired.

3. Received a letter from Simeon Loomis,<sup>4</sup> of Lansingburgh. Attended the funeral of an infant child in the hither part of East Hartford. Rode to Canton and met with the committee of the Everest fund. All the debtors there paid their interest. We made appropriations. The heat very oppressive. I think the thermometer must have been about 90°. Rode home in the evening.

4. On Friday last gave Mr. Bacon a large number of pamphlets. Wrote on the records of the Everest fund. Afternoon the church had their third meeting, and I renewed my request that they would consent to a dissolution of my pastoral relation. I went out, and it was voted. Nine in the affirmative, six negative, and three withheld their votes—which would have been negative if they had voted. Visited a sick woman. I feel relieved from much anxiety respecting my situation.

<sup>1</sup> Judge Henry Terry.

<sup>2</sup> The name Brockway was not common. He was probably of the kindred of Rev. Diodote Brockway, of Ellington.

<sup>3</sup> Probably to hear Rev. Mr. Fairchild preach his farewell sermon. He was a popular preacher and drew large audiences.

<sup>4</sup> There were two or three Simeon Loomises, belonging to the very numerous Loomis family of Windsor and East Windsor, and there was a constant movement of population from Connecticut westward. This man at Lansingburgh was probably an emigrant or the son of an emigrant from East Windsor.

5. Rode to Hartford and returned soon. Sent \$200 of public money to Mr. Birge. Dined and prayed with a company of cavalry. At evening met with the committees of the church and society and fixed on the council and the time for my dismission. Quite harmonious.

6. Rode to Pine Meadow and returned. Mr. Haskell's little son has had a hurt in his shoulder. Quite warm. Saw Gen. Jenks.

7. Wrote on the church records. Visited a family in the upper part of East Hartford very sick. Dr. Reed paid me \$51.70 and took up a note—the property of my brother's wife. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

8. Read the Bible. Wrote the letters to convoke the council. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Jenks,<sup>1</sup> of Boston. Walked out. Received a letter from Mr. Bartlett. Mrs. Doud, from New Connecticut, called to see me. Mr. Lane, from New Connecticut, called and took three folios which he had left in my possession.

9. Wrote notes and preached in the forenoon on Heb. iv: 11 and an old sermon on Matt. vi: 13. Full meeting. This morning there was a little frost, but vegetation does not appear to be injured. Attended the conference.

10. Rode and visited sick persons. A very sick family in the upper part of East Hartford. Visited the south school. Visited a family about to move to St. Louis. A severe loss to this place. Received of my collector, A. L. Reed, \$150. Quite busy.

11. Left home at a little after 3 o'clock A. M., and rode to New Haven before noon. Heard the oration and poem before the P. B. K. Society, and dined with the society. Heard speaking for premiums. Paid \$95 to the beneficiaries of the Everest fund. At evening attended a meeting of the alumni of the college, who formed a society.<sup>2</sup> Much fatigued. Quite warm.

12. Yesterday afternoon saw the remarkable performances of the scholars in their gymnastic exercises. On Monday evening heard of the unexpected death of the first of the European statesmen—Mr. Canning.<sup>3</sup> Attended the Commencement. The exercises pretty good. They were very long. Attended the *Concio ad Clerum* by Mr. Punderson. Have a convenient place to sleep in a private house. Attended a little while an Episcopal meeting. A cool and very pleasant day.

13. There was no morning prayer-meeting. Attended the meeting of the Education Society. Procured a few old books. Paid Mrs. Tucker for them \$1.50. Paid Gen. Howe for books and quills, \$6.25. Left New Haven at ten

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. William Jenks, D. D., LL. D., born in Newton, Mass., 1778; graduate of Harvard College, 1797; pastor at Bath, Me., 1805–1823, during which time he acted as professor at Bowdoin College, 1815–1818; pastor of Green Street Church, Boston, 1826–1845; author of *Comprehensive Commentary*, of which 120,000 copies were sold; died in 1866, aged eighty-eight.

<sup>2</sup> This was the beginning of the Alumni

Association of Yale, which was formed largely through Dr. Robbins's influence.

<sup>3</sup> George Canning, born in London, April 11, 1770, lost his father when an infant, and was educated by an uncle. His life was passed amid the excitements of politics, but he was constantly taking steps upward. In February, 1827 (the year of his death), he was made prime minister, and was greatly vexed by opposition. He died Aug. 8, 1827.

o'clock and rode home. Called on Mr. Fairchild. Warm and very dusty. Got home well.

14. Wrote. Afternoon visited a school. Quite warm. Caught a cold. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. After met with the committees of the church and society, and concluded to send for more ministers to our council, as some are likely to fail. It is a business in which they do not like to be concerned. Got home late.

15. Wrote to Mr. Porter, of Farmington. Rode to Wapping and visited a school. Visited there. Capt. Hall is in deep affliction. Read. At evening set out to ride to Scantic. It was quite dark and I staid at Mr. Bissell's.<sup>1</sup>

16. Rode to Mr. Bartlett's, and he rode to my people in my sulky. Preached on Heb. vii: 25 and Isa. iii: 10, 11. Had a large and affected audience. At evening rode home. Had no conference. Quite burdened with my cold. The prospect of my leaving this town, where I have received so much kindness, is affecting.

17. Rode to Hartford. Cool and dusty. Paid Seth Terry \$8.50—collected here for the Colonization Society. Rode to Pine Meadow. Called on Mr. Rowland. Rode to Enfield. My brother's wife has lately returned from a journey to the eastward. They have a great deal of company. Rode home in the evening. I believe it increased my cold.

18. On the 14th Edwin Olmsted paid me \$14 and took up a note he gave me for my grass last year. Spent the most of the day in a contemplation of my condition and prospects in view of my separation from my people, which I expect to take place tomorrow. I think I have committed all my interests to a holy God, and rejoice to be wholly at his disposal. The prospect is painful and gloomy, but God has ever been my helper.

19. Quite rainy. My brother and Mr. Linsley came to attend our council, and no others.<sup>2</sup> They adjourned to Thursday of this week. Divine Providence evidently throws many obstacles in the way of my removal. At evening wrote to my sister.

20. Rainy and wet all day. Wrote. Attended the funeral of an intemperate man who died suddenly. Began a sermon on Acts xx: 26, 27, for my farewell. By cares and neglect of writing my mind becomes dissipated.

21. Read. Wrote on my sermon. Mr. Fairchild called on me. Wrote to Dr. Perkins. Preached a preparatory lecture with old notes on Ps. xxii: 11. Paid for oats, \$2. Rainy and we had no evening prayer-meeting.

22. Visited a woman very sick. Wrote. Rev. Mr. Bliss,<sup>3</sup> from the Black River country, called on me. Wrote to Mr. Porter, of Farmington. Warm. The ground is very wet. Paid a merchant seventy-five cents.

23. Mr. Bliss preached for me in the forenoon. Administered the sacrament. The church was full. I spoke of the prospect of our separation.

<sup>1</sup> Capt. Aaron Bissell, on the Hill.

<sup>2</sup> It is quite unusual that a council so called should be so poorly attended.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. John F. Bliss, employed by the

Connecticut Missionary Society in New York and Pennsylvania. He was graduated at Williams College in 1808. He died in 1874, at the age of eighty-six.



It was very affecting. The church evidently feel the dangers before them. Preached in the afternoon an old sermon on Luke xvii: 22. Meetings quite full; some expected it would be my last sermon. The Methodists are making considerable exertion here. At evening attended the conference. Mr. Bliss preached.

24. Visited several sick persons. Dined with a military company. Read. It is painful to see many of my afflicted people. Wrote.

25. Rode to Wintonbury and met with the consociation. I was scribe. Saw Mr. Battell in Hartford. The consociation rather thin. Mr. Fairchild preached well. Rev. Seth Williston preached in the evening. We examined and licensed Mr. James B. Wilcox. The members had to go an unusual distance for lodgings.

26. The consociation were busily occupied till afternoon. Dea. Reed and I were well accommodated at Capt. Filley's. Rode to Hartford. The Hartford County Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society had their annual meeting. Delegates from the board were expected to address the meeting, but failed. Mr. Marsh,<sup>1</sup> of Haddam, and I spoke extempore. Rode home late with my brother.

27. A solemn and gloomy day. The council met—six ministers—and soon decided on the expediency of dissolving my pastoral relation to this people on the ground of mutual agreement. Nothing unpleasant appeared. I am liberally recommended in the result of the council. I commit myself and my all to the God of my fathers, who has ever been to me a most merciful God and Saviour. At evening visited two sick women. Yesterday paid a merchant for my umbrella, \$4.

28. Wrote. Am poorly able to attend to business. Mr. Fairchild called on me. Wrote some on my sermon. Afternoon attended the funeral of an infant child in East Hartford. At evening attended our prayer-meeting.

29. Cool. Have a steady fire. Wrote and finished my sermon on Acts xx: 26, 27. It is long. This is a work which I never expected. The Lord is righteous and holy.

30. Preached in the forenoon an old sermon on Heb. xii: 2. Afternoon preached my farewell sermon on Acts xx: 26, 27.<sup>2</sup> The scene was exceeding solemn and affecting. The quarter part of the people are much distressed. The meeting-house was very full. The day very pleasant. I was carried through the exercises better than I feared. At evening had a full conference. I leave this people and myself entirely with God. All of this worthy and beloved family were together.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> John Marsh, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Text—"Wherefore I take you to record this day that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." The inspired apostle could utter these words, doubtless, with perfect propriety. It is a little different when they are taken as the

text of an uninspired minister, however faithful, as he is about to leave his people.

<sup>3</sup> He means the family of Mr. Abiel Wolcott, where, through all the years of his ministry in East Windsor, he had boarded. Dr. Robbins came there in 1808, so that his stay was about nineteen years. For him to remove with his large library was a great task.

## OCTOBER.

1. Walked and visited sick persons. Wrote considerably. Made up my accounts with the society. At evening, by particular request, attended the monthly prayer-meeting. It had no public appointment. Spent the most of the day in the duties of retirement, in view of my present afflictive state. I think I rejoice to be in the hands of a holy God and Saviour.

2. Wet and rainy. Engaged in writing the most of the day. Hindered by company. Completed the church records. The deaths in this place have been about one in seventy-five persons annually during my ministry.

3. People went to the cattle-show. I think not so many as in years past. Worked at my library. Attended a funeral in the upper part of East Hartford. Showery.

4. Worked at my library the most of the day. Warm; had no fire. Visited a family where a woman<sup>1</sup> died last night.

5. Was engaged laboriously at my library. It is a long time since I looked it over, and I believe no books are lost. Attended the funeral. Quite warm. I am greatly afflicted, but it is all of God.

6. Wet. Employed in setting up my books. Have in the whole about 1,600. I have been much prospered in making this collection. The whole, including pamphlets, coins, and furniture, have cost as much as \$3,200.<sup>2</sup> Afternoon rode in a high wind to Enfield. My brother was expecting my assistance for tomorrow.

7. This morning there was a slight frost; the first we have had. The leaves have been falling for some days. Preached on Ps. cvi: 23 and 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57. After meeting my brother rode and preached at the east part of the town. Attended an evening meeting and preached without notes on Matt. xvi: 26. Had full and attentive meetings.

8. Rode to Pine Meadow and home. Mr. Gallaudet preached here yesterday. The society had a meeting today and laid a tax to hire preaching. Several certificates have been given in. Read.

9. Rainy all day. We have had a wet season through the year. Finished setting up my books. Last week took a number of volumes from the collection of S. P. Waldo,<sup>3</sup> now in this house, for which I paid \$22.25 several years ago, and have now added the most of them to my library. Read. An elderly woman<sup>4</sup> died near here this morning. Wrote. Visited Dea. Reed, who has received intelligence today of the death of his son<sup>5</sup> at Geneseo. On the 6th received a valuable letter on education from Amos B. Alcott, of Wolcott.

<sup>1</sup> Miss Sarah Olcott.

<sup>2</sup> His bound volumes, by statements made in the diary from time to time, cost as much as they would now, perhaps more. His pamphlets, especially his choice ones, were comparatively cheap. The demand for historical pamphlets had not then set in with force.

<sup>3</sup> S. P. Waldo was Samuel Putnam Waldo, who died the year before at Hartford. He was a well-known and popular writer, author

of that book *Robbins's Journal*, a story of Algerine captivity, which has stirred many a boy's heart in the olden time; author also of *Lives of Jackson and Decatur*, etc. He was grandson of Gen. Israel Putnam. Two or three books prepared about this time, on statements made by Algerine captives, were very popular.

<sup>4</sup> Mrs. Anna Newbury, aged sixty-six.

<sup>5</sup> Waldo Raynsford Reed.

10. The rain continued last night and through the forenoon, some of the time very hard. Wrote to Simeon Loomis, of Lansingburgh. Wrote. Attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Newbury. The ground is very wet. Walked out.

11. Walked out. Afternoon set out on a journey to Norfolk, etc. Rode to Simsbury. The Farmington River very high. A great quantity of cider is made this year. The roads quite muddy.

12. Tarried last night at Mr. McLean's. Rode to Colebrook and stopped at my brother's. Quite cool. The frosts have kept off this fall remarkably.

13. Rode to Norfolk. My mother is quite well. Mr. and Mrs. Battell are absent. Called on Mrs. Emerson. Wrote to Maj. S. Pitkin,<sup>1</sup> of East Hartford.

14. Preached for Mr. Emerson on Ps. cvi: 23 and Num. xxiii: 19. This is a very good congregation. There has been a good work of divine grace the present year. At night quite rainy. Tarried and had an interesting visit with Mr. Emerson.

15. Made calls. Wrote to Prof. Dewey,<sup>2</sup> of Pittsfield. Read considerably in Scott's *Life of Napoleon*.<sup>3</sup>

16. Visited the lower and upper schools in this district with Mr. Emerson. Cold and blustering. Visited. Gave my mother \$5.

17. This morning we had a very hard frost. There has been but little before. Paid for cloth to line my great coat, \$4.69. Paid a tailor \$1. Rode through Goshen and Milton to Warren. My aged Uncle Starr is quite well and cheerful.<sup>4</sup> I witness the changes of twenty years.

18. Rode to Danbury.<sup>5</sup> Called on Mr. Eliot,<sup>6</sup> of New Milford. There is a good work of divine grace there. And there has been something of it in most places in this quarter the present season. The conference of the churches seems to have been much blessed. Warm. Kindly received at Mr. Whittlesey's.<sup>7</sup>

19. Wrote. Walked and visited old acquaintance. Find some of my pupils here in the year 1800, but a majority of them are gone. A Mr. Gilbert,<sup>8</sup> a worthy young man, is now preaching here. Paid \$8 to a hatter for a hat sent me about a year ago.

<sup>1</sup> Maj. Samuel Pitkin, a most dignified and worthy gentleman, and one of the leading citizens of East Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> Prof. Chester Dewey, D. D., LL. D., widely known and honored for his varied learning. He was graduated at Williams in 1806, and died in 1867. He was a native of Sheffield, Mass., born in 1781; of the same general family as Orville Dewey, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Where a good many of us received ideas about Napoleon which we have had to modify. It was not in human nature that a British subject of that generation should say exactly the right things about Napoleon.

<sup>4</sup> He had then been in the ministry at Warren fifty-five years. For two years he had had the assistance of a colleague, Rev. Hart Talcott having been settled in this relation in 1825.

<sup>5</sup> Where he taught and preached twenty-seven years before.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Andrew Eliot.

<sup>7</sup> His old boarding-place, and yet the given name of this Mr. Whittlesey we have not yet learned. There were other families of Whittleseys in Danbury.

<sup>8</sup> He was simply supplying the pulpit, but was never settled there.

20. Walked and visited all day. This town seems to be improving. Quite warm for the season. Read.

21. Preached in the forenoon on Isa. iii: 10, 11. Mr. Gilbert preached in the afternoon, and I in the evening to a full house on Ps. cvi: 23. The congregation here much injured by their late ecclesiastical contentions.

22. Wet and rainy, and concluded not to go on my journey as I had designed. Wrote. Read. Wrote a part of a long letter to my brother James. Walked out. Friends called to see me.

23. Left Danbury and rode to Saugatuck. The roads quite wet. Last night we had a hard rain. Dined at Wilton with Mr. H. Olmsted.<sup>1</sup> Tarried at the aged Dr. Ripley's.<sup>2</sup> He is about eighty-five and his wife ninety. They have lived together more than sixty years. Looked over pamphlets.

24. Dr. Ripley advised me to go to Norwalk, which is now vacant. Called on Mr. Hooker.<sup>3</sup> He rode with me to Norwalk. The society committee called and requested me to delay my journey home till Friday. Concluded to do so. Returned with Mr. Hooker to his house. Wrote. In the morning paid Dr. Ripley for books, \$5. I love to have time for meditation. I look forward with anxiety. God does not suffer me to despond. I think I trust in him. He has never forsaken me, as he did not my fathers. Read. This is a pleasant family.

25. Rode through Norwalk to New Canaan. Attended the meeting of the conference of churches. It appeared better than I expected. Above thirty churches were represented. The delegates spoke well. Cold and windy. Tarried at the request of Mr. Bonney,<sup>4</sup> and preached in the evening on Num. xxiii: 19. The conference was concluded a little after noon. There has been a recent and good revival here.

26. Rode to Norwalk—five miles. The society committee requested me to be here on next Sabbath. I conclude to stay, notwithstanding I had calculated to be at home this week. In the afternoon attended a church prayer-meeting. This church and society are large. In the evening gentlemen called on me. Visited a sick and afflicted family. Read.

27. I keep at a Mr. Benedict's, a worthy family. This place is populous and flourishing. Constant intercourse with New York. Wrote. I think it is well not to be able to calculate on my prospects that I may witness daily the salvation of God. Wrote on my letter to my brother James. Walked out and took a view of the town and harbor. The lower part of the town is quite pleasant. Visited the sick family. Read.

28. Preached on Heb. vii: 25 and Isa. iii: 10, 11. This congregation

<sup>1</sup> Hawley Olmsted, LL. D., noticed in a previous paragraph, a wise and distinguished educator.

<sup>2</sup> This place was known as Green's Farms and now Westport. Dr. Hezekiah Ripley had been there since 1767—about sixty years. But in 1821 he gave up the pastoral office,

and died there in 1831—four years after this visit.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Edward W. Hooker, D. D., who was then preaching at Green's Farms.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William Bonney was pastor at New Canaan, 1808–1831. He was a graduate of Williams College, 1805.

is large and appears well. The meeting-house is a good one. At evening Mr. Hinman,<sup>1</sup> a candidate, preached.

29. My health is very good. I think in consequence of change of air. Wrote. Finished my letter to my brother James, and wrote to Mr. Wolcott and to Mr. Fairchild, of East Hartford. Had company. I find the want of my chamber for study. Walked out.

30. Wrote considerably. Read. Walked out and visited. Had thought of going to New York in a packet, but the weather was quite unfavorable and did not go. Rainy.

31. Rode with Mr. Benedict to Wilton and back. Called on Mr. Olmsted<sup>2</sup> there. Many people here are much engaged in opening a canal from this town up the Housatonic River. Saw the engineer and his assistant running out the route. Read. Wrote to Edgar Bissell,<sup>3</sup> of East Windsor. Had company. Quite cold.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper printed here, at the request of the printer, respecting the proposed canal. Afternoon rode to the south part of the town, visited, and in the evening preached without notes in a school-house on Matt. xvi: 26. There is a great population in this town. Saw the steam-boat come in. Quite cold.

2. We had a hard frost. Wrote. Walked out and visited. The people here appear anxious to have me return if I go home next week. Read.

3. Wrote a second piece for the paper. Walked and visited. Yesterday called on Mr. Sherwood,<sup>4</sup> the Episcopal clergyman. His society here is ancient<sup>5</sup> and large. Warm.

4. Wet. Preached on Heb. xi: 6 and Num. xxiii: 19. Afternoon pleasant and full meeting. At evening preached at the Old Well<sup>6</sup> without notes on Num. x: 29. Tired.

5. Expected to have set out for home today, but am detained. Wrote. Read Dr. Beecher's excellent missionary sermon.<sup>7</sup> Paid a tavern-keeper \$1.25 for oats for my horse for five days. At evening attended the monthly concert. A good meeting. This has been much neglected here.

6. Set out for home. Rode through New Haven to Wallingford. From Norwalk to New Haven thirty-one miles. A raw, chilly day. My horse traveled poorly. Paid for a book forty-four cents. Tarried at a tavern.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Chester Hinman, a graduate of Middlebury College in 1822.

<sup>2</sup> Hawley Olmsted, then teaching the academy there.

<sup>3</sup> Who married Eveline Wolcott.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Reuben Sherwood, D. D., a graduate of Yale College, 1813. He received his degree of D. D. in 1840, from Hobart College, Geneva, N. Y.

<sup>5</sup> The Episcopal society at Norwalk, Ct., was among the very few Episcopal churches

in Connecticut existing before the Revolutionary War. The old Episcopal meeting-house was burned, along with the Congregational, by the British, in 1777.

<sup>6</sup> A quaint name given to a certain locality in the south part of the town. The "Old Well" was about a mile and a half south of Norwalk Centre, on the west side of the creek.

<sup>7</sup> This was the sermon preached before the American Board, at its annual meeting in the autumn of 1827, in the City of New York.

7. It began to rain last evening and rained moderately, without intermission I suppose, till noon today, and from that time to sun-down it snowed constantly and pretty hard. The storm was very severe. Did not leave my tavern. Read *North American Review*<sup>1</sup> and other things. Wrote. Well accommodated.

8. The snow here about three inches. Rode home. Hard traveling. Warm. Afternoon the roads very wet. The snow here this morning was nine or ten inches. Found things all well, by the divine blessing. There has been preaching here on the Sabbath since I have been absent. Received a letter from Mr. Linsley,<sup>2</sup> of Hartford, one from Mr. Ely,<sup>3</sup> of Mansfield, and one from Dr. Ely,<sup>4</sup> of Philadelphia, with a valuable bundle of pamphlets and two bound volumes as a present. My home is dear to me.

9. In the short time allotted for my stay I am unable to attend to the various things I would be glad to. Looked over papers, etc. Rode to the upper part of East Hartford and dined with Mr. Fairchild. He is about removing to Boston, with pleasing prospects.<sup>5</sup> I think some persons here have taken much pains to injure me at East Hartford. Walked out. This society appears to be in a bad state. Put up my things. In the evening took an anxious leave of home. Mr. Wolcott rode with me to Hartford. Cold and very bad going. Tarried at the stage-house.

10. Left Hartford early, in the stage, and arrived at Norwalk in the evening—sixty-five miles. A rough, wintry day. Had but little company in the stage. Fare, \$4.25. Kindly welcomed. My mind is gloomy; I have no helper but the Lord.

11. Preached on Ps. cxxx: 3. At noon Mr. Hooker,<sup>6</sup> of Saugatuck, came here and preached in the afternoon on the objects of the Education Society. At evening attended a meeting with Mr. Hooker on the same subject. He is an agent for that society. Quite cold. We much needed the stove at meeting.

12. Walked and visited the sick and others the most of the day. The air more mild. Read Dwight's *Travels*.

13. Wet and showery all day. At night the storm quite severe. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper. Looked over some of the early town records. Read. The New York election has gone very bad.<sup>7</sup>

14. Wrote. Very blustering. Afternoon attended the funeral of an infant child. Walked out and visited. At evening attended a small stated meeting. Read the Bible.

15. Read the Bible. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Wolcott.<sup>8</sup> Walked out and

<sup>1</sup> He was probably reading out of the October number of the *North American Review* for 1827. This was the twenty-fifth volume (sixteenth of the new series). Two quarterly numbers made a volume. One of the attractive articles in that number was entitled, "Who Wrote Gil Blas?"

<sup>2</sup> Joel H. Linsley, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William Ely.

<sup>4</sup> Ezra Stiles Ely, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Dreadfully clouded afterwards.

<sup>6</sup> Edward W. Hooker, D. D.

<sup>7</sup> De Witt Clinton, who had been Governor for eight years at two different periods, was elected again.

<sup>8</sup> Abiel Wolcott.

visited. At evening walked out and attended a meeting, and preached without notes on Mark i: 40.

16. Wrote to my brother Frank and to Mr. Hooker, of Saugatuck.<sup>1</sup> Visited two schools. Had company. Read.

17. Read. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Hooker,<sup>2</sup> Hartford. Finished my long letter to brother Frank. We have pleasant weather, but cold. I suppose there is sleighing at the northward. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Hooker, of Saugatuck. Wrote. Read the Bible.

18. Preached on Ps. cxxx: 4 and John iii: 3. Full meetings. The congregation large and attentive. At evening attended a meeting at a school-house and preached without notes on 1 Thess. v: 19. Quite tired. Many here pretend to keep Sabbath evening.<sup>3</sup>

19. Walked two miles and visited sick persons. Cold and rough weather. Walked out and visited.

20. Put on my flannel. Rode with Mr. Hooker, of Saugatuck, to North Stamford,<sup>4</sup> and attended a Ministers' Meeting. This meeting includes the members of the association. Seven were present. I preached on Ps. lxxxiv: 2. They did considerable business and finished late in the evening.

21. Rode home. A pretty rough tract of country. We have steady winter weather. Visited a school. Attended an evening meeting. Read.

22. Wrote. Mr. Filley, of East Windsor, called on me. Wrote to Edgar Bissell, of East Windsor. Rode to the eastern part of the town and attended a meeting in the evening, and preached without notes on Matt. xvi: 26. Tarried out.

23. Walked and visited. Walked home—three miles. In the evening wrote a piece for the newspaper. There is much ministerial labor to be done in this town.

24. Walked out and visited. Afternoon attended the funeral of a young child. Read. The ground has become hard frozen. Wrote. Read the Bible.

25. Preached on Ps. cvi: 23 and Ps. lxxxiv: 2. Meetings full and attentive. The stove in the meeting-house is put up.<sup>5</sup> Attended an evening meeting and preached without notes on 2 Tim. iii: 15. Quite tired. Had long exercises. Quite pleasant.

26. Walked and visited. Severe cold. Wrote. Visited a child very sick. Read. At evening began a sermon on Dan. xii: 8-10 for Thanksgiving. It is a good while since I wrote a sermon. Am in want of books.

27. The severe cold continues. Quite unusual for the season. I want my thermometer. Wrote on my sermon. Read newspapers. I have too

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<sup>1</sup> Saugatuck, it will be remembered, is now Westport.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>3</sup> Instead of Saturday evening. They adopted the New York City ways. Through Connecticut, as a general rule, Saturday evening was kept.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Henry Fuller was pastor at North Stamford, 1812-1844. He was a graduate of Middlebury College, 1812.

<sup>5</sup> They had had a stove in former years, but it had been taken down for the summer and they were late in putting it up. It was now the last of November.

many of them before me. Visited the sick child. The ground is hard frozen.

28. Wrote and finished my sermon on Dan. xii: 8-10. It is long. Walked out and visited. The weather is more mild. Many people here ignorant and vicious. They are in great want of a laborious and faithful ministry.

29. Thanksgiving. Something wet. Preached the sermon finished last evening. People pretty well out. A Thanksgiving without a home makes a gloomy day to me.<sup>1</sup> Holy is the Lord. At evening visited. An appointed meeting was prevented by the rain. My times are in the hands of God.

30. Last night and this forenoon we had a hard rain. Warm. Wrote. Looked over the ancient records of the town. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Finished my last number for the newspaper on the subject of the proposed Housatonic Canal. Walked and visited. Received a request from Mr. Hooker to exchange tomorrow. Concluded to set out on my journey to East Windsor.<sup>2</sup> Saw Mr. Birge,<sup>3</sup> of Hartford. Took the stage in the evening and rode to Saugatuck.

2. Preached on John iii: 3 and Isa. iii: 10, 11. Mr. Hooker went to Norwalk and returned after meeting. This congregation appears well, but is not so large as the one at Norwalk. At evening attended a meeting with Mr. Hooker, and preached without notes on Ps. iv: 5. A very pleasant day for the season. At noon went home with Dr. Ripley.<sup>4</sup>

3. Last evening took the stage at Saugatuck at eight o'clock, and rode to New Haven and Hartford at eight this morning. A very pleasant night. Some of the way the stage was very full. I slept a little. We could not stop for supper. Walked home. Not greatly fatigued. There has been preaching here every Sabbath. At evening rode to Hartford. Mr. Birge<sup>5</sup> is gone away and supposed to have failed. I fear the Everest fund will suffer in consequence of it. The river at Hartford had a great deal of ice in it last week, but it did not close, though it did above Springfield and at Middletown.

4. Wrote. Made several calls. Dea. Reed is holden as indorser for Birge to a large amount. I fear he will be seriously injured. The society matters here are in a critical state. Read.

5. Rode to Hartford. Paid the collectors of our monthly concert for foreign missions before I left here, for this year, \$12.25. Paid to the same charity, my New Year's gift, \$5. Engaged Mr. Ellsworth<sup>6</sup> to do the best he could with the claims of the Everest fund against Birge. Conversated with

<sup>1</sup> A pleasant home at Norfolk, and a pleasant home for nineteen years just past at East Windsor, made a contrast to his present condition.

<sup>2</sup> That is, he was going to exchange with Mr. Hooker and then pursue his journey to East Windsor without returning to Norwalk.

<sup>3</sup> Saw him at Norwalk.

<sup>4</sup> Hezekiah Ripley, D. D., already noticed, now very old.

<sup>5</sup> Backus W. Birge. Dr. Robbins had just seen him at Norwalk, probably on his way to New York.

<sup>6</sup> W. W. Ellsworth, Esq.



some gentlemen in East Hartford. At evening saw the society committee and settled with them. They gave me an order of \$693.38. Received on the same order \$100.<sup>1</sup> Wet.

6. Rode. Have time to visit but little. Settled with Mr. Haskell and owe him his stove amount—\$30.24; post office, \$6.19—which is to be paid by Capt. Bissell. Received a diploma of membership from American Education Society, of which I have been a member for several years. Received a letter from E. B. Perkins, Esq.,<sup>2</sup> of Pomfret. Took several pamphlets from the post office. The society had their annual meeting. Their prospects are poor. Paid Mr. Wolcott \$40. At evening left home. Mr. Wolcott rode with me to Hartford. Very dark and muddy.

7. Was called up early at the stage-house. Left Hartford before sunrise and rode to Norwalk. Some of the way the roads were quite bad. The stage was heavily loaded. Got along slowly. Saw people making cider.<sup>3</sup> Some at East Windsor were plowing.

8. Wet and rainy all day. Read. Fatigued with my journey. Brought a number of books from home. Wrote. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Burt, of Manchester.

9. Last evening and this morning read expositors. Expounded in the forenoon on the fourth chapter of Matthew. It is a new exercise here. The forenoon wet. Afternoon preached on 1 Thess. v: 3. At evening attended a meeting and preached without notes on Ps. iv: 5. Walked a considerable distance. Very tired.

10. Wet and warm. Had company. Read. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Porter, of Farmington, and Mr. McLean, of Simsbury.

11. Walked out. Read. Visited a sick woman. Visited a school. The sun appears, after a long turn of wet and thick weather. Visited. Some worthy families here.

12. Clear and pleasant. Wrote to Mr. Battell and to Mr. Ellsworth, of Hartford. Walked out and visited. At evening attended a Bible class meeting. Read.

13. Wrote. Afternoon visited a school. At evening preached at the Old Well, with short notes, on Rev. xxii: 12. Baptized a child. Very pleasant for December. Quite tired.

14. Wrote on a piece for a newspaper. Visited a school. At evening walked out and visited. I have to visit the schools alone. Warm and muddy going.

15. Wrote. I find myself more occupied here than I expected. Wrote to Mr. Burt, of Manchester. Received a letter from my brother Francis. Read the Bible. This I am apt to neglect. Paid for a pair of shoes, \$2.25.

16. We had a little snow. Preached on Ps. iv: 3 and Rev. iii: 18. I think the congregation increases. At evening walked out. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Leaving \$593.38 still due him.

<sup>2</sup> Elisha Backus Perkins, a lawyer of Pomfret, Ct., and graduate of Dartmouth College, 1813.

<sup>3</sup> In December. The apples must have been housed from freezing. Cider was generally made in September and October, and was one of the great industries.

17. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott.<sup>1</sup> Walked out. Wet and cold. The society committee called on me and requested me to continue to supply them for some time to come. To which I agreed. No time fixed. Visited.

18. Yesterday and this morning wrote a long letter to my brother Francis L. Rode to Fairfield with a delegate from this church, and was with the consociation—quite thin—who dismissed Mr. Hewitt<sup>2</sup> to be the agent of the American Society for the Promotion of Temperance. Tarried with Mr. Osborne. Wet and cold, and bad riding.

19. Rode home. Much fatigued. Walked out. At evening attended a small meeting. Wrote.

20. Walked and visited at the south-west corner of the society. Had a long walk. Warm and muddy. Afternoon visited a school. At evening had a meeting in the same school-house and preached without notes on Eph. ii: 8. Much fatigued. Tarried out. We have a great deal of dark, and wet, and cloudy weather.<sup>3</sup>

21. Walked and visited. Read the Bible. Walked out. When I was absent week before last the School Society here had their annual meeting and appointed me one of their school visitors. Wrote.

22. Did not go out of the yard. Read. Looked over ancient records of this town and made extracts. Studied for tomorrow. Read the Bible. Quite cold. During this week we have had the intelligence of a great naval action in Greece,<sup>4</sup> in which the allies have nearly destroyed the Turkish marine. It is a most important and wonderful event.

23. Last night and this forenoon very cold. I much want my thermometer. Preached all day on Acts xiii: 2. Afternoon meeting quite full. At evening attended a meeting and preached without notes on Eph. ii: 8. A full meeting. Last evening received a long and good letter from my brother and sister Battell.

24. Walked out. Read early records of this town and society. The society here had a meeting; they find it difficult to lay a tax. Nothing done relative to me. Wrote.

25. By invitation of Mr. Sherwood, the Episcopal clergyman here, I attended his Christmas meeting and dined with him. Kindly treated.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Tudor Wolcott, who in the diary has generally gone by the name of Tudor. He was son of Mr. Abiel Wolcott, and now twenty-eight years of age. He had for some time been teaching.

<sup>2</sup> Nathaniel Hewitt, D. D., pastor at Fairfield, 1818-1827, a man of strongly conservative tendencies and somewhat stern, but a powerful preacher and lecturer.

<sup>3</sup> This seems to have been mild for December even in that locality, but the winters were much more open and broken along the southern line of New England, on the sound, than in Central and Northern Connecticut.

<sup>4</sup> This was the battle of Navarino, fought Oct. 20, 1827, between the united fleets of England, France, and Russia and the Turkish navy, when the latter was almost totally annihilated. More than thirty Turkish ships—many of them of great size—were burnt up or blown up, many of them by the Turks themselves, to prevent them from falling into the hands of their enemies.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Robbins was not nearly so apt to regard the Episcopalians with disfavor as he was the Methodists and Baptists. The former had the dignity of age, while the latter were more new and uncultivated.

I united with them in the communion. Wrote to Prof. Kingsley,<sup>1</sup> of Yale College. Read newspapers. The late naval victory over the Turks excites great attention and rejoicing.

26. Rode out with Mr. St. John and visited a school. Dined with him. The schools here have been much neglected. Visited. Cold and windy. At evening attended a meeting.

27. It snowed all day. Read. Read ancient records. Had company. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott, of East Windsor.

28. Warm. The snow thaws very much. Rode out and visited the Saugatuck school. Visited. Very bad going. Received a bundle of books from East Windsor, which came safe by the stage. Such as I have been much in want of.

29. Having had an intimation that a New Year's sermon may be expected on Tuesday next, began a sermon for the occasion on Ps. xc: 12. At evening studied on an exposition. Find the want of expositors. Read the Bible. The ground mostly bare.

30. Very pleasant for the season. Expounded on the first chapter of Romans, and preached on Ps. li: 17. Full meeting. At evening rode out and preached with short notes on Luke xix: 27. The Methodists have considerable of a congregation here.

31. Wrote laboriously and finished a long sermon on Ps. xc: 12. Wrote late. Hindered by company. A year of holy chastisements and great mercies has closed. Bless the Lord, O my soul, for all his goodness.

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<sup>1</sup> Prof. James L. Kingsley, LL. D.

## 1828.

### JANUARY.

1. Endeavored to devote myself and all my interests to the disposal of a holy God for the coming year. Attended public worship, according to a usage which has been observed here for a number of years, and preached a New Year's sermon and preparatory lecture on Ps. xc: 12.<sup>1</sup> The sermon mostly written yesterday. We had a good meeting. Baptized a child. Much fatigued. Received a valuable letter from Prof. Kingsley.<sup>2</sup>

2. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott.<sup>3</sup> Visited. Dined out. Afternoon quite rainy. Wrote. Find it difficult to procure an almanack. Read newspapers. Wrote on the church records<sup>4</sup> of this town.

3. Walked to the east part of the town. Warm. Very bad going. Visited families. Saw a sick child. At evening preached at a school-house without notes on John vi: 66-68. Tarried out.

4. Visited. The frost seems to be mostly out of the ground. This town is not bad for mud. Walked out. We have almost constant dark and cloudy weather. Read the Bible.

5. Read ancient records. Received a letter from Mr. Hewitt,<sup>5</sup> of Fairfield. Wrote to W. A. Hallock,<sup>6</sup> of New York. The society committee informed me that they wish to have me continue here till spring, and that it is the wish of the people that I should consider myself on probation. Called on a Mr. Betts,<sup>7</sup> a candidate just come home. His parents live near here. Warm and foggy.

6. Preached in the forenoon on Luke xxii: 15. Administered the sacrament. The church is large. It is the practice here for the congregation not to be dismissed. The most of them remained at the ordinance. In the afternoon Mr. Betts preached. Afternoon and evening quite rainy. Had no evening meeting.

7. Warm and wet. Walked out and visited. Wrote. At evening attended the monthly concert. Rather thin. It has not been observed here with great interest.

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<sup>1</sup> This was on Tuesday, which began the year 1828. The usage here referred to, though fitting and appropriate, was uncommon.

<sup>2</sup> Prof. James L. Kingsley, LL. D., of Yale College.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Tudor Wolcott, of East Windsor.

<sup>4</sup> In whatever place he preaches he usually finds employment on the church records.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Nathaniel Hewitt, D. D.

<sup>6</sup> William A. Hallock, D. D., was the son

of Rev. Moses Hallock, of Plainfield, Mass.; pastor at Plainfield, 1792-1837. The son was born in 1794; was graduated at Williams in 1819, and at Andover in 1822. He was secretary of the American Tract Society of New York, 1825-1870, and honorary secretary from 1870 to his death, in 1880—aged eighty-six.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Alfred H. Betts, a native of Norwalk. In the summer of this same year, 1828, he was settled over the church in Berlin, in New Connecticut, O. Many young ministers in Connecticut went to Ohio.

8. Read. I do much less than I ought. Visited. At evening attended a praying-circle designed for the assistance of the American Education Society.<sup>1</sup> Read late.

9. Walked and visited. Have to walk considerable distances. Read the Bible. This family had an evening circle of very respectable company.

10. Last night we had a little snow. It thaws fast. Wrote. Began a sermon, which will probably be long, on John ix: 7. Walked out and visited.

11. Wrote the most of the day on my sermon. Walked out and visited. The roads quite wet. Read. The country are anxiously waiting for news from the Turkish divan.<sup>2</sup>

12. Wrote laboriously till late at night on my long discourse, and got half through. It will contain four sermons instead of two.

13. Quite warm. Preached both parts of the day on the subject of the means of grace, from John ix: 7. It appeared to be interesting to the audience. We have some difficulty about the singing. At evening preached at a school-house with short notes on Luke xix: 27. The meeting quite full. Very tired. Had a ride to the meeting and back. Last evening received from East Windsor a large bundle of my books, which I sent for; brought by the stage. I am very glad of them.

14. Read in a volume of my *Universal History*. Made this almanack.<sup>3</sup> Wrote. Afternoon wet and rainy. On the 9th received an excellent letter from my brother and sister Battell. On the 10th received a letter from Rev. C. G. Lee,<sup>4</sup> at Fairfield. My friends at Norfolk seem to be pleased with my present location here. Wrote to Mr. Lee, of Fairfield.

15. Wrote to Mr. Battell. Visited. Walked down town and visited. Had a long walk. There are a great many people in this town. Read.

16. Walked out. Have a rheumatic pain in my back. I think I took cold yesterday. Read the Bible. Afternoon rainy and freezing. Walked out and attended a small meeting in the evening.

17. Wrote a piece for the newspaper. Afternoon visited the grammar school. It ought to be in a better state. Visited.

18. Resumed the writing on my long discourse on the means of grace.<sup>5</sup> Wrote the third sermon. In the evening the pain in my back which has troubled me for some days came on very severe. Was up late. Wrote nine pages. On the 16th received a letter from Williams & Co., Hartford.

19. Very unwell. Had a poor night. The pain in my back this morning

<sup>1</sup> The American Education Society had then a very strong hold upon the churches.

<sup>2</sup> The divan was the Turkish court, or council of State. The war for Grecian independence was then going on.

<sup>3</sup> That is, prepared it for keeping his diary.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Chauncey G. Lee, son of Rev. Chauncey Lee, D. D., of Colebrook. He

had been settled, 1821-1826, at what is now Monroe, Ct., and in after years was settled over other churches, but just then was without charge.

<sup>5</sup> The idea then prevailing with regard to divine sovereignty made the subject of means an interesting one and difficult to handle consistently. Dr. Robbins regarded it as a very important topic.

very hard. Had it bathed with opodeldoc. Did not leave my bed till near eleven o'clock. Am quite feeble and have constant pain. Able to read but very little.

20. Very feeble, but relieved, through divine mercy, from my severe pain of yesterday. Attended meeting and preached in the forenoon on Ex. iii: 24, 25. Spoke quite feebly. Afternoon preached in continuance of my long discourse on John ix: 7. Not so much fatigued as I expected. Very full meeting. Did not go out in the evening.

21. Am better than yesterday, but my rheumatic affection does not leave me. Very cold. The coldest day we have had this winter. Cannot study much. Walked out and visited.

22. I think the mercury this morning must have been near zero. I much want my thermometer. Wrote. Walked out. Received of the society committee here an order for \$80. Rev. Mr. Noyes,<sup>1</sup> of Weston, called on me. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott.<sup>2</sup> Read. Am quite feeble. We have a little snow.

23. Began to write a sermon on intemperance on Prov. xxiii: 29, 30.<sup>3</sup> Can write but little. Walked out. At evening attended our Bible meeting. Very cold. Read.

24. Wrote on my sermon. My rheumatic pains continue. Afternoon walked to the Old Well<sup>4</sup>; visited and attended a meeting in the evening, and preached with short notes on John v: 40. Baptized three children. Coming home very cold. The harbor is closed. Visited late.

25. Wrote and finished my sermon on intemperance. It is long, and I fear not as well written as it should be. I cannot bear study very well. I am greatly favored on account of my tremor. Yesterday or last evening I took a cold. My head is very much oppressed. Wrote to Mr. Bonney,<sup>5</sup> of New Canaan.

26. Warm and the top of the ground very wet. Wrote the last sermon of my long discourse on the means of grace on John ix: 7. A kind Providence has assisted me in my studies this week beyond what I could have expected. My cold is quite oppressive.

27. We had a severe north-east storm of snow and rain all day. Few at meeting, yet as many as were expected. Omitted the sermons I expected to have delivered. Much oppressed with my cold and hoarseness. Preached all day on Ezek. xviii: 32. Got through better than I feared. There is some difficulty here about the singing.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Noyes, a graduate of Yale College in 1779, who died sixty-seven years after graduation, in 1846. He was not then settled in Weston, but supplied the pulpit there from 1823 to 1836. He had, however, been the installed pastor there from 1786 to 1807.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Tudor Wolcott.

<sup>3</sup> "Look not thou upon the wine when it is red," etc.

<sup>4</sup> The locality of the Old Well, as it was called, as already stated, was about a mile and a half from the village, southerly, on the west side of the creek. Many Connecticut towns had localities with quaint names.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. William Bonney, who was pastor at New Canaan, 1808-1831. He was a graduate of Williams College in 1805, and died in 1839, at the age of sixty. He was a native of Cornwall, Ct.

28. Wrote. It is cold again. We have many and sudden changes of weather. Walked out. Visited the Episcopal Academic School with Mr. Sherwood.<sup>1</sup> It is in good order. Visited. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott.

29. Walked and visited the most of the day. My visiting seems to be quite acceptable. I hope it may do good. Received a letter from Mr. Bonney.

30. Rode to the upper part of the town and visited some aged people and other families. Some parts of this town are rough, but it has a numerous population. At evening had a full and interesting meeting.

31. Looked over newspapers. Walked to the Old Well. Visited divers families, the sick, and others. Tarried out. The winter is very moderate and open. I find less time here for study than I expected.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Visited several families. Visited a school. Not in the best state. Wet, with snow and rain. Walked home in the wet. Received a good letter from my brother Francis. Wrote. I am, through mercy, better of my cold.

2. Wrote. Looked over the *Connecticut History*.<sup>2</sup> Wet and rainy. Wrote to Mr. Porter,<sup>3</sup> of Farmington. Am affected with rheumatic pains. We have a very wet season.

3. Warm and wet. The ground is very wet. Had a good number at meeting. Preached the last sermon of my discourse on the means of grace, from John ix: 7, and the sermon lately written on intemperance on Prov. xxiii: 29, 30. We had a collection for the Society for the Promotion of Temperance and got \$6. At evening attended a meeting at a school-house and preached without notes on Matt. xix: 17, last clause.

4. Wrote a piece for the newspaper. Walked out and visited. Traded, \$2. At evening attended the monthly concert. We had a good meeting. This has been much neglected here.

5. Wrote to my brother Francis L. Mr. Platt<sup>4</sup> called here from Darien. Walked out and visited. Attended the stated prayer-meeting for the Education Society.

6. Wet and rainy. We have a very unpleasant winter. Attended the funeral of a man who died suddenly. Buried by the Masons. Walked out and visited. Very bad going. Read newspapers. Congress act almost contemptibly. Tarried out.

7. Visited. Received a letter from Mr. Hooker, of Saugatuck.<sup>5</sup> Wrote. At evening attended a meeting of the officers of the Norwalk Bible Society. They have done well.

8. Walked to Saugatuck and dined at Mr. Hooker's. Mr. and Mrs. Noyes<sup>6</sup> were there. Visited families.

<sup>1</sup> The Episcopal rector before noticed.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Trumbull's *History*, the first volume of which appeared in 1797, and the second in 1818.

<sup>3</sup> Noah Porter, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Ebenezer Platt, pastor at Darien, 1825-1833.

<sup>5</sup> Saugatuck was the Indian name for a part of Westport. The Mr. Hooker who was there was Dr. Edward W. Hooker, before mentioned. He was afterward to be settled at East Windsor, as one of Dr. Robbins's successors.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. and Mrs. John Noyes, of Weston.

9. Walked out and visited sick persons. People are beginning to plow. Attended the funeral of a colored man. There is a large number of blacks here. Mr. Bonney<sup>1</sup> came to exchange. Rode his horse to New Canaan.<sup>2</sup> Wet and rainy. Roads very muddy.

10. Preached on John iii: 3 and Isa. iii: 10, 11. Afternoon meeting quite full. This is a very good society. The good work of grace they have had here still continues. Delegates were appointed to attend the public conference. Am something hoarse. At evening rode a distance and attended a meeting. Preached without notes on Ps. iv: 5. Meeting full and serious. Others spoke. Walked about a mile—muddy and very dark—and tarried out. Not uncommonly tired.

11. Visited a woman who has been confined in a dark room three years with disease in the eyes. Visited. Rode to Mr. Bonney's. Cold and blustering. Rode home a horse procured at Norwalk for Mr. Bonney. He was unwell here yesterday and had some assistance in the exercises. Received a letter from Mr. Porter, of Farmington, inclosing a vote of our association<sup>3</sup> designed as a recommendation for me. It was kind. Attended the annual meeting of the Auxiliary Tract Society of this town. Gave them the usual annual rate—fifty cents—but declined becoming a member. The society committee have been renewing a negotiation which they had last fall with a Mr. Halsey, of New Jersey.<sup>4</sup> It was done privately and has produced a strong sensation. It is trying to my feelings. The Lord be my helper.

12. Walked and visited. Saw some persons very sick. Conversed with some gentlemen on their society matters. Received a letter from my brother James. Read.

13. Walked a distance and visited a sick man. Paid a merchant tailor \$9.24. Wrote. Quite cold. The ground pretty hard frozen. At evening attended a full meeting. I receive many tokens of the attachment of this people.

14. Read. Had company. Cold. Walked and visited. Wrote notes and preached at an evening meeting on Deut. xxxii: 18, 19. My labors are unremitted.

15. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Haskell,<sup>5</sup> of Windsor, and to Gen. Howe, of New Haven. Walked out and visited. Hindered by company.

16. Walked and visited several sick persons. I have the unexpected news of the sudden death of Gen. Clinton,<sup>6</sup> of New York. A great man has fallen. Paid for a horse to go the other day to New Canaan seventy-five cents. Read the Bible.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. William Bonney.

<sup>2</sup> New Canaan touched Norwalk on the north-west, and was itself bounded westerly by the New York line.

<sup>3</sup> Hartford North Association.

<sup>4</sup> The plan seems to have miscarried, but the double-dealing was none the less disagreeable.

<sup>5</sup> Harris Haskell.

<sup>6</sup> Gov. De Witt Clinton, born in Little Britain, N. Y., March 2, 1769, died in Albany, N. Y., Feb. 11, 1828. A grand public man. He was Governor of New York, 1817–1822, and again, 1824–1827. In the presidential contest of 1812, he received 89 of the 217 electoral votes, James Madison being then on his second election, receiving the remaining 128.



17. Preached on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4 and Luke xix: 43, 44. A mild and pleasant day<sup>1</sup> and very full meetings. Rode out and attended a meeting in the evening and preached with short notes on Matt. viii: 2. The meetings appeared well. We have an account of a great work of grace in Milford.

18. Wrote an obituary for Gov. Clinton. Dea. Kellogg called on me to know if I would consent to have a church meeting called to take some measures relative to my settlement with them. There are some parties among the people without particular reference to me. I engaged to give him an answer soon. Read the Bible. Wrote. Afternoon and evening we had a hard rain. Read the Bible.

19. Walked and visited the most of the day. Visited a mourning family—the woman died last evening. Conversed with several persons respecting the society concerns. Last evening wrote to Gen. Terry,<sup>2</sup> of Hartford.

20. Walked a distance and visited a sick man. Attended the funeral of the woman lately deceased. At evening attended the evening meeting and baptized six children, of as many different families. Much fatigued. Informed Dea. Kellogg<sup>3</sup> that I was willing to have them do as they thought proper about a church meeting.

21. Wrote. The boys play ball in the streets. Afternoon walked to the east part of the town and visited. Warm and languid weather. The roads are considerably settled. Preached in the evening with short notes on Deut. xxxii: 18, 19. Very full meeting. Tarried out.

22. Walked and visited the sick and others all day. Crossed the Saugatuck<sup>4</sup> and called on Mr. Hooker. At evening was carried home. Received a letter from Mr. Emerson, Mr. Battell, and Mrs. Battell<sup>5</sup> on one sheet. Read.

23. Last evening received a letter from Gen. Howe, of New Haven. Am fatigued by my late labors. Wrote a sermon on Ps. cvi: 15. Walked out. Wrote five pages in the evening. I have many anxieties about the state of things here.

24. Preached on Ps. cvi: 15 and Ps. 1: 5. Afternoon and evening we had a violent storm of rain and snow. The church here have some divisions. The Lord is holy in all his dispensations. I bear labor pretty well.

25. Wrote an article for the paper. Sleighs move some. Visited. Read *Knickerbocker's History of New York*.<sup>6</sup>

26. Rode out and visited sick persons and others. There are many people here very negligent of gospel ordinances. Read. At evening attended the meeting of the directors of the Auxiliary Bible Society. Performed a

<sup>1</sup> Gen. Nathaniel Terry.

<sup>2</sup> Dea. Kellogg seems not to have been a deacon of the Norwalk church, but had probably moved there, bringing his title from some other place.

<sup>3</sup> The Saugatuck was a small stream running along the edge of what is now the town of Westport, and so gave the name Sauga-

tuck to the district where was the church of Green's Farms, over which Rev. Edward W. Hooker, D. D., was settled from 1821 to 1829.

<sup>4</sup> All in his old home at Norfolk.

<sup>5</sup> Washington Irving's rollicking and graphic history of the Old Dutch settlements in New York.

marriage in a pretty private manner. From the *New York Spectator* of Feb. 26: "Died in Becket, Mass., on the 19th ult., Mr. Sylvanus Snow,<sup>1</sup> aged ninety-seven years, a Revolutionary pensioner. He served several campaigns in the French war, and through nearly the whole War of the Revolution. He was engaged in fourteen different battles, in all of which he was but once wounded, and that at Bunker Hill; and the ball which he then received has been carried in his body to the grave. He lived with his wife (who died at the age of ninety-one) seventy-two years, and has left a numerous posterity and an exemplary reputation."

27. Read newspapers. Much is said and done in honor of Gov. Clinton. Rainy and warm. Visited. Attended our evening meeting. A county meeting was held here to nominate senators.

28. Walked out and visited. Wrote. Afternoon we had a season of prayer, which is observed extensively to implore the blessings of divine grace upon our colleges.<sup>2</sup> At the same meeting we had our preparatory lecture; preached with short notes on Ex. xvii: 11. Mr. Platt,<sup>3</sup> of Darien, came for me, and I rode there in the evening and preached on Ps. 1: 5. Quite tired.

29. Walked and visited with Mr. Platt. The family of the former Dr. Mather<sup>4</sup> are numerous and respectable. Cold and blustering. Had a few old pamphlets given me. Paid for a book fifty cents. Read. An interesting and, I hope, not unprofitable winter has closed.

#### MARCH.

1. Wrote. On Thursday, 28th ult., I received a letter from my brother Ammi requesting me to go to Colebrook to preach, Dr. Lee<sup>5</sup> having been dismissed. I am at the divine disposal. Same day wrote to Mr. Emerson, of Norfolk. Visited an aged and sick woman. Wrote a short sacramental sermon on 1 Peter i: 11. Paid a woman for sewing work, \$1.50.

2. It snowed and rained the most of the day. Afternoon the storm was quite violent. Had a good number of people at meeting. Preached on 1 Peter i: 11 and Prov. xxiii: 26. Administered the sacrament. Had no evening meeting. Walked out.

<sup>1</sup> Forty-four years old in 1775.

<sup>2</sup> This day of public prayer for colleges, on the last Thursday of February, was first set apart for this purpose in the year 1822, and came to be very generally observed. Within a few years the day has been changed to the last Thursday of January, and is still observed, though not so generally as in former years.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Ebenezer Platt.

<sup>4</sup> The first minister of the church in Darien was Rev. Moses Mather, D. D., one of the descendants of the celebrated Richard Mather, of Dorchester, father of Increase and grandfather of Cotton. Moses Mather was a native of Lyme, Ct.; was graduated at

Yale, 1739; was sole pastor at Darien, 1744-1806—sixty-two years. He was in his generation one of the leading divines of Connecticut, and well known as a public writer.

<sup>5</sup> Chauncey Lee, D. D., had been the minister at Colebrook from February, 1800, to January, 1828. He had been previously settled, 1790-1797, at Sunderland, Vt. He was afterwards settled, 1827-1835, at Marlborough, Ct. He was born in Salisbury, Ct., 1763, graduated at Yale College, 1784, and died in Hartwick, N. Y., 1842. His father was Rev. Jonathan Lee, pastor at Salisbury, Ct., 1744-1788. Dr. Lee was a man of considerable genius, and well known as a preacher and writer.

3. Warm. Wrote to my brother Ammi. Walked and visited. At evening attended the monthly concert at the Old Well. We met in the Methodist meeting-house. Quite cold.

4. Walked and visited. Had a conversation with a member of the society committee. Read. Walked out and visited. At evening attended the prayer-meeting for the Education Society.

5. Walked and visited. Afternoon rode to Saugatuck and visited Mr. Hooker and Esq. Sherwood. Cold.

6. Rode to Poplar Plain. My neighbors supply me with the means of riding. Visited. Afternoon visited a school; in better order than I expected. At evening attended a meeting, quite full, and preached without notes on Num. x: 29. Very dark and tarried out. The outer parts of this town have been very much neglected.

7. Rode home. The roads have got mostly settled. Mr. Clark,<sup>1</sup> of Milford, and Mr. Hooker<sup>2</sup> called on me. Wrote. Walked a distance and visited. The situation of the ecclesiastical interests here appears precarious.

8. Read the Bible. A holy God tries me in such a way as he sees fit. Walked out. Wrote. Do not feel able to write a sermon.

9. Preached on Luke ii: 7. At noon rode to Saugatuck and supplied Mr. Hooker; preached on Ps. lxxxiv: 2. Mr. Hooker supplied me. Returned after meeting. Attended the evening conference and preached without notes on Acts viii: 5. Meetings quite full. A worthy woman died here last evening very suddenly.

10. Wrote. Walked out and visited. Received of this society \$75. Wrote to Romulus Barnes,<sup>3</sup> of Yale College, and sent \$25 to him and \$60 to Orestes Wilcox,<sup>4</sup> as beneficiaries of the Everest fund. Walked out and conversed about the society prospects here.

11. Very rainy all day. Read. Afternoon attended a funeral with Mr. Sherwood, of one of his people. Visited. Read newspapers. Received a letter from my brother Samuel, now at Wilton, one from J. Wood, Esq., of Bridgeport, and one from Bailey Birge, of Norfolk.

12. Two gentlemen of this society called to confer with me. Read. Received yesterday at the funeral a good linen scarf and a pair of black gloves. Wrote to Mr. Wood, of Bridgeport. Walked out. Attended the evening meeting.

13. Read. An anxious day. Read the Bible. The society have had a meeting and voted to send for Mr. Halsey,<sup>5</sup> of New Jersey, who has lately

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Clark.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Edward W. Hooker, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Romulus Barnes was a native of Bristol, Ct. After graduation he studied theology at the Yale Seminary in the class of 1831; was commissioned as a missionary and minister, and died in Illinois in 1846.

<sup>4</sup> Orestes Wilcox, who has been several times mentioned as the principal beneficiary of the Everest fund, was a native of Sims-

bury; a young man of excellent character and great promise, but he was not able to finish his studies at Yale in his class of 1828, by reason of ill health, and died in November, 1829, of consumption.

<sup>5</sup> Job F. Halsey, D. D., a native of Schenectady, N. Y.; graduate of Union College, 1816. He was pastor at Freehold, N. J., 1826-1828. The plan, for some reason, miscarried.

informed them that he would come if they wished. The committee desired me to supply for the present. I made no engagement. Walked out. The Lord be my helper. The society voted to pay me \$9 per week instead of \$8, the sum they have usually given.

14. Am quite feeble. Wrote to my brother Francis, and to R. M. Sherman, Esq.,<sup>1</sup> of Fairfield. Walked out. Attended our evening meeting and preached with short notes on Luke xiv: 18. Finished reading *Knickerbocker's New York*.

15. It snowed hard all day. Began to write a public lecture, to be delivered before a literary association of Bridgeport. Did not go out of the house through the day. It is the greatest fall of snow of the present season. Not cold. Read expositors.

16. Expounded on Rom. ii., and preached on John i: 18. A good many sleighs at meeting. Very bad going. Attended an evening meeting and preached with short notes on Heb. iv: 11. Well attended.

17. Borrowed a horse and rode on horseback to Fairfield and Weston. At Fairfield visited Mr. Sherman<sup>2</sup> and Mr. Hewitt.<sup>3</sup> At Miss Osborne's, at Weston, found brother Samuel.<sup>4</sup> Had a good visit. They are wishing to dispose of their place at Weston. The snow wastes fast.

18. Rode home. The roads very wet. Fatigued with my ride. Wrote to Mr. Whittlesey, of Danbury. Read. This society is in a precarious state.

19. Wrote to Mr. Vail,<sup>5</sup> of Bridgeport. Wrote on my lecture. Have hindrances. Old Esq. Battell<sup>6</sup> called on me. Walked out. Attended an evening meeting. On Monday paid Mr. Hewitt, of Fairfield, \$6, contributed here for the Temperance Society.

20. Wrote steadily and nearly completed my lecture. The most of the snow is gone. Walked out. Read.

21. Finished and revised my manuscript. Walked out. Afternoon rode to Bridgeport in the stage. Put up with Mr. Wood. At evening delivered my public lecture before the high school and a great collection of people. Spoke an hour. There was speaking by the pupils after me. Much effort has been made here for their public school. Cold.

22. This town is quite flourishing. Visited Mr. Vail. Saw a small building burnt. The committee of the school paid for my stage-fare yesterday, and procured a chaise for me to ride to Green's Farms. Mr. Wood sent his

<sup>1</sup> Roger Minot Sherman, Esq., one of the most able lawyers of his time, was born in Woburn, Mass., in 1773; graduated at Yale College in 1829; settled in Fairfield, Ct., and died there, 1844.

<sup>2</sup> Roger Minot Sherman, Esq.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Nathaniel Hewitt, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> His brother Samuel's wife was an Osborne, of Weston.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Franklin Y. Vail does not appear

as a Connecticut pastor except for two years, 1826-1828, at Bridgeport.

<sup>6</sup> William Battell, Esq., of Torrington, whose second wife was Mrs. Martha (Sherman) Mitchell, daughter of Rev. Josiah Sherman and sister of Roger Minot Sherman, Esq. William Battell was the father of Joseph, of Norfolk, who married Dr. Robbins's sister Sarah, and the Torrington and Norfolk families were intimate.

son with me. Quite cold. Called on Dr. Ripley.<sup>1</sup> Paid him, including \$5 paid to him last fall, \$10.31 for books and \$1.69. for pamphlets. He brought me with my bundles to Saugatuck, and one of my people brought me home.

23. Preached on Heb. xii: 13 and Luke xvi: 25. Full meeting. After meeting rode to the north part of the town and performed a marriage. Visited and had a short meeting.

24. Rode out and visited two schools. Warm and wet. Last night we had a hard rain. The waters are high. Wrote a little. Visited. Received a letter from Dr. Knight,<sup>2</sup> of New Haven.

25. Visited two schools, each of more than fifty scholars. Get very little assistance. The visitors are very remiss. Preached in the evening with short notes on Jer. xxix: 13. Visited. Much fatigued.

26. Visited two schools. Cold. At evening preached on Jer. xxix: 13 in another part of the town. Visited. In the afternoon rode. Received a good letter from S. T. Wolcott.<sup>3</sup>

27. Rode to Stamford and attended the conference of the churches. The performances were good. Had company. There is a prospect that Mr. Lewis,<sup>4</sup> of Greenwich, will be dismissed.

28. Received an excellent letter from my sister. Visited two schools. The schools here have done better during the season than I expected. But they much need improvement. The visiting is much neglected. In visiting eight this week at three I had one visitor with me, at two some other persons, and three I visited alone. Wrote. Visited. People are beginning to garden. Read. Very warm.

29. Wrote to my sister and to S. T. Wolcott. Received a letter from Mr. Whittlesey, of Danbury. Paid for a new vest, \$5. Visited. At evening rode to Darien to exchange with Mr. Platt.

30. Mr. Platt rode to Norwalk and returned after meeting. Preached on Ps. cvi: 15 and Heb. vii: 25. This congregation is rather small. Attended an evening meeting and preached without notes on Ps. iv: 5.

31. Paid an old lady of a Gorham family, formerly from Barnstable, for an old Bible, which, I believe, is the Bishops' Bible,<sup>5</sup> \$4. Rode home with

<sup>1</sup> Hezekiah Ripley, D. D., pastor at Green's Farms (Saugatuck), 1767-1821. He died in 1831.

<sup>2</sup> Jonathan Knight, M. D., of New Haven, was a native of Norwalk, born there in 1789. He was graduated at Yale in 1808, and from 1813 to 1864 was connected as professor with the Yale Medical School. He was one of the most eminent physicians of the State. He died in New Haven, 1864.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Tudor Wolcott.

<sup>4</sup> This was Rev. Isaac Lewis, Jr., son of Dr. Isaac Lewis, who was pastor at Greenwich, 1786-1818. The son was dismissed that year, according to the suggestion made in the diary.

<sup>5</sup> The Bishops' Bible, so called, came a few years after the Geneva Bible. This Geneva version was so called because the work upon it was done at Geneva, Switzerland, by eminent divines and scholars who were exiled from England during the reign of the bloody Mary. It was published in 1557, and was largely in use among the Puritans, and many copies of it were brought to New England by the Pilgrims and Puritans. It is also known as the Breeches Bible. The Bishops' Bible, in 1568, was so named because it was prepared by eight bishops, assisted by seven other able scholars. King James's version, which has been in common use now for 250 years, appeared in 1611.

Mr. Morgan, of the bank. Wet. Began a sermon for the Fast on Joel ii: 12-14. Hindered by company. Looked over my old Bible. It appears to have been printed in 1578.

APRIL.

1. Wrote on my Fast sermon. Afternoon rode in the stage to Danbury. Had a pleasant visit at Mr. Whittlesey's.<sup>1</sup> He requested me to come here next week with an expectation of being employed to supply them.<sup>2</sup> The society here continues in a broken state. Saw some blossoms on the daffs.

2. Rode early and returned to Norwalk. Cold. Quite fatigued. Wrote some. At evening attended a meeting. Much of this county is rough.

3. Wrote laboriously on my Fast sermon, double and long, and finished it. The weather is cold.

4. Fast. Wet. Prof. Goodrich<sup>3</sup> called on me and attended meeting with us in the forenoon. It snowed considerably in the course of the day. Preached on Joel ii: 12-14.<sup>4</sup> Thin meeting. Evening meeting prevented by the unfavorable weather.

5. Walked out. Much fatigued. Received a letter from brother Francis. Walked out and visited. Cold and snow squalls. Received a letter from my good Uncle Starr. My nerves are considerably affected.

6. Preached on Eph. ii: 14 and Hab. iii: 17, 18. Wrote notes and preached, by request, in the evening on the doctrine of the saints' perseverance, on 1 Peter i: 5. After ministering to this people laboriously five and one half months it is painful to leave them. I commit all my ways to a holy God.

7. Rode to Saugatuck and visited Mr. Hooker. Visited. Afternoon rode to New Canaan to Mr. Bonney's.<sup>4</sup> Attended the monthly concert in the evening. A Mr. Perry,<sup>5</sup> agent for the A. B. C. F. M., preached. Very cold and tedious.

8. Rode home. Wrote. Preparing to remove. Visited. The prospects of this society are pretty poor.

9. Rode and visited. Neighbors kindly favor me with a horse. It grows warmer. Have many calls to make. Paid a post office bill, \$1.66. Visited a young woman low in a consumption.

10. Walked and made calls. Paid for washing \$2.35, which, with \$1.44 paid before, makes \$3.79 to be paid me by the society. Paid a tailor seventy-five cents. I conclude to leave the most of my things here. I have been here twenty-four Sabbaths; have been laborious in my business; have been treated with much kindness and respect, and I think the state of the society has much improved. I am once more committed to the holy guidance of the

<sup>1</sup> Where he boarded twenty-eight years before.

<sup>2</sup> The First Church in Danbury had been vacant since Rev. William Andrews resigned in 1826.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. C. A. Goodrich, D.D., of Yale College.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William Bonney.

<sup>5</sup> Very likely this was John M. S. Perry, of Sharon, who was graduated at Yale College the year before and was now studying theology in New Haven. He went to Ceylon, and died there in 1838. Missionaries are often the most successful agents.

God of my fathers. Left Norwalk to return or not, as infinite wisdom shall see fit. Rode in the stage to Danbury. Kindly received. This society is in a perplexed and divided state. Tarried at Mr. Whittlesey's.

11. Walked out and called on old acquaintance. This town has increased very much in a few years. Afternoon rode to Ridgebury and saw Rev. Mr. Burton,<sup>1</sup> who is convalescing from a long and severe sickness. Returned. At evening a meeting was held here for the benefit of the Greeks. Mr. Hull,<sup>2</sup> the Episcopal clergyman, delivered a good address. I prayed. There was a full and respectable meeting and a collection of \$60. Tarried at Judge Cooke's.<sup>3</sup>

12. Walked and visited. Warm. Afternoon a man came with a wagon and carried me to Ridgebury. Mr. Davies,<sup>4</sup> of Reading, supplies here (Danbury) temporarily.

13. Preached for Mr. Burton on John i: 18 and Heb. vii: 25. He was able to attend meeting. This society is quite small and has assistance from the Domestic Missionary Society. Mr. Burton was raised up among them and is a very worthy man. The church is relatively large. I preached here considerably in 1800. A cold, rough east wind. Was brought back to Danbury and preached in the evening to a full meeting on Ps. lxxxiv: 2. Mr. Bartlett,<sup>5</sup> of Reading, preached here today.

14. Quite cold and uncomfortable. Walked and visited. Heard of the death of Ard Hoyt,<sup>6</sup> principal of the Cherokee Mission, a native of this town. Individuals desire me to continue here, though I have had no formal request from the committee. At evening attended a small meeting, the Sabbath-school concert. Tarried at Dea. Cooke's.

15. Visited various places. Am treated with much kindness. Read. My situation is something unpleasant. I think I rejoice to be in the hands of a very holy God.

16. Wrote. Visited. Read. Wrote to my brother Francis. At evening the society committee called on me and requested me to supply them a few Sabbaths. They are expecting a Mr. Winslow after some time. I bless God that I may be employed.

17. Wrote to my sister Battell. Read the *Life of Luther*.<sup>7</sup> Walked out. At evening attended a conference.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Nathan Burton, pastor at Ridgebury, 1821-1841. He received his A. M. from Yale College, in 1835. He died in Danbury, Ct., Aug. 24, 1859, aged seventy-nine.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Lemuel B. Hull, rector of Episcopal church at Danbury.

<sup>3</sup> Judge Daniel B. Cooke, of the county court.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Thomas F. Davies, a native of Redding, and a graduate of Yale in 1813. He died in 1865.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bartlett, son of Rev. Nathaniel Bartlett, pastor at Redding, 1775-

1810. The son was associate pastor, 1796-1809, but through ill health retired from the pastoral office and supplied vacant pulpits. He was one of those invalids that died at last in his ninety-fourth year.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Ard Hoyt, though not educated for the ministry, became an earnest Christian teacher and preacher. He was a native of Danbury, Ct., born about 1778. In 1817 he went on his mission to the Cherokees.

<sup>7</sup> There were many lives of the great reformer, even then, and we cannot tell which one he was reading.

18. Read *Hope Leslie*.<sup>1</sup> Visited. Have many calls to make on old acquaintances. Am kindly treated. The weather is very dry and the season advances slowly. I hope I may be enabled to do a little good here. Prejudices are obstinate.

19. Read my novel. Made calls. Wrote to Backus W. Birge.<sup>2</sup> I feel relieved that I have a regular employment. I have never been forsaken in divine mercy.

20. A tedious storm of wind and rain all day. Few people at meeting. Preached on Ps. iv: 3 and Heb. vii: 25. Had no evening meeting on account of the rain. Read the Bible.

21. Read in my novel. It gives a pleasing view of early times in Massachusetts. Wrote. Wet and rainy. Afternoon set out on a journey to East Windsor. Hired a horse and chaise. Rode through Newtown to Woodbury. Tarried at a tavern. Got something wet.

22. Rode to Hartford and home.<sup>3</sup> From Danbury to Hartford is fifty-eight miles. At Hartford did several errands. Received a dividend of \$45 from the Phoenix Bank, declared in March. Paid for a silver can, bought two years since and the debt forgotten, \$20 and \$1.75 for interest. Paid \$3.75 for a ream of paper. On the 16th of January I received a letter from Williams, of Hartford, informing me that he had a charge against me of \$10. This was for things for Mr. Wolcott. I sent him an order for the sum on Hartford Bank. This he took, which was the amount of the dividend then due me, recently declared. The prospect of getting anything for the Everest fund from Birge is poor. I fear he will have his father's nervous depression. Mr. Whelpley<sup>4</sup> was installed here last week. It was a matter of party violence. No opposition was made. He has an expensive family and is very poor. There is much division of feeling.

23. Made a number of calls. Very kindly received. The people are anxious about their society prospects. Rode to Enfield. My brother is much afflicted with his nervous headache. He thinks of taking a journey for his health. The weather is cold and the season advances very slowly.

24. Had a good visit with my brother. Rode home. Crossed and made a visit at Pine Meadow. Mr. Haskell's little Thomas<sup>5</sup> is a fine son. Called on Mr. Whelpley. He appears well in conversation. Visited friends. Am unable to collect moneys as I hoped to do. Paid Mrs. Robbins \$22 on a note that I owe her. My time here is much too short. The pecuniary burdens on this society are very great.

25. Could not get away till late. Set out on my return. Hindered in

<sup>1</sup> *Hope Leslie, or Early Times in America*, by the author of *Redwood*. New York: White, Gallacher & White, 2 vols., 12mo, 1827, by Catharine M. Sedgwick. *Redwood* and *Hope Leslie* were both published in 1827.

<sup>2</sup> Of Hartford, whose children he had recently baptized, and who was owing money on a note belonging to the Everest fund.

<sup>3</sup> When he says *home* in this place he means East Windsor, where he had lived nearly twenty years, and not Norfolk.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Whelpley, who was pastor 1828-1830.

<sup>5</sup> Little Thomas Robbins Haskell was then about fourteen months old, and Dr. Robbins took pleasure in his namesake.



Hartford. Rode to Plymouth.<sup>1</sup> Rode some time in the evening. My horse travels slowly. Paid in Hartford for my last year's *Observer*, \$2; and for a pair of shoes for a donation, \$2.25. Was spoken with by individuals in East Hartford about going there as a supply.

26. Wet and rainy all day. Quite cold. Rode to Danbury. Kindly received. Much fatigued, principally from want of sleep. Received a letter from my brother Francis, which has arrived here in my absence. My cousin W. Le Baron, of Rochester, writes that he wishes me to go and supply a good parish in Plymouth County.

27. A Mr. Condit<sup>2</sup> was here from New York State and preached in the afternoon and evening. Preached in the morning on Eph. ii: 14. Mr. Condit is triangular<sup>3</sup> in sentiment. Meetings not very full. We had a very interesting report from the conference which sat the last week at New Haven. There is a powerful work of grace among the convicts of the State Prison, at Wethersfield.

28. Walked out. Paid \$8 for my horse and gig last week. Attended the funeral of a young child. Read. Went into the meeting of the ladies in the court-house, who have been at work several days making garments for the Greeks. They have made five hundred and seventy garments, and over \$60 and some other articles have been given in addition. It is a noble Christian charity.<sup>4</sup>

29. Wrote. Walked out. The population and wealth of this town have much increased in a few years. On the 24th Mr. O. Tudor paid me \$10, with interest, which he borrowed of me last September. Wrote to my cousin Capt. W. Le Baron, of Rochester. At evening preached at the house of a sick man, with short notes, on Rom. xiii: 12.

30. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Bacon,<sup>5</sup> of New Haven, and Rev. H. Hooker,<sup>6</sup> of Hartford. I am poorly able to study. Walked out. A worthy woman in the neighborhood died suddenly of an apoplexy. Visited the afflicted family.

#### MAY.

1. Walked out. Began a sermon in reference to the death of Mr. Ard Hoyt,<sup>7</sup> late missionary to the Cherokees, a native of this town, on Ps. xii: 1. Afternoon attended the funeral of the woman who died yesterday. It was large and solemn. At evening attended a conference. Am much occupied.

<sup>1</sup> Plymouth, Ct.

<sup>2</sup> This was, without much doubt, Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, a native of Hanover, N. J., who was graduated at the College of New Jersey in 1827, and was settled in Longmeadow, Mass., 1831-1837, when he was called to a professorship in Amherst College.

<sup>3</sup> This term as here used is theological. It is derived from a theological treatise called *The Triangle*, written by Rev. Samuel Whelp-

ley, father of the minister just then settled at East Windsor.

<sup>4</sup> It shows, too, especially, how strong and wide-spread was the interest in the Greeks in their struggle for independence.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Leonard Bacon.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>7</sup> A somewhat extended notice of Rev. Ard Hoyt may be found in the volume of the *Missionary Herald* for 1828 (May number), p. 163.

2. Wrote. Read the Bible. Wrote on my funeral sermon. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture on John xv: 9. Walked out and visited. Showery. Baptized a child.

3. Warm and wet. Wrote laboriously and finished my sermon on Ps. xii: 1. It is long. Mr. Hoyt was a very valuable missionary. Am pretty feeble and something nervous.

4. Warm and very pleasant. Preached on Luke xxii: 15 and the sermon on Ps. xii: 1 on the death of Mr. Hoyt. Received a woman into the church. Administered the sacrament at the close of the afternoon exercise. Much fatigued. At evening attended the conference. Did but little. Full and solemn meeting.

5. Am pretty feeble. Vegetation advances rapidly. Read. Attended a training and dined with a company. Wrote. On the 2d a woman was received into the church here by letter. At evening attended the monthly concert. This has been too much neglected here.

6. Am fatigued and feeble. Rode to New Haven—thirty-five miles. Some of the road pretty bad. A way new to me. The entrance of the Governor<sup>1</sup> appeared well. At evening attended the meeting of the Colonization Society. Am hospitably entertained at Esq. Daggett's.<sup>2</sup> Was inquired of by Mr. C. Olmsted,<sup>3</sup> of East Hartford, by desire of the committee there, whether I could be obtained for a supply. Mr. Olmsted appears very desirous to have me go there. We had a thunder-shower.

7. Attended the Convention of the Clergy. The collection of clergy is small. Many are gone to the anniversaries in New York. Mr. Wheaton<sup>4</sup> preached very well, but too short. The clergy treated very politely by the sheriff. The exercises were in the Episcopal church. The convention finished their session toward evening. Saw Mr. Battell. Gave Mr. Emerson, for my mother, \$10. Gave the Society of the Alumni<sup>5</sup> of Yale College \$25 and became a life member. Mr. Boardman<sup>6</sup> preached at a meeting for the Domestic Missionary Society.

8. Made various calls. Received a letter from Rev. H. Hooker, of Hartford. On Tuesday saw several apple-trees in blossom. Paid Gen. Howe \$11.50 for Oriental Bibles. Paid thirty-five cents for old pamphlets. Rode home. Attended an evening meeting. The conference of the churches was at Ridgebury today. Two of the delegates attended our meeting. The House of Representatives is said to be more respectable than for several years. Much fatigued.

<sup>1</sup> The Governor that year was Gideon Tomlinson; of Fairfield, by re-election.

<sup>2</sup> Judge David Daggett, born in Attleborough, Mass., 1764; graduated at Yale, 1783; died in New Haven, 1851; an eminent lawyer and judge, and for many years a lecturer in Yale College.

<sup>3</sup> Charles Olmsted, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Nathaniel S. Wheaton, of Christ

Church, Hartford, afterwards President of Trinity College.

<sup>5</sup> Then a new organization formed largely through Dr. Robbins's influence.

<sup>6</sup> There were two ministers named Boardman then settled in Connecticut—William J., of North Haven, and Charles A., of New Preston. The former was probably the preacher on this occasion.

9. Wrote. Quite cool. Walked out and visited. Wrote to Lieut.-Gov. Peters,<sup>1</sup> at New Haven. A great blowth on the fruit-trees.

10. Wrote to Rev. H. Hooker, of Hartford, and to Hawley Olmsted, at the Assembly. Read the Governor's Message. A very good one. Paid for my horse and carriage to New Haven, \$4.50. Read Lewis's<sup>2</sup> *Bible Translations*.

11. Preached on John iii: 3 and Ps. 1: 5. Attended the Sabbath-school, which appears well. This congregation is not as large as Norwalk. There was a full Universalist meeting at the court-house. At evening had a full conference. There are many quite serious people here.

12. Walked and visited. Visited a school, in a pretty low state. The spring advances rapidly. The ground is becoming quite dry. At evening attended the Sabbath-school concert.

13. Wrote. Visited. Visited a school. The duty of school visitors here, as in other places, has been much neglected. Read the Bible. My reading has been too much neglected.

14. Read *History of Bible Translations*. Walked out and visited. Quite cool. At evening rode to Bethel and performed a marriage. Rev. Mr. Lowe<sup>3</sup> there is now absent. That place increases.

15. Read the Bible. Finished the reading of it in course. It is some years since I began it. Improperly long. Read in *Bible Translations*. A valuable work. Visited a good school. Rainy. Our evening meeting was prevented.

16. Walked and visited. Visited a female school. I hope the ecclesiastical matters here are in a state for improvement. Read Edwards on the *Freedom of the Will*.

17. Wrote to Mr. Elisha Whittlesey, formerly my pupil here, now a member of Congress.<sup>4</sup> Warm and very unpleasant. Nature appears in its greatest beauty. Wrote. Began to read my Bible again in course. I hope to read it through, and sooner and better than heretofore.

18. Attended the Sabbath-school before meeting. Warm. Preached on 2 Cor. i: 12 and Luke xi: 13. Rode to Bethel and preached at a third meeting on Isa. iii: 10, 11. That society is increasing. Mr. Lowe is absent on a journey. Towards night and in the evening we had a good deal of rain. Quite tired. We had no evening meeting.

<sup>1</sup> John S. Peters, of Hebron. He succeeded Gov. Tomlinson as Governor, and held the office, 1831-1833.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. John Lewis, 1675-1746. He was born in Bristol, Eng.; was preacher in several places, but far better known by his learned authorship. Among other works he wrote the *Life of John Wickliffe*, and an edition of Wickliffe's *Translation of the Bible*, prefaced by the history of the different translations of the Bible into English. This was published in 1731, folio.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. John G. Lowe was pastor at Bethel, Ct., 1822-1829.

<sup>4</sup> A very honorable and useful public man. He was born in Washington, Ct., Oct. 19, 1783; removed to New Connecticut in 1806; was Representative to Congress from Ohio, 1823-1839; was general's aid in the War of 1812; was appointed by President Harrison Auditor of the Post Office Department, and by President Taylor First Comptroller of the Treasury. He was an excellent specimen of an old-time office-holder.

19. Set out early with others in a public carriage and rode to New Haven. Found many acquaintances among the members of the Assembly. Attended to the business of common schools. Quite cool.

20. Visited the Governor. Sat a little while in the respective Houses. The House of Representatives this year is unusually respectable. They do business with dispatch. Made several calls. At evening attended the annual meeting of the Society for the Improvement of Common Schools. I think the Assembly will do something on the subject.

21. Breakfasted with Prof. Olmsted.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Battell is here. Had various things to attend to. Wet and rainy. Afternoon rode in the stage to Norwalk. Cold and wet. The ecclesiastical matters here are in a poor state. Tarried at Mr. Benedict's.

22. Last night and this forenoon it rained hard the most of the time. Last evening received a letter from my brother James, and one from Mr. Bacon, of New Haven. Made a number of calls. People here feel unpleasantly. Mr. Halsey, of New Jersey, has treated them badly. Afternoon rode in the stage to Danbury. Have been prospered on my journey. My professional prospects rise and fall. I hope to leave all with a holy God. At evening attended the conference.

23. The late rain has been a great blessing. Wrote. On the 20th bought some books of Gen. Howe. Read the Bible. Began to read Mr. Pitkin's<sup>2</sup> new *History of the United States*. Walked out and visited.

24. Read my *History*. It is a valuable work. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Crocker,<sup>3</sup> at New Fairfield, and received a letter from him. Visited Dea. Hoyt, quite low in a consumption. Had a new coat and vest made of fine cloth.

25. Preached on Ps. cvi: 15 and Mark x: 21. I think the congregation here increases. Attended the Sabbath-school as usual. At evening showery and the conference was thin.

26. Visited Dea. Hoyt. He appears like a ripened saint. Wrote to Mr. Timothy Pitkin and Charles H. Olmsted, of General Assembly. Occupied with company. Read. At evening the committee of the society requested me to continue to supply them for the present. They have some expectation of Mr. Winslow. I desire to commit my ways all to a holy and a faithful God, full of compassion and of great mercy.

27. Rode with Mr. Crocker, of New Fairfield, to Trumbull and attended Fairfield East Association. This body is small, but the churches are better supplied than in western district. Mr. Kent,<sup>4</sup> the minister here, is a Scotchman. Had no meeting till evening. Mr. Leavitt,<sup>5</sup> of Stratford, preached on intemperance. I made an address. Very cool.

<sup>1</sup> Denison Olmsted, LL. D., professor at Yale from 1825 to his death, in 1859.

<sup>2</sup> Timothy Pitkin, LL. D., a native of Farmington.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Daniel Crocker, minister at New Fairfield, 1827-1831. He was a graduate of Yale, 1782.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. James Kent, pastor at Trumbull, 1825-1835.

<sup>5</sup> Joshua Leavitt, D. D., afterwards so famous as an anti-slavery editor and leader, was settled at Stratford, 1825-1828. He was often much abused by those who did not know him, but he held a steady course.

28. We had to go a distance to sleep. The association licensed a young man to preach.<sup>1</sup> They finished their business after noon. Rode home. Quite tired. In the evening saw Prof. Stuart.<sup>2</sup>

29. Walked out and made calls. Traded, \$1.54. Wrote. Rode out with company and visited. Attended the evening conference. Mr. Lowe, of Bethel, called on me.

30. Read Pitkin's *History*. It is a work of much labor and value. Wet and rainy. Walked out and visited. I do not labor as much as I ought to do.

31. Read. Quite cool for the season. Read expositors. Am much troubled with dissipated thoughts. Received some books from New Haven. I have closed an anxious spring and have not been forgotten in the great mercies of the Lord.

#### JUNE.

1. In the forenoon expounded on Rom. i: 1-26. Preached in the afternoon on Luke xvi: 25. At evening had a full conference. There was a large Universalist meeting in the day and evening at the court-house. My walk to meeting is something tiresome.

2. Read. The late session of Congress has been low and not honorable to the nation.<sup>3</sup> Wrote. Turned over my inkstand, as appears.<sup>4</sup> Paid for a pair of shoes, \$2.25. At evening had a pretty full meeting at the concert. This meeting has been too much neglected here.

3. Wrote to my sister Battell and to S. T. Wolcott. Rainy. Read. Walked out and visited. We have a very wet season.

4. Visited a numerous district school. Warm and sultry. Dined out. Visited a young woman in a very serious state of mind. I hope God will remember us in his great mercy. At evening performed a marriage.

5. Visited a private school. Very warm. Was at a funeral attended by a Methodist preacher. Read Pitkin's *History*. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Pitkin. Attended the evening conference.

6. Wrote. Left off my flannel. Read the Bible. I am too negligent in business. We have warm summer weather. Read the Bible. Visited the sick and others.

7. Vegetation is very rapid. Read Pitkin's *History*. Read the Bible. The heat is severe. We had a pretty hard shower. Walked out. Received a circular-letter from Williams College.

8. Very pleasant. Preached on John i: 18 and Ps. li: 17. Meetings full and attentive. Had a good conference. A young woman here has hopefully got religion within a few days.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Ransom Hawley.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Moses Stuart, of Andover Seminary.

<sup>3</sup> This was the first session of the Twenty-first Congress, which was the second Congress during the presidency of John Quincy

Adams. It was, on the whole, a prosperous period of our history, though party spirit, on the tariff and other questions, ran high.

<sup>4</sup> What the evidence that he turned over his inkstand, *pro* and *con*, was, does not appear.

9. Read. Visited the sick. Cool weather. Walked and visited. At evening attended the Sabbath-school concert.

10. Read the Bible. Wrote to Mr. Mallory,<sup>1</sup> of Norwalk. Rode to Long Ridge.<sup>2</sup> Visited families and a small school. Some parts of this town are rough. Cool. Wrote.

11. Wrote a report for the Everest fund for General Association, and another paper respecting consociational rules for the same body. Walked out. Take tea out the most of the days.

12. Walked and visited. Warm and sultry. Visited Dea. Hoyt.<sup>3</sup> Much worse and very low. Visited a sick child. People very little instructed. Walked out. Attended our evening meeting. We have to be quite short.

13. Rode with company<sup>4</sup> to Miry Brook.<sup>4</sup> Visited families, and a school, and Mr. Burton,<sup>5</sup> of Ridgebury. Visited Dea. Hoyt in the morning, in a senseless state, and toward night he died. A great loss to the church and society. Eat strawberries.

14. Rode to the north part of the town and visited. Many Universalists in that quarter. Very warm. Saw persons getting hay. Walked out. Wrote. Get a little time for study. Paid for dressing my hat, fifty cents.<sup>6</sup>

15. Preached on Heb. xii: 14 and 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57. Attended at noon the funeral of Dea. Hoyt. Very warm. Attended the evening conference. Meetings quite full. This church and people have sustained a great loss in the death of Dea. Hoyt.

16. Set out pretty early on my journey. Rode to Bridgeport with a horse and wagon which a gentleman here wished to send down. He gave me \$1. Cool. Called on Mr. Hamlin. Mr. Vail<sup>7</sup> here is like to be dismissed. Am much fatigued. In the evening rode in the stage to New Haven. Tarried there and rested a while.

17. Paid Mr. Maltby \$4.80 for a dozen *Village Hymns*.<sup>8</sup> For those which I have sold here I get \$3.75. Delivered to Mr. Bacon my reports for the General Association, which is to sit here today. Saw sundry ministers. Rode in the stage to Hartford. Hot and sultry. Rode to East Windsor, my good home. Tudor<sup>9</sup> is absent on a journey in poor health. Rode in the evening to Mr. Bissell's.<sup>10</sup> Eveline<sup>11</sup> has a son<sup>12</sup> three weeks old. Great are God's mercies. There is a good deal of religious attention here. Dr. Reed.

<sup>1</sup> Mallory was not a common name in Norwalk, but we find there the names of Alfred Mallory and Lewis Mallory.

<sup>2</sup> One of the out districts of Danbury.

<sup>3</sup> Dea. Amos Hoyt. There were three deacons of the name Hoyt in this First Church of Danbury during its history.

<sup>4</sup> Miry Brook is one of the local districts in the town of Danbury. The town was large, with many local names.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Nathan Burton, already noticed.

<sup>6</sup> They made nice hats in Danbury, and

Dr. Robbins, it will be remembered, had often ordered a new hat there.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Franklin Y. Vail.

<sup>8</sup> Dr. Asahel Nettleton's book, *Village Hymns*, was issued in 1827. From 1827 on to 1850, or 1860, it had an immense circulation. It was used chiefly for conference and neighborhood meetings.

<sup>9</sup> Samuel Tudor Wolcott.

<sup>10</sup> Edgar Bissell.

<sup>11</sup> Mrs. Eveline (Wolcott) Bissell.

<sup>12</sup> Tudor Bissell.

paid me, in a note against Mr. Wolcott which I indorsed on his note, \$117. Was up late.

18. Put up my things. Walked out. Ecclesiastical matters here are in a critical state. Rode with Ursula<sup>1</sup> to Hartford. Called at East Hartford. Rode in the stage to New Haven. Hot and a little showery. At Hartford received a dividend of \$10 of Hartford Bank. At evening attended a meeting of ministers, relative to measures to restore the funds for Dr. Taylor's<sup>2</sup> professorship.

19. Attended the General Association. Had to speak considerably to vindicate the committee of the Everest fund. The business concluded well. Saw Orestes Wilcox, one of our beneficiaries, in very poor health. I am very anxious about him.<sup>3</sup> Afternoon rode in the stage to Bridgeport. This town is improving. Tarried at Mr. Hamlin's.<sup>4</sup> Paid at New Haven for a clothes-brush, eighty-three cents. Much feel the want of sleep.

20. Called on Mr. Wood,<sup>5</sup> and others. Saw young Mr. Waterman, now of Providence. Rode in a mail wagon to Danbury. Quite dusty. Have had through great mercy, a prosperous journey. Read the declaration of war of Russia against Turkey.

21. Wrote. Am not much fatigued with my journey. Gave to an agent for the sufferers by a late fire at Bridgeport, \$2. Paid for a pair of shoes, \$2.25. My feet are quite tender, a new complaint with me. Walked out. Received a kind letter from Mr. E. Whittlesey,<sup>6</sup> member of Congress, New Connecticut, and one from E. N. Sill,<sup>7</sup> of Windsor. Mr. Day,<sup>8</sup> of Greenfield, called here. Warm and dusty.

22. Attended the Sabbath-school as usual. Preached a part of my long sermon on the means of grace, on John ix: 7, and on John iv: 29. Attended the evening conference. A good many people here from abroad.

23. Walked out. Wrote. People are beginning their haying. Wrote to Mr. Sill, of Windsor. Afternoon rode to Pembroke district; visited their school, and at evening had a full and good meeting. Preached on Ps. iv: 5. Got home late.

24. Walked out. Quite warm. Afternoon rode to Miry Brook district, visited, and at evening had a meeting in the Baptist meeting-house. Mr. Benedict,<sup>9</sup> the preacher, attended me. Mr. Burton assisted in the meeting.

<sup>1</sup> Miss Ursula Wolcott was then thirty-two years old.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Nathaniel W. Taylor, who had been settled as successor to Prof. Moses Stuart, in 1812, as pastor of the Center Church, New Haven, was dismissed in 1822 to be the theological professor in Yale Seminary. The word "restore," used in the diary, implies that some of the funds had been lost.

<sup>3</sup> It has already been stated that he died in 1829.

<sup>4</sup> Alanson Hamlin, Esq.

<sup>5</sup> Joseph Wood, Esq. Mr. Wood and

Mr. Hamlin were law partners in Bridgeport.

<sup>6</sup> Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, already noticed.

<sup>7</sup> Elisha N. Sill, son of Dr. Elisha Sill, of Windsor.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Richard V. Dey (not Day), pastor at Greenfield parish (Fairfield), 1823-1828: of Columbia College, New York, 1818. Received the honorary degree of A. M. from Yale, 1823.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. George Benedict. Another Baptist minister then at Danbury was Rev. Nathan Bulkley.

Preached on Num. x: 29. About the close of the meeting it began to rain, and we had a heavy shower. The thunder was very near and hard. The heat oppressive. Was carried out and brought home by friends. Quite late home.

25. A very hot day. The thermometer at 90°, probably more. Read the Bible. Mr. and Mrs. Whittlesey rode away. Visited. Was requested to deliver an address at the approaching anniversary of independence. The ground much refreshed by the rain.

26. Made calls. Wrote. Cooler. Wrote to Mr. McEwen,<sup>1</sup> of New London. The effects of the ecclesiastical contentions here still remain.

27. Began to write my address for Independence. Wrote slow. Walked out and visited. Many people here from New York. A great crop of grass. A very fine time for vegetation.

28. Very warm and sultry. Got medicine for a degree of strangury complaint. Can do but little from the langour of the season. Wrote on my address. Read Pitkin's *History*.

29. The heat very severe and oppressive. Preached the second and third parts of my long sermon on John ix: 7. Meeting rather thin. At evening a shower prevented our conference. We have had a great deal of thunder the present season.

30. Read newspapers. The presidential contest is much the most severe that it has ever been except in 1800.<sup>2</sup> The opening war in the East excites much attention.<sup>3</sup> Wrote. The heat continues. Walked and visited.

#### JULY.

1. Wrote diligently on my address. It requires more labor than I expected. The heat is something abated. Walked considerably for exercise. My health is not quite as good as it has been.

2. Wrote. Afternoon attended a meeting of the deacons usual before the sacrament. Conversed with a church member who absents from the sacrament. Received a letter from my good Uncle Starr.

3. Wrote and finished my Independence address. Considerably fatigued with the writing. Mrs. and Miss Whittlesey returned from their journey. Attended the evening conference.

4. Walked. Firing and music were heard early. We had our public service in the afternoon. A great collection of people. Was about an hour in the delivery of my address. Had no assistance, which I expected, from the other ministers of the town. Judge Cooke read the Declaration. The people drank toasts and fired cannon. Towards night we had a severe storm of rain and hail. Walked out. Saw Judge Kent.<sup>4</sup> In the evening the taverns were still.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Abel McEwen.

<sup>2</sup> Andrew Jackson was elected that year, but it seems they were wont then to point back to the first election of Jefferson, when party spirit was fearfully high.

<sup>3</sup> War between Turkey and Russia, declared April 26, 1828.

<sup>4</sup> There can be little doubt that the Judge Kent whom he saw was James Kent, LL. D. He was at that time law professor in Columbia College, New York, and was delivering those courses of lectures which were the basis of Kent's *Commentaries*, 4 vols., published 1826-1830.



5. Wrote. Walked out and visited. The hail-storm has done considerable damage to crops and windows. Afternoon attended a preparatory lecture and preached with short notes on Matt. iii: 8. Baptized five children. Am fatigued with my late labors. Read the Bible.

6. Cool. Preached the last part of my long discourse on John ix: 7 and on 1 Peter i: 11. Administered the sacrament. Baptized a child. Meeting quite full. At evening held our conference in the meeting-house. Had read the first of Mr. Hawes's *Lectures to Young Men*.<sup>1</sup>

7. Read newspapers at the printing-office. Wrote. At evening attended the monthly concert of prayer. Not as well attended as it should be.

8. Wrote a letter to the South Church in New Marlborough. Wrote to Mr. Battell. Walked out and visited. We had a hard shower. An unfavorable time for getting hay. The late hail-storm has done injury to the crops.

9. Wrote to Mr. David Leavenworth,<sup>2</sup> of Great Barrington, respecting the proposed Housatonic Canal. Afternoon, Mr. Winslow,<sup>3</sup> the candidate whom this people have long had in view, came here as an agent soliciting donations for the theological institution of Yale College. Unsettled weather.

10. Walked with Mr. Winslow. Afternoon, rode with him to Bethel and called on Mr. Lowe.<sup>4</sup> That place greatly needs a devoted minister. At evening attended our conference. Mr. Winslow assisted. Paid \$2.25 for the volume of the *Remains of Mr. C. Wilcox*.<sup>5</sup>

11. Showery. There is a good deal of hay and grain out. Mr. Winslow was here the most of the day. This family have a number of friends here from New York. Called on my Uncle Starr, who is here on a visit to his friends. He is quite smart, in his eighty-fourth year. Walked out.

12. Walked and visited an aged sick woman. Visited. My feet are tender for walking. Cool and very pleasant. My good uncle spent the afternoon with me. Am very much taken up. Wrote. Yesterday gave Mr. Winslow, for the Yale College Theological Institution, \$5. Read my Bible.

13. We had a hard rain the most of the day. Uncle Starr assisted in the forenoon exercise very well. Preached on 2 Cor. v: 19. Mr. Winslow came here from Bethel and preached in the afternoon on the subject of his agency. Thin meeting. Had no conference. Walked out with Uncle Starr.

<sup>1</sup> This book was published in 1828, and the sale of it was immense. There was something in the awakening seriousness of those times, and something in Dr. Hawes's peculiar style of thought and speech, which contributed to its extraordinary circulation at home and abroad. One hundred thousand copies are estimated to have been sold in this country, and a still larger number in Great Britain. One Scotch publisher issued fifty thousand copies.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. David Leavenworth was a prominent citizen and magistrate of Great Barrington, Mass.

<sup>3</sup> This was Rev. Hubbard Winslow, D. D., who was graduated at Yale College in 1825 and at the Yale Seminary in 1828. Instead of going to Danbury he went to Dover, N. H., where he was settled in December, 1828. He afterwards made quite a record for himself as a popular preacher in Boston, at the Bowdoin Street Church. He was a native of Williston, Vt., and died in that town in 1864, aged sixty-five years.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. John G. Lowe.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Carlos Wilcox, of the North Church, Hartford, whose brilliant beginning was so soon clouded.

14. Wrote. People are very anxious for clear weather. Walked out and visited. Towards night we had a hard shower. Our Sabbath-school concert was prevented by the rain. Tarried out with Mr. Winslow. Wrote to my brother Francis.

15. Walked with Mr. Winslow on his agency. Read. Visited. Crops are suffering with the wet.

16. Mr. Winslow went away. He has procured nearly \$100 here. Wrote to W. W. Ellsworth, of Hartford. Walked to the Bogs<sup>1</sup> and visited families. Sectarianism has done great injury in this town. Got quite wet. People are much alarmed at the growing of their grain.

17. Walked and visited. Read Pitkin's *History*. Pleasant, yet we had some light showers on the grain and hay. Attended the evening meeting. We prayed particularly for a favorable season for the gathering of the crops.

18. Very fine weather. The people very laborious. Read the Bible and Pitkin's *History*. Visited. I have many calls for that duty. The ground is very wet. Visited sick persons. Paid a merchant \$2.47.

19. Read the Bible. Wrote. Walked out. Towards evening rode to Bethel to exchange with Mr. Lowe. Much grain has been injured by growing.

20. Tarried last night at Esq. Taylor's.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Lowe rode to Danbury and returned after meeting. Went early to a district Sabbath-school. Preached on 2 Cor. v: 19, and Luke xvi: 25. This is, in size, a good congregation. This society has been very unfortunate. After meeting rode home. Quite warm. At five o'clock preached by desire in the Methodist meeting-house, without notes, on Ps. iv: 5. Their preacher was with me. Attended the evening conference. Poor hay weather.

21. Am better today than I expected. Wrote to my cousin J. Battell, Jr. Read newspapers. Read the Bible. At evening visited. Poor hay weather.

22. Spent the most of the day at a neighbor's, looking over writings of Dolley E. Hoyt, deceased, who belonged to the Arkansas Mission. We had a very hard rain. At evening performed a marriage. A splendid wedding. Visited a man severely sick with a bilious colic.

23. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper. Read Pitkin's *History*. Read the Bible. Visited the sick man, apparently better. At evening was at a party, the second part of the wedding. Things very decorous.

24. Walked out and visited. Very warm. We now have pretty good weather for farmers. Read. Attended the evening conference. Received a letter from my Uncle Starr.

25. Worked at Miss Hoyt's papers. The heat very severe. Occupied with company. Visited. Many people are in town from New York. We have hot nights.

26. Walked out. Wrote. Am quite debilitated with the heat. Read

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<sup>1</sup> Probably the same general locality that is called Miry Meadow.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Taylor, Esq., of Bethel parish, Danbury.

Colden's<sup>1</sup> valuable *Memoirs on the New York Canals*. Am not able to study closely.

27. The heat appears to abate a little. Last night we had some rain and a great deal of thunder. It has been a remarkable year for thunder. Expounded on Rom. i: 26 to ii: 17, and preached on Num. xxiii: 19. Meeting rather thin. At evening attended the conference. Mr. Hull,<sup>2</sup> the Episcopal clergyman, read one of Mr. Hawes's lectures for us. We had a contribution for the Sabbath-school library.

28. Read newspapers. The hostile movements in the East are very tardy. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. Walked out and visited. Received a letter from W. W. Ellsworth. The Everest fund is not likely to save anything from B. W. Birge.<sup>3</sup>

29. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper. Looked over the papers of D. E. Hoyt.<sup>4</sup> Visited. Cooler. Fine weather for business.

30. Walked and visited the most of the day. Read the Bible. There has been a great deal of damage the present year by tempests.

31. Showery. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper. Wrote. Walked out. Attended the evening conference. Rev. Mr. Christmas,<sup>5</sup> of Montreal, was present and assisted.

#### AUGUST.

1. Wrote. Visited. I fear my mind will get into an inactive state and be disinclined to study. Visited Mr. Christmas. He does much good in his important station at Montreal. Read late.

2. Rode into the field with Mr. Whittlesey. Read *Encyclopædia* on the subject of my numbers for the newspaper. Am pretty languid. Wrote. Visited the sick.

3. Mr. Christmas preached in the forenoon very well. His health is poor. Preached in the afternoon on Luke xix: 43, 44. Attended the evening conference. Meetings quite full. There does not appear to be much labor here on the Sabbath, but too much walking and riding.

<sup>1</sup> David Cadwallader Colden, a lawyer born at Flushing, L. I., 1769, died at Jersey City, 1834. He was closely associated with DeWitt Clinton in the great enterprise of the Erie Canal. He was also author of *The Life of Robert Fulton*, published in 1817.

<sup>2</sup> The Episcopal minister of Danbury, already noticed.

<sup>3</sup> Backus W. Birge, of Hartford.

<sup>4</sup> Dolly E. Hoyt.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Joseph Stibbs Christmas. The story of this young preacher was brilliant but exceedingly sad. He was descended from Catholic ancestors, though his father, who came to this country from England, was rather inclined to break away from his Roman Catholic association. The son was born in Georgetown, Beaver County, Pa.,

April 10, 1803; was graduated at Washington College, Pa., 1821, eighteen years old and the first scholar in his class, and was graduated at Princeton Seminary in 1824. He was licensed to preach, and went to Montreal, where he preached for a time with great acceptance. He married a very choice and refined lady and had two children. He left Montreal because of ill health in 1828. His two children and his wife died not long after. He was settled over the Bowery Presbyterian Church, and after five months died, March 14, 1830. A sermon, able and eloquent, occasioned by his death, was preached by Dr. Gardner Spring, and afterwards published. While seeking health in Bolton, Mass., he preached at the Hillside Church, and was asked to settle there.

4. Rainy and wet. Walked out. We get no intelligence from the east of Europe. Read. Mr. Christmas visited here. Attended the monthly concert of prayer.

5. Read the Bible. Wrote letters to my brother F. L., to my Uncle Starr, Esq. Betts, of Norwalk; and Col. Darius Humphreys, of Canton. Walked out and visited. Received a letter from Mr. Leavitt,<sup>1</sup> of Stratford. I fear I do not improve my time in the best manner. There has recently been a great and unhappy commotion at Yale College.\*

6. Walked out and visited the sick. Wrote letters to Rev. Messrs. Leavitt, of Stratford, Porter, of Farmington, McLean, of Simsbury, and to Col. Niles,<sup>3</sup> of Windsor. To the latter I resigned my chaplaincy in the First Regiment. A Mr. Isham,<sup>4</sup> a candidate, formerly a resident in this town, came here. We had a meeting in the evening and he preached. Visited.

7. Read *Encyclopædia* on the subject of canals. Read the Bible. Visited. Received a letter from my brother at Enfield. Attended our evening meeting. On the 4th donated seventy-five cents.

8. Walked and visited. Very warm. Read *Encyclopædia*. My prospects are trying. All my hope is in the mercy of a gracious God. Wrote.

9. Rode with company to Stratford. Called at Bridgeport. Met Mr. Leavitt on the way; he goes to Danbury to preach on the subject of intemperance. The heat very oppressive. A part of the road quite bad. Kindly entertained at Mr. Judson's. Mr. Leavitt's family are unwell.

10. A Mr. Vandyke,<sup>5</sup> a young candidate, preached in the forenoon. I preached in the afternoon on Isa. iii: 10, 11. This congregation is not large, yet respectable. Attended an evening meeting at the academy and preached without notes on Ps. iv: 5. The mosquitoes very tedious.

11. The heat continues very sultry. Called on Mr. Wood<sup>6</sup> at Bridgeport. Rode home. Quite fatigued. Prevented by a shower from attending evening meeting. Mr. Whittlesey's young son is quite sick.

12. Rode in the stage to Norwalk. The consociation met to attend to the installation of Mr. Benedict.<sup>7</sup> The examination was slight. Mr. Benedict

<sup>1</sup> Joshua Leavitt, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> This was the famous Bread and Butter Rebellion, so called, which took place in the summer of 1828, after the senior class had left to prepare for Commencement. It resulted at last in the expulsion of four students and the rustication of a great number, most of whom, after a time, returned with apologies, and were taken back.

<sup>3</sup> Col. Richard Niles. He was born in 1785, and was two years older than his brother, Hon. John M. Niles, the able Democratic United States Senator. They were sons of Moses and Naomi (Marshall) Niles, who lived in the Poquonnoc district of Windsor, Ct.

<sup>4</sup> There were two ministers of the name

Isham raised up in Connecticut, Chester Isham, who died at Taunton, Mass., after a brief ministry there, in 1825, and Austin Isham, graduated in 1836, who is still living. The person here mentioned must have been Rev. Warren Isham, who appears in the list of Presbyterian ministers in 1830.

<sup>5</sup> This must have been Mr. John B. Van Dyck, a graduate of Amherst in 1826, who afterwards became a physician in the State of New York.

<sup>6</sup> Joseph Wood, Esq.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Henry Benedict, who was pastor at Norwalk, 1828-1832. He was graduated at Yale in 1822, was licensed by the Fairfield West Association in May, 1825, and, after being settled in several places, died in 1868.

appears well. The people here are pretty well united. The association sat on the business of Mr. Dey.<sup>1</sup> At evening preached, by desire of Mr. Benedict, on 2 Cor. i: 12. Tarried at S. W. Benedict's.

13. Attended the installation. The parts were well performed. Dr. McAuley<sup>2</sup> preached very well. The association sat long on the painful business of Mr. Dey. Made calls. Dr. Miller<sup>3</sup> is very low. Quite warm. There is a new newspaper here.

14. Visited families. Received of the society here \$51, and \$3.79 which I had paid out for washing. They paid \$8 each for ten Sabbaths and \$9 for fourteen Sabbaths.<sup>4</sup> The heat is severe. Paid for nine volumes of books, \$5. Some of them I am very glad to procure. Rode home. The dust severe. Went late to our evening meeting. Received a letter from Mr. Punderson,<sup>5</sup> of Huntington.

15. Much fatigued. Wrote. Put up my things. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper. Hindered by company.

16. Paid a merchant tailor \$27.46. Paid for a horse to go to Stratford, \$2. The failure of banks seems to have become frequent. Wrote. Visited a family who had a family visit—the parents, nine children, and twenty-five grandchildren. No child has died.<sup>6</sup> Some of them live at a distance. All were present.

17. Preached on Prov. i: 31; Matt. xxv: 6. Meetings quite full. At evening had the last of Mr. Hawes's *Lectures to Young Men* read at our meeting.<sup>7</sup> They are very good. There are many strangers here from New York. The Universalists had a full meeting.

18. Visited the sick and others. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper. Wrote to Dr. Reed of East Windsor. Received a letter from Esq. Betts,<sup>8</sup> of Norwalk. Attended the Sabbath-school concert.

19. Walked out and visited. Read. The weather has become cool. I find my time much occupied.

20. Walked and visited. Wrote. My pieces in the paper on canals<sup>9</sup> require more labor than I expected. Have many hinderances.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Richard V. Dey, of Greenfield parish (Fairfield).

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Thomas McAuley, D.D., LL.D., pastor of Rutgers Street Church, New York City, 1822-1829.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Phineas Miller.

<sup>4</sup> In the early years of the diary, it will be remembered, the pay used to be about five dollars a Sabbath.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Thomas Punderson, pastor at Huntington, 1818-1844. He was graduated at Yale in 1804 and died in 1848.

<sup>6</sup> In some of the old New England families the record of health and long life was remarkable. In others the record of disease and early death was as remarkable. On the

whole, people in this country live longer now than they did a hundred years ago.

<sup>7</sup> This was one of the good uses to which Dr. Hawes's little book was put.

<sup>8</sup> Esq. Betts, who has been before mentioned in the diary, was Hon. Thaddeus Betts, Lieutenant-Governor of Connecticut and United States Senator. He died in Washington, while Senator, in 1840. He was a graduate of Yale, 1807.

<sup>9</sup> The age of railroads was near, but not yet perceived. The wisdom of the wise was then expending itself on canals, and Dr. Robbins seems to have taken much interest in the subject and wrote much upon it. His interest was philanthropic.

21. Finished a laborious number for the paper. Warm again. Attended our evening meeting.

22. Set out early and rode to New Haven, on account of young W.,<sup>1</sup> of this town, lately expelled from college. Saw the president and some of the professors. Some of the scholars who lately left college have returned. Saw Mr. Mills, of Northampton, in very poor health. College appears very still for term time. Saw my cousin P. Battell<sup>2</sup> here in a law office. Our beneficiary, Wilcox, is in poor health. Sent him \$5.

23. Left New Haven early. Rode to Danbury. The carriage was quite full. Very warm. The ground has become dry and the dust very tedious. Called on Mr. Mitchell,<sup>3</sup> of Newtown. We traveled very slow. About twelve hours on the way. Much fatigued.

24. Preached a double sermon on Acts xiii: 2. The heat very severe and oppressive. The Sabbath-school appears well. Had a full conference. Wrote an application to the faculty of Yale College for H. H. W.<sup>4</sup> Much fatigued.

25. Walked out and visited. Much oppressed with the heat. The ground is dry and hot. Wrote. Read Douglass's *History*. Wrote to Prof. Silliman, of New Haven. Took a bad cold; I believe by changing clothes.

26. Walked out. Am quite feeble. Received a letter from my brother James, one from brother F. L., one from Mr. Leavitt, of Stratford, and two from S. T. Wolcott. Wrote to my brother F. L., and to Col. Solomon Olmsted, of East Hartford. The postmaster here is negligent. There is little or no abatement in the heat. Visited a sick man and witnessed his will. Paid the post office fifty-two cents. The war on the Danube appears to be slowly and sternly advancing.<sup>5</sup>

27. I cough a good deal and pretty hard. Walked to the Bogs and visited. The ground very dry and hot. The heat a little abated. Read. The prospects of the President<sup>6</sup> appear favorable in the Western country.

28. Rode to Great Plain<sup>7</sup> and visited the sick and others. A good many persons are sick. I am quite hoarse. Still warm and very dry. Attended our evening meeting. Pretty thin.

29. I hope I have not labored in vain for the young man here that has been expelled from college. Read. In the afternoon Mr. Punderson and Mr. Vaill came here as missionary agents and we had a meeting. Pretty thin. Two associations for foreign missions here have contributed, the present year, \$135. Wrote. The heat appears rather to increase.

<sup>1</sup> One of the young men expelled on account of the Bread and Butter Rebellion, before noticed.

<sup>2</sup> His nephew, Philip Battell.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William Mitchell, pastor at Newtown 1825-1831. He was graduated at Yale College in 1818, and at Andover Seminary 1821.

<sup>4</sup> His letter does not seem to have been

effectual. W.'s name is not found among the Yale graduates.

<sup>5</sup> There had been several actions in which the Russians had been generally successful.

<sup>6</sup> He is hoping for the re-election of President John Quincy Adams, but is to be disappointed.

<sup>7</sup> Another of the local districts of Danbury.

30. Wrote a piece for the newspaper. Nearly as warm as the fore part of the week and very dry. Mr. Hawley,<sup>1</sup> a candidate, called here. A woman died in the neighborhood; sick a good while. Wrote.

31. Expounded on Rom. ii: 17 to the end, and two verses of the next chapter. Afternoon preached on Jer. xiv: 8. The heat very severe, I believe equal to last Sabbath. Had a good conference. The heat, long and severe, is very debilitating.

SEPTEMBER.

1. Set out early on a journey to East Windsor. Rode with a top-sulky. No apparent abatement of the heat. The ground is very dry and vegetation almost expiring. The dust very tedious. Traveled quite slow. At evening it came on dark and windy suddenly, and I tarried at a private house in Plymouth. Rode thirty-eight miles.

2. Last night slept very poorly. Wet and a little rainy. Very grateful. Rode to East Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott is feeble. Yesterday my thermometer was at 98°,<sup>2</sup> the highest of this year. The Monday before it was at 97°. Walked out. There is some religious attention here, but the society is in a poor state. Received \$130 of Dea. Reed, for the society, and paid the same to Mrs. Wolcott.

3. Rode to Canton on the business of the Everest fund. Wet, with some very hard showers. The payments were well made. Mr. Ely and Mr. McLean were with me. The fund is now completed at \$4,000.<sup>3</sup> May the blessing of God be long upon it. Rode to Simsbury and tarried with Mr. McLean. Yesterday received a letter from Z. G. Whitman,<sup>4</sup> of Boston. Got considerably wet.

4. Rode home. Stopped in Hartford. Frequent showers and very hard. Received a dividend of \$45 of the Phoenix Bank. Cannot get the payment of my debts here. In the evening and night the rain was very powerful. Looked over my things.

5. The ground is almost inundated. Quite pleasant. Set out on my return. Dined with Col. Olmsted,<sup>5</sup> of East Hartford. At request of him and his officers I concluded to accept the chaplaincy of his regiment.<sup>6</sup> The waters rise very rapidly and are over the meadows. Had to ride through a deep place. In the morning made several calls. Missed of seeing some persons in East Hartford for whom I called. Between Hartford and Farmington had to ride far around on account of high water. The roads are badly gullied. We have not had such a rain for several years. Tarried at Farmington.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Ransom Hawley, licensed by the Fairfield East Association, May 28, 1828. He seems never to have been settled in Connecticut.

<sup>2</sup> Again the hot weather of early September.

<sup>3</sup> He means, as we suppose, that some losses which the fund had sustained had been made up.

<sup>4</sup> Zechariah Gardner Whitman, Esq., be-

fore mentioned, a lawyer in Boston, and author of *The History of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company*. He was a graduate of Harvard, 1807, and died in 1840.

<sup>5</sup> Col. Solomon Olmsted, a prominent man in East Hartford, living near the north end of East Hartford Street.

<sup>6</sup> He had just resigned the chaplaincy in Col. Richard Niles's regiment, and it was singular that he should accept another.

6. Clear and very pleasant. Rode to Danbury. Over fifty miles. Had to go out of my way several times. Many bridges are gone. The rain was not as hard here as at the eastward. Much fatigued.

7. Preached on Heb. xi: 6, and 2 Cor. v: 10. The Sabbath-school begins to diminish. Had a good evening meeting. Baptized a child. I think my sight continues to decline.

8. Wrote. The care of the Everest fund makes me a good deal of labor.<sup>1</sup> Visited a young family about to move to New Connecticut. At evening attended the Sabbath-school concert. Received from a widow a donation of \$25 for the Domestic Missionary Society. Received of young W. \$5, for my late expenses on my late journey to New Haven.

9. Rode with company to New Haven. Wet and rainy. Found the road in some places very bad. The Housatonic has been very high. Got to New Haven late. Attended, a short time, the meeting of the alumni. Saw a committee of the corporation.

10. A pleasant day. We had a good Commencement. The collection of people not greater than usual. Dr. Taylor<sup>2</sup> preached the *Concio ad clerum*. There was a rather unpleasant meeting of the clergy after the sermon.<sup>3</sup> Paid Gen. Howe \$5 for books. Am kindly treated by friends.

11. In the morning went before the corporation and requested them to restore W., lately expelled. Rode home by way of Bridgeport. Got home late. Paid for an ancient volume of Calvin's *Works*, \$7.50. This completes, I suppose, my set. Vegetation much revived by the late rains. Got home too late to attend our evening meeting.

12. Looked over my accounts. Paid \$5 for a horse to go to East Windsor last week.<sup>4</sup> Walked out. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture with short notes on Rom. viii: 35. Wrote. Put off our sacrament last week because I was gone.

13. Wrote on the accounts of the Everest fund. Wrote to Col. Hayden, of Hartford. Received a letter from Mr. Goodrich, of New Haven, informing me that the corporation of college refused to restore W., of this place, to his standing. I think they have done wrong.<sup>5</sup> Visited.

14. Preached on John vii: 37, and afternoon, with short notes, on Matt. xxvi: 29. Administered the sacrament. Meeting and church very full. At evening had a full and solemn conference.

<sup>1</sup> We have had abundant illustrations of this fact. There are always many men kept laboriously busy in labors that have no pay attached to them, except what arises from the consciousness of doing useful service.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Nathaniel W. Taylor, of the Yale Divinity School.

<sup>3</sup> It is probable that the difficulty in the meeting of the clergy had reference to Dr. Taylor and his sermon. Already there began to be that opposition to Dr. Taylor and the New Haven theology which resulted in the founding, a few years later, of the

Theological Institute of Connecticut, at East Windsor. The plan of it was formed in 1833, and the corner-stone of the building was laid in May, 1834.

<sup>4</sup> Here was a journey, out and back, of 160 miles or more, an absence of eight days, and his horse (which may or may not have included the sulky) cost him \$5.

<sup>5</sup> It is easy for an outsider to think so. But when men have the burden of a college upon their shoulders, they have sometimes to act with promptness and decision, and then hold firmly to their action.



15. Rode to the Bogs and visited. Wet. Wrote. Have a painful sore on my right thumb. Walked out. Read.

16. Rode early with Dea. Cooke <sup>1</sup> to New Canaan. Attended the meeting of the County Bible Society. The receipts are small. Paid \$1. At evening Mr. Bouton, <sup>2</sup> of New Hampshire, preached very well. Much fatigued.

17. Attended the County Conference of the churches. But little business was done. Mr. Benedict, <sup>3</sup> of Norwalk, preached. Afternoon rode home. My sore is quite painful.

18. At New Canaan received a letter from Rev. Mr. Punderson. <sup>4</sup> Read *Memoirs of the late Pres. Holley*. <sup>5</sup> He was a fine genius, but a poor Christian. Have to poultice my hand constantly. Walked out. Read. The war on the Danube progresses gradually.

19. My hand is painful. Read Holley's *Memoir*. Called on Rev. Mr. Christmas, who is now here in poor health. The weather begins to feel like autumn. Read *Paradise Lost*. Walked out. My prospects are trying.

20. Read the Bible. Wrote a little, though my hand does not gain much. Walked out. Have the constant attention of a physician to my hand.

21. Preached a double sermon on Ezek. xviii: 32. Meeting rather thin. Attended the evening conference. The brethren speak pretty freely. It is a relief to me. Had my hand wholly covered with a handkerchief.

22. Warmer. Walked out. Mr. Kniffen, <sup>6</sup> of Redding, called here and dined: Rode to the Bogs and visited a school, and preached in the evening, without notes, on Matt. ix: 9. Full meeting. Very tired. Received a letter from Leonard Pitkin, of East Hartford, wishing my assistance in military business.

23. Read. We have many accounts of the desolations of the great rains the first week in this month. The Superior Court convened their session here. Was invited by the sheriff to open the court. The judge began business before I got in. But little was done. Wrote for W. Visited. Received a letter from Dea. Obadiah Mead, of North Greenwich.

24. Prayed at the opening of the court in the morning. Attended the trial of three criminals—young, uninstructed, and vicious. Read. Wrote.

25. Spent little time in the court. Saw Prof. Silliman. Walked out. Received a letter of military orders to attend the review of the Second Artillery Regiment at Wethersfield. Received a letter from Dr. Nott, <sup>7</sup> of Sche-

<sup>1</sup> Dea. Joseph P. Cooke, Jr.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Nathaniel Bouton, D. D., pastor of First Church at Concord, from 1825 to his death in 1878, fifty-three years. Was a native of Norwalk, Ct., born in 1799, graduated at Yale, 1831. He was a solid and able minister and scholar.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Henry Benedict.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Thomas Punderson, of Huntington, Ct.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Horace Holley, a native of Salisbury, Ct.; born in 1781, graduated at Yale, 1803. He studied theology with Pres. Dwight, but afterward became a Unitarian

and was, 1809-1818, pastor of Hollis Street Church, Boston. Later he was at the head of a seminary in Louisiana, where he died in 1827. His wife, Mary Austin, wrote his *Memoirs*.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. William C. Kniffen, pastor at Redding, Ct., 1825-1828.

<sup>7</sup> Eliphalet Nott, D. D., LL. D. Born in Ashford, Ct., 1773, died in Schenectady, N. Y., 1866, aged ninety-two; graduated at Brown University, 1795. For more than fifty years he was President of Union College, holding the office longer, probably, than any other college president.

nectady, and one from Dea. Reed, of East Windsor. They are expecting a large addition to the church there. Wrote to Dea. Reed and sent him a copy of their Confession of Faith and Church Covenant.<sup>1</sup> Wrote to Dr. Nott and to Dea. Mead, of Greenwich. We had no evening conference, on account of a shower.

26. Sat a little while in the court. Rode out. Wrote to S. L. Pitkin,<sup>2</sup> of East Hartford. Read. Hindered by company. Cool.

27. No frost appeared this morning, though expected. I have prayed with the court each morning of the session. Wrote a piece for the newspaper. Received a letter from my brother F. L., inclosing one to him from a Mr. Goodrich, of Brunswick, near Troy, wishing me to go there to preach. Received Castalio's<sup>3</sup> Latin Bible from New Haven, a valuable volume.

28. Expounded on Rom. iii: 3 to the end. Preached on 1 Thess. v: 3. Went to the place of the evening meeting, but had none on account of the rain. Walked out.

29. Prayed at the opening of the court. Wrote. Rode to Great Plain and visited a school; in good order.

30. Attended a little time in court. Afternoon rode to Bethel<sup>4</sup> and attended a church meeting, at which I presided, by the desire of Mr. Lowe<sup>5</sup> and the church. Their difficulties are bad. We sat late in the evening.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Rode home. The church could not go on with their business, as I wished. I suspect it will be long. Attended the trial of a man indicted for poisoning three wells. Mr. Z. G. Whitman called here from Boston. Gave him a few pamphlets. Wrote to Maj. Wolcott.

2. Rode with company to attend the annual meeting of the Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society at Newtown. Mr. Yale and Mr. Waterbury were present as delegates from the board.<sup>6</sup> The meeting well attended. I spoke, with others. Mr. Yale came home with me. Attended our evening meeting.

3. After opening the court, rode to Bethel and attended the church meeting till late in the evening. We did not get through with the testimony. Adjourned to the 20th inst. Many spectators attended. There are strong parties. The meeting was orderly. This society has suffered much for the want of a good minister.

<sup>1</sup> This is an illustration, like many that might be found, showing how the churches of that day trusted all matters pertaining to the church to their ministers. It would be regarded at the present day as odd if a church had to send away to their last minister to get a copy of their own Confession and Covenant.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel L. Pitkin.

<sup>3</sup> Sebastian Castalio (or Castellio), 1515-1563, author of a valuable Latin and French version of the Bible.

<sup>4</sup> Bethel, it will be remembered, was then

a parish in the town of Danbury, now a separate town.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. John G. Lowe, pastor at Bethel since 1822, left in the following year (1829), probably because of these difficulties.

<sup>6</sup> Probably Rev. Cyrus Yale, of New Hartford, Ct., and Dr. Jared B. Waterbury, then in the vicinity of New York. They were asked by the board to do this service, for the sake of giving interest to this local meeting. It was a common custom of the board for years to ask corporate and honorary members to attend such local meetings.

4. Rode home. Read. The court finished their session yesterday and sent six criminals to the State Prison. Cool, but we have had no frost. Wrote to G. B. Goodrich, of Brunswick, N. Y. It is a place of which I have not before heard.

5. Preached my two sermons on Ps. cxxx: 3, 4. Wet and rainy. A good congregation for the weather. Had no conference. Mr. Christmas is pretty feeble. My sore thumb is not yet healed. Wrote.

6. Rode early with Col. Gregory, on a journey to Hartford. He carried me in his wagon. Fine weather. Rode to Farmington. Tarried at a tavern.

7. Rode early to Hartford. Saw Maj. Wolcott and others going to the training. Warm and pleasant. Rode to Wethersfield. Attended the review of Col. Olmsted's regiment of artillery. Mr. Wolcott brought my former horse and uniform, and I rode as chaplain. The appearance and performance of the regiment were very good. A great collection of people. At the firing, in the afternoon, I dismounted, and, while standing near the spectators, one of the guard rode over me. I was thrown down with great violence, jarred and bruised, but not greatly injured.<sup>1</sup> It was a merciful preservation of God. Was carried in a carriage to East Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott is quite feeble. Bore the ride better than I expected.

8. My shoulders and neck were washed last night with vinegar and wormwood and I put on a flannel, and am, through rich mercy, pretty comfortable. Made some calls. Mrs. McClure<sup>2</sup> is here. Agreed to buy a small piece of land, thirty rods, adjoining mine, of William Tudor, at the rate of \$80 an acre. Paid him \$10. Afternoon rode to Hartford with Tudor. I think Mr. Brace<sup>3</sup> will be settled at East Hartford. The dissatisfaction with Mr. Whelpley at East Windsor appears to increase. Thirty-four persons were received into the church there last Sabbath.<sup>4</sup> Found at Hartford that Col. Gregory had just started for home. He concluded that I should not be able to go. Quite warm. Found Sheriff Starr and Mr. Seeley, of Danbury, who brought five criminals to the State Prison, just ready to set out for home. A providential favor. I got into their wagon, taken very kindly, and came on to Farmington. Went into a meeting a little time in the evening. Walked home with Mr. Porter. Tarried at a tavern. I am confident that I lost a \$2 bill yesterday at a tavern in Hartford.

9. Rode home. Very warm for the season. Yesterday morning we had our first frost. It was light. We overtook Col. Gregory a little beyond Newtown. Rode with him a few miles; have paid the most of his expenses. Did not feel much inconvenience from my hurt.

<sup>1</sup> This was a more warlike experience than chaplains usually passed through.

<sup>2</sup> This was the second wife of Dr. McClure (Mrs. Betsy Martin, of Providence).

<sup>3</sup> This reference is probably to Rev. Samuel W. Brace, who was connected with the class of 1818 at Andover Seminary, and in 1819 appears as a Presbyterian minister in

the State of New York. He was graduated at Hamilton College, 1815. In 1828 he was dismissed from his church in Utica.

<sup>4</sup> This sentence does not seem to harmonize very well with the previous one, yet both were probably true, as Mr. Whelpley's ministry was short. He was dismissed a year and a half after this.

10. The criminal here that was sentenced to the State Prison for life took opium on Sabbath evening and died Tuesday night.<sup>1</sup> His body was carried to Darien for burial. Read. Walked out. Attended the examination of our academy. A good performance. Wrote.

11. On the 5th received a letter from Pres. Nott.<sup>2</sup> Wrote a sermon on Ps. xix: 12. I have been too long without writing one. Wrote pretty easy. Walked out. Have lately had a hat made for me, the best, I suspect, I have ever had, at the price of \$10.<sup>3</sup> It grows cooler.

12. Preached on Rom. vi: 23, and the sermon written yesterday on Ps. xix: 12, 13. A full meeting. At evening attended a marriage, after which went for a little time into the conference. It was quite full. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Ely, of Simsbury. Quite cool.

13. This morning we had a hard frost. Vegetation has not been much affected before. Walked out. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Ely, of Simsbury. Afternoon set out for the meeting of the Consociation of Fairfield West. Rode to New Canaan. Tarried at Mr. Bonney's.<sup>4</sup> A high southwest wind.

14. Rode to Greenwich. The Consociation met at the house of a Mr. Henry. This is an ancient society very much run down.<sup>5</sup> The Consociation ordained Mr. X. Betts,<sup>6</sup> of Norwalk, as an evangelist. I preached on Ps. cxxii: 3, 4, 5. The meeting-house very poor. The Consociation was employed in the evening on the business of Mr. Dey.<sup>7</sup> They did but little, but sat till after one o'clock. The session was finished. I was assistant scribe. The Consociation adjourned for the trial of Mr. Dey. They are not well agreed.

15. Slept a small part of last night at Mr. Butler's<sup>8</sup>—a sickly man, who preaches here a part of the time. There has been a great work of grace among the small people the present year. Took a bad cold last night. Rode to West Greenwich and visited Dr. Lewis.<sup>9</sup> A very venerable, respectable man. Called at Col. Mead's.<sup>10</sup> Cold and tedious. Rode to Norwalk. Tarried at Mr. Benedict's.

16. Paid Mr. Benedict<sup>11</sup> \$2.38 for the *Church Spectator*, in numbers, for the present year. Brought my things from his house. Made some calls. A very

<sup>1</sup> Yet he would, without much doubt, have regarded it as a far more terrible punishment if he had been sentenced to undergo the death penalty.

<sup>2</sup> Pres. Eliphalet Nott, of Union College.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins always liked his Danbury hats. He paid a good price for them, but they lasted well.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William Bonney.

<sup>5</sup> It was organized in 1670, and was far less prosperous than the Second Church, organized in 1705.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Xenophon Betts, who became a preacher among the Presbyterians. He died in 1872.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Richard V. Dey. This business had been on hand for some time and was not easily finished.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Charles F. Butler, who supplied the pulpit there 1824-1835. He was a graduate of Yale in 1816 and died in 1866.

<sup>9</sup> Isaac Lewis, D. D., pastor of the Second Church, Greenwich, 1786-1818. He died in 1840.

<sup>10</sup> The name Mead was more common in Greenwich than any other.

<sup>11</sup> This was probably Seth Williston Benedict, with whom Dr. Robbins had boarded, and who was afterwards connected with the New York *Evangelist*.

hard frost. Rode home. Visited Mr. Haight<sup>1</sup> at Wilton. At evening attended our conference. The room very cold. Much fatigued and ill with my cold.

17. We had a cold night and severe frost. Walked out. Visited a school. Afternoon walked to Great Plains. Visited, and at evening preached to a good audience, without notes, on Matt. ix: 9. Rode home. My cold is burdensome.

18. Wrote. I believe I have left my valuable penknife at Greenwich. I find little time for myself. Walked out. Visited a young woman in poor health; I fear declining. Dea. Whittlesey and wife, from Salisbury, came here.

19. Preached all day on James i: 23, 24. Quite cool. Meeting pretty full. Had a full conference. Dea. Whittlesey attended with us.

20. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Butler,<sup>2</sup> of Greenwich. Was carried in the morning to Bethel. Attended the church meeting. Continued all day hearing testimony. There is a good deal of bitterness in the parties. I have to take down the testimony.

21. We continued the testimony and finished in the afternoon. Last night wrote quite late. The church appointed a committee to make a summary of the evidence and adjourned. Wrote. Was brought home. Attended a little while at a wadding party. Quite tired.

22. Rode to Stratford. The delegate appointed here did not go. Met with the Consociation. Mr. Leavitt<sup>3</sup> was dismissed to be the general agent of the Seamen's Friend Society, whose center is at New York. A very important institution. The society and church had voted their willingness that the pastoral relation should be dissolved. In the evening rode to Trumbull and tarried.

23. Yesterday and today very pleasant and warm. Rode home. At Bethel called on a young man who yesterday had an eye couched. Rode to Long Ridge and performed a marriage. Attended the evening conference.

24. Wrote. Paid for a sulky, with which I rode to East Windsor Sept. 1, \$2.60.<sup>4</sup> For a horse to Greenwich last week, \$2.31. For the same to Stratford, \$1.62. Have had Mr. Whittlesey's chaise. Warm and windy. Wrote on a report for the committee of the church at Bethel. Walked out. Visited an aged sickly woman. Wrote quite late.

25. Wrote on my Bethel report. Rode down there and met with the committee and nearly finished our report. Returned. This week has been remarkably pleasant; warm and almost without a cloud. Read expositors. Much fatigued.

26. Attended the Sabbath-school as usual. Visited a sick young woman. Expounded on Rom. iv. A very interesting chapter. Preached on Amos iv:

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Sylvanus Haight, pastor at Wilton, 1810-1831.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Charles F. Butler.

<sup>3</sup> Joshua Leavitt, D.D.

<sup>4</sup> This was the journey when he paid \$5 for the horse, and the sulky, as now appears, was a separate bill, but all very cheap for a journey of such length.

12. Dea. Benedict,<sup>1</sup> of Ridgebury, a very valuable man, was buried. Full meeting. Had a solemn conference.

27. Wrote on the committee's report. Rode to Bethel. Met with the committee and in the afternoon attended the church meeting. The church decided, with great unanimity, that most of the charges against Dr. Banks<sup>2</sup> were supported. They agreed to pass light censure, but he would not acquiesce in the decision. The result expressed a gentle reproof of Mr. Lowe,<sup>3</sup> in which he acquiesced. The doctor appears obstinate. We had a long and fatiguing meeting.

28. Visited Mr. Lowe and others, trying to restore harmony among them. Afternoon was carried home. After which walked to the Bogs and visited. We have several sick. In the evening got something lost. Very tired.

29. Rode to Brookfield and visited Mr. Brundage,<sup>4</sup> sick with a light fever. Preached a preparatory lecture there on Luke xxii: 15. Returned. Visited two sick persons, very low. In the morning visited a family where the man had just died.

30. Walked out. Wrote. Have had very little time for study lately. Very pleasant. Afternoon attended a funeral. Attended the evening conference. Quite thin. Wrote to S. B. Goodwin, of Wethersfield. Read.

31. Walked and visited. Preached a preparatory lecture, with notes, on Rom. viii: 14. The old party feeling in this society seems to continue. The Turks appear to be making a great effort in the present war. It looks like the last struggle of Islamism.<sup>5</sup>

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Wrote a piece for the newspaper. Am pretty languid. Hoped to have been able to write a sermon this week. Visited a sick woman. I do but little to what I ought to. Read.

2. Wet and rainy all day. Preached on Heb. xii: 2, and with notes on Zech. xiii: 7. Administered the sacrament. The church pretty well out. Thin meeting.<sup>6</sup> Had no evening meeting. Wrote.

3. Last night it rained quite hard. Rainy and wet through the day. Read Pollock's *Course of Time*.<sup>7</sup> The people have had their town meeting to

<sup>1</sup> In Ridgefield, of which Ridgebury was a part, four men of the name Benedict served as deacons during its history, and the church in Ridgebury also had its Dea. Benedict.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Samuel Banks.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. John G. Lowe.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Abner Brundage, pastor at Brookfield, 1821-1839. He received the degree of A. M. at Yale, 1826, and died in 1877. In the later years of his ministry he was a Presbyterian.

<sup>5</sup> The times of nations and of religious sects are long, and the prophecies respecting them are apt to be premature.

<sup>6</sup> The meaning of these two brief sentences seems to be that, while the members of the church were generally there at the communion, the congregation, as a whole, was small.

<sup>7</sup> Robert Pollok was born in Muirhouse, Eaglesham parish, about eleven miles from Glasgow, Scotland, Oct. 19, 1798. He died Sept. 18, 1827. His *Course of Time* was not published till after his death, and Dr. Robbins was reading it not long after its publication. It had a wide circulation and was popular. Its religious character and his own early death helped to give it currency.

choose electors and vote for the amendment of the State Constitution.<sup>1</sup> Votes for electors: Adams, 181; Jackson, 69.<sup>2</sup> A small vote on the amendment, and a small majority against it. The Turks appear to resist the Russian invasion with unexpected vigor.<sup>3</sup> Our monthly concert was prevented by the wet.

4. Rainy all day, some of the time quite hard. Wrote to my brother Francis, Mr. Marshall, of Hartford, and Gen. Howe, of New Haven. At evening walked out. Got wet. Warm. Read. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Saunders, of South Salem.<sup>4</sup>

5. Expected to have gone to Bethel yesterday, but was not sent for on account of the rain. Read Pollock's *Course of Time*. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper. At evening walked out. Visited a sick man.

6. Finished my newspaper numbers. Walked out. Attended the conference. Visited a sick woman. Read the Bible.

7. Visited at a sick house. Rode to Bethel. Made calls. Afternoon and evening attended a church meeting. It is hard to bring their difficulties to a close. Late and dark, and I tarried there.

8. Rode home in the rain. Wrote on the Bethel minutes. Attended the funeral of a child. Paid for a new hat, lately procured, \$10; more than I ever paid for one before. Paid for a good pair of boots, \$6.50. Received from New Haven a valuable English Atlas. Walked out. Read the Bible.

9. Mr. Baird,<sup>6</sup> a candidate who has friends here, preached in the forenoon. Afternoon preached on John xxi: 15. Full meeting. Had a full conference. Mr. Baird was with me. Gave notice for the commencement of a Bible class. Walked out.

10. Visited sick persons. We had this morning a hard frost. Wrote. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. Attended the Sabbath-school concert. Read.

11. Walked out. Traded considerably. Rode to Redding and attended the ministers' meeting. There appears to be a real work of grace here. Four of the ministers were born in Great Britain.<sup>7</sup> Rode on horseback.

12. In the morning it snowed and the ground was covered. Did not close our meeting till noon. Rode home. Very cold and blustering. Read. The contest in the country for the Presidential election is very ardent.

13. Walked out and made calls. Wrote. At evening commenced a Bible

<sup>1</sup> The proposed amendment related to the rearrangement of the senatorial districts of the State. The amendment prevailed in the State, and the new order went into operation in 1830.

<sup>2</sup> This was the vote in the town of Danbury, but in the country at large Andrew Jackson received 178 electoral votes and John Quincy Adams the other 83.

<sup>3</sup> The Russians in general were victorious in this war of invasion, though they sometimes met with stout resistance and defeat.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Stephen Saunders was a native of

Norwalk, Ct., and was a Presbyterian minister. South Salem was in New York.

<sup>5</sup> The true spelling was Pollok, but the popular way was Pollock.

<sup>6</sup> Not Baird, but Rev. Spencer Field Beard, who was graduated at Amherst 1824, and Andover 1827. He was a native of Brookfield, Mass., and died in Andover, Mass., 1876.

<sup>7</sup> That is, of those present at that ministers' meeting. This was a remarkable circumstance, one of those coincidences not likely to be repeated.

class. Our Thursday evening meeting has been an exposition of the Sabbath-school lesson. The object is now to be changed.

14. Wrote a piece for the newspaper. At evening walked out and visited.

15. Rode very early, in a cold stage, to South Salem, to exchange with Mr. Saunders.<sup>1</sup> He rode in the afternoon to Danbury. Read H. Horne's<sup>2</sup> new valuable work on the Scriptures. Began a letter to my mother.

16. Quite cold. Preached on Ps. cvi: 15 and Amos iv: 12. This is quite a good congregation, with a fine new meeting-house. The evening was wet; prevented a meeting. Read the Bible. Wrote on my letter.

17. Mr. Saunders returned. Walked out and visited. I preached here a few Sabbaths in the year 1800. In the evening rode home. Read. Finished my long letter to my mother. The late elections in New York have gone bad.<sup>3</sup>

18. We have severe frosts. In the morning I was informed by the committee that it was thought not best for me to supply here much longer. It was quite unexpected. It seems to arise from their old party animosities. I concluded to remain two Sabbaths more. Dined with the judges and prayed at the opening of the county court. Wrote. Afternoon rode to Bethel and attended the church meeting. Finished their long proceedings. Dr. Banks was excommunicated. The church are pretty well united. I have been there eight days on this subject.<sup>4</sup> Got home late. Quite cold.

19. It snowed and rained the most of the day. It appears that Gen. Jackson will be President,<sup>5</sup> much to my disappointment. Afternoon rode out and visited a sick woman. Wrote on the records of Bethel church.

20. Spent some time in the court. Wrote to Col. Green,<sup>6</sup> of New London, suggesting several things for his next *Register*. Yesterday afternoon Rev. Mr. Haight called on me. He is much taken up in preparing for Mr. Dey's trial. Spent some time with him. The rain this evening prevents the meeting of our Bible class. Walked out.

21. Sat a little while in court. It appears pretty well. Walked out. Afternoon rode to Beaverbrook<sup>7</sup> and attended a funeral. The people here express much regret at the prospect of my leaving them. Visited.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Stephen Saunders, just before mentioned.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Thomas Hartwell Horne. *Introduction to the Critical Study and Knowledge of the Scriptures*. This work was first published in England in 1818.

<sup>3</sup> They went for Gen. Jackson.

<sup>4</sup> It takes a long time for a church to outlive the effects of such a controversy.

<sup>5</sup> As already stated, Gen. Jackson received 178 of the 261 electoral votes in this, the eleventh Presidential election.

<sup>6</sup> The first printing-press in Connecticut was set up in New London, in 1709. In 1713, Timothy Green, a descendant of Samuel

Green, the early printer at Cambridge, Mass., was invited by the State to come to New London. When the Connecticut *State Register* was first printed in Connecticut, it was done by Thomas Green of this same family, afterwards by Thomas Green & Son, and then for many years by Col. Samuel Green. The *State Register* was in the care of this Green family from 1795 till 1848, when it went to Brown & Parsons, of Hartford. This Col. Samuel was the son in the firm of Thomas & Son.

<sup>7</sup> Another of the local designations within the town of Danbury, which seem to have been numerous.



22. Have prayed and dined with the court each day of their session. They adjourned this forenoon. Read. The war in the East grows something favorable to the Turks. The world are greatly disappointed in their energy. Read expositors. Wrote. Wrote to my mother. Did not send the letter that I wrote a week ago. Sent to my mother \$5.

23. Expounded on Rom. v. Mr. Baird<sup>1</sup> was here again and preached in the afternoon and evening. Attended the Sabbath-school. Quite cold and blustering. This people are in a critical state.

24. Read. Walked out and visited. Visited Mr. Baird. At evening attended our Bible class. It appears well. The ground is much frozen. I hope I rejoice that all my ways are at the divine disposal. I feel anxious about employment. The Lord has ever been good to me.

25. Began a sermon for Thanksgiving on Rev. xi: 15. Kept at Dr. Botsford's.<sup>2</sup> Well accommodated. Wrote above eight pages. Not fatigued.

26. Wrote. Had hindrances. Had a very valuable new surtout made. Finished my sermon begun yesterday. Walked out. Read. Quite pleasant. Wrote late.

27. Thanksgiving. Wet and misty. Thin meeting. People here have not been much accustomed to attend meeting on this anniversary. Preached on Rev. xi: 15. Mr. Whittlesey had a pleasant family circle. Donations, \$2.50.

28. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott, and to Rev. Mr. Haight, of Wilton. Dined at Dr. Botsford's with company. Kept there. Visited. Wet and rainy. Did but little.

29. Wrote a family register for Capt. Rider. Walked out. Received two volumes of my University *History* from home and a letter from S. T. Wolcott.

30. Preached on 2 Kings vii: 3, and Hab. iii: 17, 18. Quite pleasant. The Sabbath-school is now held in the intermission. Attended the evening conference. Full and solemn meetings.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Wrote. Wrote to George Barber, of this place. Employed in making preparations for my removal. My help is in the mighty God. Settled with the society's committee. Received from them \$264. I have been here thirty-eight Sabbaths. They say they have not paid over \$8 per Sabbath. Paid a merchant, \$23; a merchant tailor, \$9.46; a tailor, \$4.25. My new surtout cost a little over \$30. Attended the monthly concert. Received a letter from R. Barnes<sup>3</sup> at New Haven. Made calls. Was up late. Endeavored to commit my case to him who has always been my holy keeper and merciful benefactor.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Spencer F. Beard.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Russell B. Botsford, a graduate of Yale Medical School, 1816.

<sup>3</sup> Romulus Barnes was graduated that year at Yale and was, at the time of writing this letter, studying theology in the New

Haven Seminary, where he was graduated in 1831. He entered upon ministerial service that same year, under the direction of the Home Missionary Society, and died in Newark, Ill., in 1846. He was probably helped in his education from the Everest fund.

2. Rode early with Mr. Whittlesey's son to Fairfield. Cold and windy. Met with the Consociation on the trial of Mr. Dey. We were much embarrassed by objections on preliminaries. No other progress was made. Am kindly entertained at Mr. Osborne's.<sup>1</sup>

3. We had to wait for Mr. Dey. Gave E. Whittlesey \$63. Paid the tavern, \$69. Mr. Dey came, and, finding he could get no more delay, he said he abandoned his defense. He was then solemnly deposed from the ministry. At evening rode in the stage to Stratford. Tarried at Mr. Judson's.<sup>2</sup>

4. Rode out with Mr. Judson. Concluded to preach here on the next Sabbath. Read. Returned by stage to Fairfield. The decision respecting Mr. Dey produces much consternation. Weather moderate and pleasant.

5. Wrote. My circumstances are trying; holy is the Lord. Wrote to Mr. Haight,<sup>3</sup> of Wilton. Made some calls. At evening rode to Saugatuck. Quite pleasant.

6. Wrote to my brother Francis. Had a pleasant visit with Mr. Hooker.<sup>4</sup> Walked out. Read. Towards evening rode to Stratford. Stopped at Bridgeport.

7. Wet and showery. In the morning thin meeting.<sup>5</sup> Preached on Ps. cvi: 15, and Eph. ii: 14. This society appears to be not large, and in arrears in money matters. At evening preached at the conference without notes on Num. x: 29. Well attended.

8. Walked out. This town is very pleasant. Read. Wrote. Read the President's Message.<sup>6</sup> Very well written. A pity that he cannot be rechosen. At evening rode out and visited. Read the Bible.

9. Made some calls. Am kindly treated. Concluded to supply here two Sabbaths more. Wrote to Esq. Sherwood,<sup>7</sup> of Saugatuck, and to Maj. Wolcott, of East Windsor. I believe I took a cold last evening. Walked to the north part of the town. Visited.

10. Very pleasant. In the morning the fog appeared on the river. This is a fine neighborhood lying on the Housatonic. Am quite unwell with my cold. Have a bad ague in my face and am disordered at the bowels. Kept house almost entirely through the day. Kindly accommodated. Have not had so sick a day in a long time.

11. Am a little better. Walked to Esq. Tomlinson's,<sup>8</sup> the father of the Governor.<sup>9</sup> Rainy. My face is somewhat painful. At evening the people collected in a school-house and I preached without notes on Ps. iv: 5. Spoke with difficulty. Made applications for my cold.

<sup>1</sup> Thos. B. Osborne, clerk of the court.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Judson, Esq.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Sylvanus Haight.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Edward W. Hooker, D.D.

<sup>5</sup> It will be remembered that Rev. Joshua Leavitt, D.D., had only a very little time before been dismissed from this church in Stratford.

<sup>6</sup> This was the last Presidential message of John Quincy Adams.

<sup>7</sup> Samuel B. Sherwood, Esq.

<sup>8</sup> Jabez H. Tomlinson. He died in 1849, aged eighty-eight.

<sup>9</sup> Gideon Tomlinson, Governor of Connecticut, 1827-1831. He died in 1854, aged seventy-four.

12. Visited the surviving part of the family of Rev. Mr. Birdseye,<sup>1</sup> who died a few years since at the age of one hundred and three. They have but a few old pamphlets. Paid them for a few, \$1. It is a remarkable family. Walked and was carried to the lower part of the town. Made a number of calls. Am still considerably unwell.

13. Put on my flannel. I have delayed it too long. Wrote. Read. Wrote to Romulus Barnes, of the Theological Institute of Yale College. Walked out. Called on Judge Fairchild,<sup>2</sup> an old acquaintance. At evening attended a small prayer-meeting. There are a number of active good people here.

14. I am still quite hoarse with my cold. Spoke with difficulty. The weather quite moderate and afternoon quite pleasant. Full meetings. In the afternoon, I believe, as large a congregation as I have ever had in this county. Attended the evening conference—very full—and preached without notes on Matt. ix: 9. Much fatigued. Preached on Heb. xii: 14, and Heb. vii: 25.

15. Changed my place of lodging. Have many invitations. A member of the society's committee informed me that he thought it was the wish of the people here to have me return and supply them after I shall have been to East Windsor. Others spoke to me in a similar manner. I hope for divine guidance and teaching. My cold, by divine favor, is better. My jaw is something sore. Visited. Dined with Mr. Linsley,<sup>3</sup> a teacher of youth. Spent the evening with considerable company. Read. We have the important account of the surrender of Varna to the Russians.<sup>4</sup>

16. We have remarkably mild weather for the season. Wrote. Afternoon rode to Fairfield, with company, to attend the ordination. Met with the Consociation. Mr. Hunter<sup>5</sup> appeared very well on examination.

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins would very naturally have a desire to see the family of a man whose life had been so remarkable. He was the son of Joseph and Sarah (Thompson) Birdseye, was born in Stratford, Aug. 19, 1714, was graduated at Yale, 1736, and died in the same town, Jan. 28, 1818, having attained the extraordinary age of one hundred and three years, five months, and nine days. His wife was Dorothy Hawley, of Ridgefield, Ct., who was the mother of twelve children—six sons and six daughters. She died at the age of eighty-eight. At the time of his death there were 206 of his descendants living. He was eighty-two years and six months out of college before his death. The only graduate that we remember in our New England colleges who lived as long after graduation was Edward Augustus Holyoke, LL.D., of Salem, Mass., who was graduated at Harvard in 1746, and died in Salem, March 31, 1829,

eighty-two years and about eight months after graduation. He was the son of Pres. Edward Holyoke, was graduated at the age of eighteen, and was one hundred years and eight months old at his death.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Fairchild, Esq.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. James Harvey Linsley, a graduate of Yale in 1817, was nominally a Baptist minister, but by reason of ill health gave himself to teaching and scientific pursuits. He obtained a good reputation as a writer on scientific topics. He died in Stratford, in 1843. He was a native of Northford, Ct.

<sup>4</sup> Varna was surrendered to the Russians, Oct. 15, 1828.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. John H. Hunter was pastor at Fairfield, as successor to Rev. Nathaniel Hewitt, D.D., from 1828 to 1834. He was afterwards pastor of the First Church in Bridgeport, 1839-1845, and still later was a Presbyterian minister.

17. In the morning the Consociation observed a season of prayer with fasting. The parts of the ordination were performed decently. This large society is much united. Mr. Baldwin,<sup>1</sup> of New York, preached. The Consociation sat in the afternoon on an application from Mr. Dey for a new trial. They did not hear the petition. Very kindly treated at Mr. Osborne's. Made calls. Tired.

18. Returned to Stratford. Quite cold. On Tuesday received a letter from Mr. Butler, of Greenwich, with my valuable penknife, which I feared was lost. Walked out and visited. At evening attended a meeting and preached without notes on Mark i: 50. The people here appear well.

19. A cold winter day. Walked out. Afternoon wrote notes and preached a sacramental lecture on Luke xxii: 19. Well attended. The meeting-house very cold. At evening the committee of the society called on me. Took tea at Judge Johnson's.\*

20. Yesterday baptized two children. Wrote. Walked and visited. There are some quite aged people here. Read the Bible. Was up late.

21. Moderate weather and a favorable day. Preached on Luke xxii: 15, and Ps. l: 5. Administered the sacrament. The church is pretty large. We had a solemn season. Meetings quite full. Preached at a very full evening meeting, without notes, on Isa. xxviii: 17. An interesting day. Quite tired.

22. Cold. Walked and visited all day. Have many invitations. This society has been for some time in a pretty poor state. Preparing for my journey. At evening visited with company.

23. Visited and made short calls. Tired. Individuals manifest much anxiety to have me return. At evening between seven and eight o'clock I took the stage and rode to Hartford. The latter part of the night severe cold. From New Haven to Middletown I was alone in the stage. Very good traveling. Arrived at Hartford about five o'clock in the morning.

24. Left Hartford pretty soon after my arrival and walked to Mr. Wolcott's. The thermometer was at 14°. A good deal of ice in the river. Quite fatigued. Mrs. Wolcott is better than when I was here last. Read. Received a letter from Z. G. Whitman,<sup>3</sup> of Boston.

25. Thermometer 27°. Wrote. Received a letter from my brother, at Enfield. His headache is afflictive. Had company. Did but little. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Elihu Whittlesey Baldwin, D. D., pastor of Seventh Presbyterian Church, New York City, 1820-1835. He was graduated at Yale in 1812, and died in 1840. He was President of Wabash College, Indiana.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Johnson, D. D., a native of Guilford, and a graduate of Yale, 1714, was the earliest Episcopal minister in Connecticut, and was settled in Stratford. He was made the first President of King's, now Columbia, College. His son, William Samuel, LL. D., 1727-1819, was educated at Yale, graduating

in 1744, and became an eminent judge. He, also, was President of Columbia College. Another William S. Johnson, from Stratford, was graduated at Union College, and is perhaps the one here called judge, though it is not unlikely that Dr. Robbins spoke of the place where Judge William S., 1727-1819, had so long lived as Judge Johnson's, notwithstanding he was now dead.

<sup>3</sup> Zechariah G. Whitman, Esq., before noticed, who wrote the *History of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company*.

26. The weather more mild. Rode to Edgar Bissell's. Eveline rode down with me. I weighed one hundred and thirty-six. I never before, I believe, exceeded one hundred and thirty-three. Looked over a year's newspapers.<sup>1</sup> They have been very well taken care of. Wrote.

27. Had company. Employed in my study. Afternoon rode in my sulky to Enfield. Crossed over to Pine Meadow. Very dusty. My brother's health is poor. His chronic complaint, I fear, is increasing. A small Universalist<sup>2</sup> or Unitarian society has lately been formed among his people.

28. Preached for my brother on Ps. cvi: 15, and Heb. vii: 25. This is a large and good congregation. At evening attended one conference and my brother another. Preached without notes on Isa. xxviii: 17. Walked a good deal and pretty tired.

29. Had much conversation with my brother. Conclude to spend next Sabbath with him. Paid his wife \$32.07, and took up a note she has held against me. Rode to Pine Meadow. Little T. R. Haskell<sup>3</sup> is a fine child. Looked at the canal and locks. It is a great work. I think this must be a fine site for manufactures. Rode home. Very good riding. Received a good letter from Esq. Booth, of Stratford, containing a vote of the society directing the committee to employ me, if they could, for ten Sabbaths from Feb. 1st. The letter is very satisfactory. "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his mercies?" On the 26th had a pair of pantaloons made; Mrs. Wolcott gave me the cloth. Took a large bundle of pamphlets from the post office. Read.

30. Wrote and attended to my papers. Paid Mr. Knight \$4 for two years of the Connecticut *Mirror*. Very windy and tedious. Wrote to my mother. The dust flies very much. Walked out. Hindered by company.

31. Rode to Hartford. Find many friends and acquaintances. Did errands. Dined with Mr. Hawes.<sup>4</sup> Cold. Thermometer this morning at 8°. Much ice in the river. East Hartford is ecclesiastically in an unsettled state. Had company. There is a good work of grace at Wapping. The work here appears to have mostly subsided. God be thanked for the great mercies of this year.

<sup>1</sup> They had been gathering at East Windsor since his dismissal, in 1827.

<sup>2</sup> This society was Universalist, but was, we think, of short duration.

<sup>3</sup> Little Thomas Robbins Haskell was now nearly two years old.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Joel Hawes had, by this time, become one of the leading Congregational ministers in Connecticut. His *Lectures to Young Men* had made him widely known. He had been pastor of the First or Center Church nearly eleven years.

1889.

JANUARY.

1. I endeavored during the past night to begin my year with God. I hope in his mercy to see the end of it, and to record his great mercies to his Zion. Looked over newspapers and periodicals. In the forenoon attended meeting. Mr. Whelpley preached a New Year's sermon. He says much of the late revival here. Walked out.

2. Cold and blustering. Attended a sacramental lecture. Mr. Whelpley preached well. Wrote to Esq. Booth,<sup>1</sup> of Stratford. Received of the collector of this society, \$26.30. Paid him \$24.52 for taxes, and \$1.78, a blacksmith's bill. Wrote. We had some snow.

3. The thermometer in the morning was 2° below zero, and did not exceed 6° above through the day, with a clear sun. Towards night rode with Mr. Wolcott to Enfield. The cold is severe. My brother appears to be some better than he has been.

4. The cold continues. Preached on Luke xxii: 15, and Rev. iii: 2, 3. My brother administered the sacrament. No fires in the meeting-house.<sup>2</sup> The exercises were short. The people were well out for the season. Attended a full conference at evening and preached without notes on Matt. ix: 9. The ground is very hard.

5. Read. Wrote. Afternoon set out with my brother on a journey to Norfolk. Rode to East Windsor. The thermometer yesterday morning was at zero, and last evening at 2° below zero. We rode to a tavern on Talcott Mountain and tarried. The weather moderates. Good traveling for the winter season.

6. Rode to Colebrook. Moderate weather and very good going. Made a visit at brother Ammi's. His son is at home. In the evening went to Norfolk. Important improvements have been made on this road. Found brother James and wife and brother and sister Battell at mother's.<sup>3</sup> She appears, I think, better than when I was here last. I have now been absent from her longer (nearly fifteen months) than at any previous period of my life except when on my mission. The divine blessing rests on my friends here.

7. I think I have too much neglected visiting my friends. People here and at Lenox have done much in the way of temperance. Mr. Battell's

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<sup>1</sup> Elijah Booth, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> We do not understand him to mean that no stoves had been put in the church, though he may mean this. Most of the church-buildings in that region had stoves some years before this.

<sup>3</sup> His mother had now entered upon her eighty-fourth year. Her eighty-third birthday had occurred the previous month. She was born in Plymouth, Mass., Dec. 21, 1745, and lived with her husband in the married state fifty-two years.

children are finely educated.<sup>1</sup> Saw Mr. Emerson. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott, written at the desire of the committee of East Hartford, requesting me to supply their pulpit. O that my soul may be more and more devoted to the service of the Lord. Had much conversation with brothers and sister concerning my duty and prospects. Was up late. I think our family grows in seriousness. Gave my mother \$5, as a part of my annual stipend.

8. It rained and snowed the most of the day. The rain freezes. Dined at mother's. The religious state of this town is very good. Mr. Emerson is a very useful minister. Traded, \$2.27. Paid for a large Testament for mother, eighty-three cents. Gave Sally Lawrence \$2. Brother Francis did not set out for home on account of the storm.

9. Rode to Hartford in the stage. The ground is generally covered with snow and ice. My brother started first and I found him at Hartford. He went home. Drank tea at Dr. Strong's<sup>2</sup> with nieces Urania Battell<sup>3</sup> and Elizabeth Olmsted,<sup>4</sup> and a large number of Miss Beecher's<sup>5</sup> school. Walked to East Hartford. They regret my engagements. Engaged to supply there two Sabbaths after the next. It grows cold. The river is closed. Was carried home.<sup>6</sup>

10. Thermometer in the morning, 5°. It was about 10° the most of the day. Walked and visited. Find warm friends. Mr. Whelpley requested me to preach tomorrow. The trees are much loaded with ice. Wrote.

11. Thermometer 4°, and rose to but 14° with a clear sun. Preached on Ps. cvi: 15, and Eph. ii: 14. Full meeting. The occasion was interesting and solemn. There has been a good work of grace here. At evening attended a church prayer-meeting with Mr. Whelpley. Well attended. The church here has done much in the late work. The meeting-house was well warmed.

12. Thermometer at 2°. Wrote. Afternoon visited at Mr. Whelpley's. He appears pretty well. Visited at Edgar Bissell's. The weather moderates.

13. Thermometer in the morning, early, up to freezing. Wrote on my accounts. I owe too much. Received a letter from Esq. Booth, of Stratford. They expect me to return there. Walked out and visited.

14. Rode to East Hartford to make a short stay. I keep at Esq. White's.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The children of Joseph and Sarah (Robbins) Battell, nine in number, were then all born and all living, the youngest, Ellen, being nearly four years old. The two older sons had been graduated, one at Yale and one at Middlebury, and a younger son was to graduate at Yale some years later. The older daughters had been at the best schools at Hartford and New Haven.

<sup>2</sup> Nathan Strong, M. D., son of Nathan Strong, D. D., who was a practicing physician in Hartford.

<sup>3</sup> Third daughter and fifth child of Joseph Battell.

<sup>4</sup> Daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Lawrence) Olmsted.

<sup>5</sup> Miss Catharine Beecher had her well-known school for young ladies at Hartford from 1822-1832.

<sup>6</sup> He cannot help calling Maj. Abiel Wolcott's house his home. Except in his father's house in Norfolk, he never apparently felt so much at home as at East Windsor.

<sup>7</sup> Lemuel White, Esq.

Am well accommodated. Walked out. Wet and something rainy. Read. The ground is deep frozen.

15. It rained hard the most of the day. The ground is almost covered with water. Wrote considerably. At evening attended meeting and preached without notes on Mark i: 40. A good number of hearers. Read.

16. Walked to Hartford and back. Witnessed the magnificent scene of the running of the ice soon after it began to move.<sup>1</sup> It is about eight or ten inches thick and very strong. It has been sufficient for good crossing. The river was entirely full. Warm. Wrote to my brother Samuel. Walked out and visited. Paid for the *Missionary Herald*, \$1.50.

17. Wrote. Rode to East Windsor and back. Bad riding. Visited. Quite muddy. Was kept out too late. People appear to be pleased that I am here.

18. In the morning it snowed. Wet and bad going all day. Rode to meeting in a sleigh. Preached on John iii: 3, and Heb. vii: 25. Thin meeting. Had no evening meeting. Had company. Yesterday paid \$1.50 for a small map of the United States.

19. Read. Occupied with company the most of the day. Wrote. The snow mostly gone. At evening walked out and visited. Have many invitations. This society is in an unsettled state. The committee regret that my time with them must be so short.

20. Rode with the school visitors and visited two schools. They appear pretty well, but are quite numerous.<sup>2</sup> Read. Visited.

21. Wrote. Visited a sick man; very low. Walked and visited. We have some snow, but moderate weather. Afternoon visited the grammar school; in excellent order. At evening rode to the north part of the town and performed a marriage. The riding very bad.

22. Rode to the village at the mills.<sup>3</sup> The paper manufactories are very fine. Cold. Visited. At evening attended a full meeting and preached on Matt. ix: 9. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Ely,<sup>4</sup> of North Mansfield.

23. Walked to the south part of the town. Visited. Visited two schools in one house, containing one hundred scholars. Was called to see a sick woman, who died soon after. At evening attended a meeting and preached without notes on Luke xvi: 13. Full meeting. Tarried out.

24. Cold and blustering. Visited. Read. Afternoon attended the funeral of the woman who died last evening. Was carried to my residence. Rode to East Windsor. Returned in the evening. Considerably fatigued.

25. Cold, but pleasant. The ground pretty hard frozen. Preached on Ps. cvi: 23, and Heb. xii: 14. Had a great congregation. Some people down from East Windsor. At evening had a meeting in the hall and

<sup>1</sup> To stand near the opening of the Hartford Bridge and see the ice tumbling down the river is a sight worth seeing, as the writer can personally testify.

<sup>2</sup> In that age of large families the district schools were apt to be large.

<sup>3</sup> Then called Scotland, but now Burnside.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William Ely, formerly of Vernon, pastor at North Mansfield, 1825-1841. He was a lame man, but remarkably bright and sparkling in his public addresses.



preached a written sermon on 2 Cor. i: 12. Meeting very full. Quite tired. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Tenney,<sup>1</sup> of Wethersfield, in behalf of some printers who wish me to write a history of New England.

26. Walked and visited. Warm. Afternoon attended a funeral. The father of the deceased and two brothers were present, at the age of seventy-eight, eighty, and eighty-six. Rode out and visited. Wrote to Esq. Brooks,<sup>2</sup> of Stratford.

27. Walked a distance and visited a school. Afternoon attended an examination of the grammar school. Read. The war in the East is a terrible conflict. Afternoon and evening quite rainy. Wrote.

28. I have been here two weeks and have been very busy. Was carried to East Windsor. There is considerable snow and it is very tedious. Afternoon rode to Wapping and visited. Very cordially received. At evening preached without notes, at a full meeting, on Isa. xxviii: 17. There is a good work of grace here. Greater, I believe, than has been at any former period. Tarried at Wapping.

29. Visited expeditiously in Wapping and the Street the most of the day. Pretty good sleighing. Settled some accounts. Capt. Bissell<sup>3</sup> has paid at the store and post office the sums I owed Dec. 6, 27, and he has now given me a note of \$26.43, the residue of what he owed me after paying for me today at the post office \$1.81. Shall not at this time get a dollar of the hundreds due me.<sup>4</sup> At evening attended a conference and heard Mr. Whelpley. Well treated. Am quite fatigued. Had a late talk with Dea. Reed.

30. Thermometer this morning at 10°. Conversed with Tudor. Paid him \$27. Mr. Wolcott carried me to Hartford in a sleigh. Afternoon rode in a crowded stage to New Haven. Got in late. The roads very rough. I go to be disposed of as God shall please.

31. Rode early to Stratford. Cold. Much affected with stomach sickness. Kindly received. The Connecticut and Housatonic are frozen. Much fatigued with incessant labor. Read. Wrote. From a Bridgeport newspaper, March 25: "Died at Stonington, in the poor-house, Joseph Cook, aged 102. He came to this country at the age of 28, and was in Braddock's defeat.<sup>5</sup> He served under Gen. Washington during the Revolutionary War."

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Quite cold. Preached on John iii: 3, and Amos iv: 12. The house in the forenoon very cold. People well out. I am kindly welcomed. There have been several deaths here in my absence; one a man of 90. Preached at the evening conference without notes on Ezek. ix: 4. Very full. Quite tired. Have some distance to walk.

2. It snowed steadily all day. Prepared this almanack, which I have

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Caleb J. Tenney, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Abijah Brooks, Esq.

<sup>3</sup> Capt. Aaron Bissell.

<sup>4</sup> There was in that generation more slackness, or a greater want of uprightness in paying

just debts, than now, though this evil is great even yet.

<sup>5</sup> By this reckoning the time of his coming would have been in 1755, at the opening of the French and Indian War.

not been able to do before.<sup>1</sup> Wrote diligently. Arranged my things. The state of this society is not the most favorable. The monthly concert was omitted on account of the storm.

3. Wrote letters to Rev. Mr. Ely, of Mansfield, my brother at Enfield, and S. T. Wolcott. The snow is about six inches deep and it is good going. Wrote. At evening attended and instructed a Bible class. Read.

4. Very cold. I suspect my thermometer<sup>2</sup> descends to zero. Read the most of the day. Visited a sick man. It is good sleighing and well improved. Looked over the church records of this ancient place. They are better than are usually found.

5. Read the Bible. Wrote to the printers in Wethersfield.<sup>3</sup> Pleasant and fine sleighing. Walked out and visited. At evening attended a meeting and preached without notes on John x: 14.

6. Looked over manuscripts. Have conveniences for study. Afternoon rode out in a sleigh and visited. Read.

7. Rode to the north part of the town and visited. The snow thaws considerably. Read Buck's<sup>4</sup> *Theological Dictionary*. Received a letter from Mr. Kingsbury,<sup>5</sup> of Hartford.

8. Rode to meeting in a sleigh, but the going became bad before night. Preached on Acts iv: 12, and 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57. There have been six deaths of grown persons in the town the present year. At evening we had a hard rain. No evening meeting. Read. Have some cold.

9. Walked out and visited sick persons. The snow is mostly gone. Wrote. Read. There has been good sleighing from here to New York. Traded, \$1.70. Wrote to Mr. Strong,<sup>6</sup> of Somers. Visited.

10. Looked over and wrote on the records of the Ministers' Annuity Society. Wrote to Rev. H. Loomis,<sup>7</sup> of Willington. Rode out and visited. At evening instructed the Bible class.

11. Looked over the accounts of the Everest fund. Wrote to my brethren of the committee, Dr. Porter, of Farmington, and Mr. McLean, of Simsbury. Read the Bible. Walked out. We have light snows.

12. Received manuscripts. Read the Bible. Visited. Severe cold. At evening attended a conference and preached without notes on Mark x: 47.

<sup>1</sup> This was generally done about the first of January, but he had been so broken up and wandering during the month that he had not been able to attend to it. He kept his record all the same and transferred it to the interleaved almanac.

<sup>2</sup> He is thinking of his thermometer at East Windsor.

<sup>3</sup> Probably declining to write a history for them.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Charles Buck, of England, 1771-1815, an Independent minister. His dictionary was very valuable and had a great circu-

lation. He wrote, also, a work on *Religious Experience* in one volume, and a work on the *Beauties and Harmonies of Nature* in three volumes.

<sup>5</sup> Andrew Kingsbury, from 1808 to 1818 Connecticut State Treasurer. His plain and quiet home was at 12 Temple Street.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. William L. Strong.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Hubbel Loomis, afterwards President of Shurtleff College, Illinois, a Baptist institution receiving its name from its principal founder, Dr. Benjamin Shurtleff, of Boston.

13. Read. Very cold. I have neglected reading the Bible too much. Walked out and visited. Wrote. At evening attended an astronomical lecture,<sup>1</sup> a short course of which is now giving here.

14. Read the Bible. Wrote. Attended the funeral of an infant child. Very cold and blustering. Had company in the evening. Am very well accommodated.

15. Still cold and hard wind. Preached both parts of the day on Ps. lxxxiv: 2. Afternoon meeting quite full. At evening preached at the conference without notes on Luke xiii: 5. Our Sabbath evening conference is unusually full and solemn.

16. Set out in the morning and rode in a wagon with company to Danbury. Had a comfortable day. The traveling very good. Mr. Lowe, of Bethel, has been lately dismissed. The society in Danbury have given a call to Mr. Rood<sup>2</sup> to settle with them. Took tea at Col. White's.

17. Prayed in the morning at the opening of the court. Dined with the judges. Paid for horse-hire when I left here, \$1.38. Received an excellent letter from Mr. Ely, of Simsbury, on the subject of the Everest fund. Received one from Mr. Strong, of Somers, and one from my kind friend, S. T. Wolcott. Made calls. Had quite a task in putting up my books. The bundle is very heavy. Mr. Whittlesey had the judges and a number of the lawyers here at tea. Was up late.

18. Left Danbury and rode to Stratford. Cold, but the wind favorable for me. Received \$4 at Bethel, in consideration of the assistance afforded the church last fall. Brought all my things from Danbury. Read.

19. On my late journey I was earnestly requested by several people in Bethel to supply them after the present term of my engagement here.

20. It snowed hard all day. Severe cold and tedious. Scarcely went out of the house. Wrote on my preaching account. Read Douglass's<sup>3</sup> historical *Summary*. Wrote.

21. The snow blew with violence through the day. Very few persons abroad. Wrote on my preaching account. It has been long neglected. Read the Bible. I have not been in the street these two days. The cold is severe. Trying to prepare for the holy day.

22. Severe cold. The meeting-house is poorly warmed. Rode to meeting in a sleigh. Very bad going; the snow is almost wholly in heaps. Preached on Heb. xi: 6, and Num. xxxv: 15. Had no evening meeting. The congregation quite thin. Walked out. The stages have been much obstructed by the storm.

23. As cold, I believe, as any day this winter. It scarcely thaws at all in a clear sunshine. Walked out. Received a letter from Dr. Porter, of Farmington. Read.

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<sup>1</sup> This was probably given by Rev. James Harvey Linsley, the teacher before noticed, who was a man of fine scientific attainments.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Anson Rood, who was pastor at Danbury, 1829-1837. He was a graduate of Middlebury College, 1825.

<sup>3</sup> William Douglass, M. D. The title of his able work was, *A Summary, Historical and Political, of the First Planting, Progress in, and Present State of the British Settlements in North America*. Dr. Douglass was a native of Scotland, but came to America in 1716.

24. The weather a little moderated. Wrote to Esq. Ely, of Simsbury. Walked and visited. Called on Mr. Steele,<sup>1</sup> the Episcopal preacher now here. At evening attended the Bible class.

25. Read the Bible. Wrote on my preaching account. This is much in arrear. Walked and visited in the lower part of the town. Afternoon it snowed considerably. Tarried out.

26. Last night we had a hard and violent rain. The ground is covered with snow and water. Very bad going. Visited. Read. It is said there has been good sleighing on the North River<sup>2</sup> from Newburgh to Troy. At evening attended a small meeting. Read the Bible.

27. The ground considerably bare. Walked out and visited. Paid for my wagon last week to Danbury, \$1.25. Wrote. Attended a preparatory lecture and preached with short notes on John xv: 9. Cold. At evening attended the astronomical lecture.

28. Received a letter from Esq. Ely, of Simsbury, and one from Mr. Loomis, of Willington. Wrote a sermon on Matt. v: 16. Hindered by company. We have a very close, cold February. Wrote late. It thaws very little.

#### MARCH.

1. Preached on 1 Peter iv: 11, and the sermon written yesterday on Matt. v: 16. Administered the sacrament.<sup>3</sup> The members of the church generally present. Cold and windy. The audience very attentive. After meeting rode to Oronoke<sup>4</sup> and preached in the evening to a full meeting, without notes, on Acts viii: 5. Quite tired. Tarried out.

2. Was brought home. Wrote. Read McEwen<sup>5</sup> on the *Types*. It thaws considerably. Read Du Pin's<sup>6</sup> *Church History*. At evening attended the monthly concert. This has been much neglected here. Visited a sick family.

3. Rode to Oronoke. A good deal of water on the ground. Afternoon visited a full school, taught by a young lady,<sup>7</sup> in fine order. A good many people present. At evening attended a conference. This is a very good neighborhood.

4. Visited a small school with the visitors. Warm. The snow goes fast and the going is bad. The river not yet broken. At evening attended a meeting and preached without notes on Luke vii: 23. A full meeting, notwithstanding the bad walking. Baptized a child. Quite tired.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Ashbel Steele, settled for a time in Middle Haddam, Ct.

<sup>2</sup> On the ice covering the river.

<sup>3</sup> This church at Stratford, where Dr. Robbins is now preaching, was the fifth church planted in Connecticut; those older, in the order of their age, being the churches at Windsor, Hartford, New Haven, and Milford.

<sup>4</sup> Oronoke was one of the outlying districts of Stratford.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. William McEwen, of Scotland, died 1762. His work was entitled, *Attempt to Explain the most Remarkable of the Types, Figures, and Allegories of the Old Testament*. Edinburgh, 1753.

<sup>6</sup> Louis Ellis Dupin, 1657-1719, an ecclesiastical historian.

<sup>7</sup> In those days the winter town schools were seldom taught by ladies. This was, doubtless, one of the winter schools now drawing to a close.

5. Yesterday we heard considerable firing in honor of Gen. Jackson.<sup>1</sup> Have visited a number of families in this neighborhood. Rode home in the rain. The road very wet and muddy. Wrote to Romulus Barnes,<sup>2</sup> at New Haven. Read. It rained steadily through the day.

6. In the morning it snowed considerably. Cold and tedious. Visited. Looked over a few old pamphlets. Read Du Pin's *Church History*. The Council of Trent<sup>3</sup> appears rather better than I have heretofore supposed.

7. Cold. Walked out and visited. Read President Jackson's inaugural speech. Pretty lean. Read the Bible. Began a sermon for the Tract Society here on Isa. xviii: 27.

8. It thaws some. Preached on Ps. cvi: 23, and 2 Cor. v: 10. People quite attentive. At evening met in the meeting-house and preached without notes on Matt. xv: 25. Full meeting. Afternoon received a letter from my sister and one from S. T. Wolcott. Mrs. Battell writes that our dear mother is quite feeble and apparently declining. The Lord be her God and ours. I think I must visit her. Tudor's letter is very pleasing. Very tired. Walked to meeting.

9. Read the *Tract Magazine*. A pleasant spring day, yet we have a cold air from the great body of snow said to exist at the north. Wrote to my sister Battell and to S. T. Wolcott. Walked out and visited. The surface of the ground is becoming very wet.

10. Wrote the most of the day on my sermon on Isa. xviii: 2-7. At evening attended the Bible class; much fuller than it has been. Visited. Wrote late. The ground thaws.

11. The snow is mostly gone. Rode out and visited a sick woman. Afternoon attended a funeral. Finished my sermon and preached in the evening in behalf of the Tract Society here, composed of Presbyterians and Episcopalians,<sup>4</sup> on Isa. xviii: 2-7. The roads are very muddy. Much fatigued.

12. Read. Rainy and wet the most of the day. Towards night walked out. Visited a sick man. Had company. Had a good meeting in the evening and preached without notes on 2 Cor. iv: 10. Wrote.

13. Rode to Oronoke and, with the visitors, visited a small school. The roads are much improved by the rain. Visited. In the evening the committee of the society asked for my terms for supplying them six months or a year. I told them I could make no such engagement. It seems to have been a measure adopted by the society without reflection.

14. Wrote a communication for the society's committee. Walked out.

<sup>1</sup> The 4th of March, Inauguration Day.

<sup>2</sup> The young man already noticed, then in Yale Theological Seminary.

<sup>3</sup> He had been reading out of Dupin's *History of the Council of Trent* (in the Austrian Tyrol), whose first session was Dec. 13, 1545, and the closing session Dec. 4, 1563.

<sup>4</sup> In those days in Connecticut it was not an uncommon thing to call a Congregational church Presbyterian. The American Tract Society, then fifteen years old, was supported by all the chief religious denominations, and those in Stratford were Congregationalists and Episcopalians.

Called on Mr. Plant,<sup>1</sup> lately from Congress. Received a letter from Mrs. Battell. Mother is a little better. Received a letter from Seth Seelye,<sup>2</sup> of Bethel, wishing me to go there to preach. Wrote to him in reply. Cold and blustering. Read the Bible.

15. Quite cold. Preached all day on Ezek. xviii: 32. Meeting pretty full. Towards night set out on a journey to Norfolk. Mr. Lovejoy sent a stage for me to New Haven.<sup>3</sup> The mail has been carried lately in a wagon. Saw some charity scholars. Tarried with Mr. Mitchell.<sup>4</sup> The roads from Stratford to New Haven are considerably settled.

16. Made a donation from the Everest fund to R. Barnes<sup>5</sup> and S. C. Brace.<sup>6</sup> Made some calls. In the morning there was a little snow, and it snowed moderately all day. Rode in the stage to Litchfield. From Watertown we traveled in a sleigh. Rough and bad traveling. Tarried at Mr. Deming's.<sup>7</sup>

17. Rode to Goshen on wheels and from thence to Norfolk in a sleigh. The drifts in some places are very high and the going is difficult. It snowed a good part of the day. Found my mother comfortable, but quite feeble. She is better than she has been. Walked out. The snow is probably one and one half feet deep on an average.

18. A high wind and the snow flies very much. I do not know that I have seen higher drifts here than there are now. Wrote. Made my mother my winter donation of \$5. In the afternoon visited a school with Mr. Emerson and others. The district school here is divided. At evening received a letter from S. T. Wolcott, giving me the painful information that Dea. and Dr. Reed,<sup>8</sup> of East Windsor, have failed. They owe me considerably. I think I must return that way. Mrs. Battell and her daughter

<sup>1</sup> Hon. David Plant, a native of Stratford and a graduate of Yale, 1804. He had been Speaker of the Connecticut House of Representatives, a member of the State Senate; from 1823 to 1827 Lieut.-Governor, and from 1827 to 1829 was member of Congress. He died in 1851.

<sup>2</sup> Bethel parish, in Danbury, was the native place of Rev. Samuel T. Seelye, D. D., Julius H. Seelye, D. D., and Laurens C. Seelye, D. D. It was also the native place of Laurens P. Hickok, D. D., LL. D. Seth and Abigail (Taylor) Seelye were the parents of the three brothers just named.

<sup>3</sup> This was a part of the great stage line between New York and Boston. It was first started in 1772, with the arrangement for running a stage each way once a fortnight, the journey occupying four days. In 1802 matters had greatly advanced, and a stage was started each day from Boston and one from New York; and the time of the journey through was seventy-four hours, including the night stops. In 1829, Mr. Lovejoy, of

Stratford, seems to have been the local manager on this line; and, as it was the muddy season, they were sending passengers and mail in a lighter open wagon, but out of regard to Dr. Robbins he sent a regular stage that day. Now, several thousand people day by day go over this same route on the New York & New Haven Railroad.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. John Mitchell, at that time editor of the *Christian Spectator*. Born at Chester, Ct., 1794; graduated at Yale, 1821; died at Stratford, Ct., 1870.

<sup>5</sup> This shows our conjecture to have been correct.

<sup>6</sup> Seth C. Brace, son of Rev. Joab Brace, of Newington, who was then in his sophomore year at Yale College; afterwards tutor in the college, and Professor of Mathematics in Delaware College.

<sup>7</sup> Stephen Deming, of Litchfield.

<sup>8</sup> Dea. Abner and Dr. Elijah Fitch Reed. They were brothers and sons of Mr. Ebenezer Reed. They were honest but unfortunate, perhaps unwise managers.

went yesterday to Warren. They are probably prevented from returning today by the deep snow.

19. I hope my good mother may get some better. Left Norfolk pretty early and rode in the stage to Hartford. At Hartford took wheels. Was conveyed by friends to East Windsor. The family well. Saw Dr. Reed. He is pretty gloomy. I fear he is wholly insolvent. Principally by means of his brother. Received of the Phœnix Bank a dividend of \$45. The ground here is mostly covered with snow.

20. Walked out. Spent a good deal of time with the Reeds. I hope I shall get some security for my claims. I cannot get away today, as I hoped. Received \$55 for the rent of my land for two years, gave in interest. Paid \$1, highway tax. Left \$42 with Mr. Wolcott for A. L. Reed,<sup>1</sup> with an order for \$258 on the society, on condition of his getting security for the Everest fund notes.

21. Left East Windsor. Called at East Hartford. Rode in the stage to New Haven. At Hartford received a letter from my sister Battell. Rode to Stratford in the mail wagon. Got here near midnight. Much fatigued. The thermometer has been about 12° several mornings this week.

22. It snowed the most of the forenoon. Meeting quite thin. Preached with short notes on 1 Cor. i: 17, and a written sermon on Matt. vi: 13. At evening preached at the conference without notes on Luke xiii: 7. Bad going. Conference well attended.

23. Read. Wrote a good deal. Wrote to Maj. Wolcott. Yesterday we had sleighs at meeting. Rode out and visited. Quite cold and windy. We have constant cold north winds.

24. Wrote to Mr. Seth Seelye, of Bethel.<sup>2</sup> Read the *Life of Cardinal Wolsey*.<sup>3</sup> A great but corrupt man. Visited. At evening had a full and attentive Bible class. The society had a meeting and voted, with two dissenting votes, to give me a call to settle with them in the ministry.

25. Read in the *Life of William Caxton*.<sup>4</sup> At evening a large committee of the society called on me. They wished me to fix a sum for salary, which I declined. Their views are not liberal. Visited two schools. I hope for divine teaching.

26. Wrote to W. W. Ellsworth, of Hartford. Finished reading the *Life of Caxton*. Visited. Preached at our evening meeting without notes on Matt. xiii: 58. Cold.

27. Quite cold. The little snow that we have goes very slowly, though

<sup>1</sup> Abner Loring Reed, son of Dea. Abner Reed.

<sup>2</sup> In answer to his letter requesting Dr. Robbins to preach at Bethel.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Wolsey, Cardinal, 1471-1530. He was a native of Ipswich, England, of poor parents, but a brilliant student of Mag-

dalen College, Oxford. He was one of the most distinguished men of the times of Henry VIII.

<sup>4</sup> William Caxton, born about 1412, was the first to introduce printing into England from the Low Countries, where he lived for the purposes of trade.

with clear sun. Visited a school; in good order. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Field,<sup>1</sup> of Stockbridge. Walked out and visited.

28. Walked out. It looks a little like spring. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Loomis,<sup>2</sup> of Willington, and one from John Stoughton, etc., a committee of Wapping, wishing me to preach there. Wrote to them in reply. Gave to the Tract Society here, \$1. Visited the poor-house; two aged people have died there today. Read the Bible.

29. Mild and pleasant. The first spring day we have had. Preached on Prov. i: 31, and 1 Thess. v: 3. Full meetings. Attended a funeral at the poor-house. Preached in the evening, without notes, to a very full conference, on John xv: 22. Very tired. Received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Battell, and one from my cousin H. Gilman,<sup>3</sup> of New York. Read the Bible.

30. Wrote to Rev. Mr. McLean, of Simsbury. Walked out. Read. Began a letter to President Adams<sup>4</sup> to request him to write a history of our country. We had a little rain.

31. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Pinneo,<sup>5</sup> of Milford, and wrote to him in reply. Wrote on my letter to President Adams. Spring weather. Walked out. At evening attended the Bible class. Read. The society held an adjourned meeting and voted unanimously, in a full meeting, to give me a call to settle with them, the connection dissoluble at the pleasure of either party. And they voted \$450 salary. I conclude to consider the matter, but I think it cannot be my duty to accept of such terms.

#### APRIL.

1. Copied and finished my long letter to President Adams. Mr. Plant, M. C., wrote an addition to introduce me to the President. Walked and visited. Wrote to my cousin,<sup>6</sup> Mrs. Gilman, of New York. Read Pitkin's *History*.

2. A cold rain through the day. Read Pitkin's *History*. Had no evening meeting. Received a copy of the society votes respecting me. I think it cannot be my duty to accept the call. I pray for divine direction. The church gave me a unanimous call on Tuesday. Yesterday wrote to S. T. Wolcott.

3. Read. Walked out. Visited an aged man apparently near death. Received a letter from Dea. Judson,<sup>7</sup> of Fairfield, and one from my brother

<sup>1</sup> Rev. David Dudley Field, D. D., born in Guilford, Ct., 1781; graduated at Yale, 1802; minister at Haddam, Ct., 1804-1818, and at Stockbridge, Mass., 1819-1837, and again at Haddam, 1837-1851. He was the father of Hon. David Dudley Field, Cyrus W. Field, and Henry M. Field, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Hubbel Loomis.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Benjamin I. Gilman, Marietta, O.

<sup>4</sup> John Quincy Adams, now about to leave the presidency, but destined to a life of activ-

ity, as a public man, for many years to come. Dr. Robbins's plan did not bear fruit.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Bezaleel Pinneo.

<sup>6</sup> His cousin, Chandler Robbins Gilman, son of Benjamin I., of Marietta, O., a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, had established himself in New York as a physician. It may have been his wife to whom he wrote, though probably the wife of Henry Gilman, just before mentioned.

<sup>7</sup> Dea. Daniel Judson.



at Enfield, informing me that the committee of South Wilbraham have applied to him for me to supply them. Afternoon rode to Bridgeport. Bad riding. Saw Mr. Wood.<sup>1</sup> Ecclesiastical matters there are in a bad state.

4. Read the Bible. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Joseph Morris, of Wilbraham. Rode out. Visited. The aged man I visited yesterday died. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott. Paid a tailor seventy-five cents.

5. Preached on John i: 18, and 2 Kings vii: 3. At evening wet and we had no meeting. Read the proclamation for Fast in presence of the Governor's father.<sup>2</sup> Meeting pretty full. Preparing for my journey. Wrote.

6. Walked out. The Electors' Meeting appeared pretty numerous. There is a good deal of drinking here. Prepared for my journey and engaged a passage in the stage. But it went off and left me. Attended the evening concert of prayer. Received \$80 of the society for the ten Sabbaths that I have been here. The committee called on me and I stated my objections to the terms of the call. They appear desirous to have me return. Paid the post office, seventy-one cents. Cold. The river here is high.

7. Read Pitkin's *History*. 'The people appear quite anxious about my leaving them. Attended the funeral of an aged man. He has had his coffin in his house more than twenty years. Have been very kindly accommodated in Esq. Booth's<sup>3</sup> family. Made calls. Left Stratford in the mail stage, and rode to Hartford from five o'clock to one. From New Haven to Hartford, in the night, rode with the mail-driver in an open wagon. Paid the stage, \$3. Slept at the stage-house. The night ride was not very uncomfortable. Some of the way quite muddy.

8. Rose early. Walked to East Hartford and was carried to East Windsor. Conversed a long time in the day and evening with Dr. and Dea. Reed. They do not give me much security for my claims against them. A committee-man from Wapping called on me. Was up late. Much fatigued.

9. Reckoned with Tudor and paid him to balance, \$7.25. Paid for a map, \$1.50. Rainy and wet all day. At evening we had some thunder. Looked over accounts. Read. Wrote to Mr. Battell.

10. Conversed with Dea. Reed respecting my claims. Rode to Hartford. Very muddy. Conversed with W. W. Ellsworth and left notes with him. Settled a long account, since 1823, with Barber & Robinson, for books, binding, etc., \$129.13. Had credit by former payments of \$50. And for *Questions on English History*, which I prepared for them, \$50. Paid them \$29.13. Wrote to Gen. Howe, of New Haven. The river is high. Called at Esq. White's,<sup>4</sup> of East Hartford.

11. Wrote. Have too many unsettled accounts. Wrote to W. W. Ellsworth. Rode to Enfield. Visited at Edgar Bissell's. They have a fine little

<sup>1</sup> Elijah Wood, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> Jabez H. Tomlinson, Esq., before mentioned.

<sup>3</sup> Elijah Booth, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> Lemuel White, Esq., where he boarded a few weeks before.

son.<sup>1</sup> Showery. Muddy. Some places in the roads very bad. My brother is still afflicted with the headache. Mr. Morris,<sup>2</sup> of South Wilbraham, came to my brother's to get me to go there. I cannot engage.

12. Pleasanter weather. Meeting rather thin. Preached on John i: 18, and 1 Thess. v: 3. This congregation is in a very good state. Attended a conference in the evening and preached without notes on John xv: 22. My brother attended another conference. Was up late.

13. Consulted respecting my answer to Stratford. Rode to East Windsor. Quite pleasant. Examined the town records. At evening had a meeting with the society committee and treasurer. They are in difficulty. Was out quite late.

14. Wrote. Had a writ of attachment served on Dr. Reed in behalf of the Everest fund. Fine spring weather. Read. Occupied with company. Vegetation advances, though it is backward.

15. Worked at my library, moving book-cases, etc. The expected change<sup>3</sup> in this family renders this necessary. Took some books and a pair of fine globes of Dea. Reed on my claim. Rode to Hartford. The traveling is pretty good.

16. Yesterday the first warm day we have had. In the morning performed a marriage in the neighborhood. Received a letter from my brother, informing me that the new society in Longmeadow are very desirous to have me go to preach for them. I hope for divine teaching and guidance. Worked at my library. Wrote to J. W. Edwards,<sup>4</sup> Esq., Hartford, and Prof. Goodrich, New Haven. At evening rode to Wapping to preach for a short time. Received pamphlets by the post office.

17. Fast. Had fuller meetings, I think, than I have ever before seen in this place. Preached on Lev. xxiii: 26-31, and Lam. iii: 18-21. A number of people out from the Street. The prospects of this people are encouraging. They have had a good work of grace here. Attended an evening conference and preached without notes on John xv: 22. Much fatigued.

18. Walked and visited all day. The people appear desirous that I would continue with them. The roads are dry. Procured, fortunately, a copy of the first American Bible excepting Elliott's, published in Philadelphia, 1781.<sup>5</sup>

19. Had a large congregation. Preached on John iii: 3, 1 Thess. v: 3. Assisted in organizing the Sabbath-school. Preached in the evening without

<sup>1</sup> Tudor Bissell.

<sup>2</sup> The man with whom he had before corresponded on the same subject.

<sup>3</sup> The expected change was probably the marriage of Samuel Tudor Wolcott, so that two families would need accommodation in the house.

<sup>4</sup> Jonathan Walter Edwards, A. M., a graduate of Yale, 1789, and tutor in the

college. He was one of the descendants of William Edwards, of Hartford. He was, at this time, on the Board of Aldermen in Hartford.

<sup>5</sup> What is called Elliott's is no other than John Eliot's Indian Bible, which has now become scarce. The next American Bible was published by Robert Aikman, a Scotchman, in Philadelphia, 1782.

notes on Matt. xv: 25. Have many invitations to places. The Methodist influence still exists here in a degree, and I fear will be injurious. Osborn's<sup>1</sup> last preaching was very strange.

20. A little showery. Walked and visited. I think there is some prospect of a pretty good church and society here.<sup>2</sup> There are some efforts to procure a division of this town. At evening rode home. Was informed that the society in East Hartford have voted today to have me employed with them for three months. I would bless God for his mercies and implore the teachings of his Spirit. Very tired.

21. Wrote an answer to my call from Stratford, in the negative, and sent it. On account of the terms I think my duty is plain. Wrote to the committee of Wapping and informed them I cannot supply them any more at present. It is on account of the peculiar situation of this society.<sup>3</sup> The committee of East Hartford called here and agreed with me to supply them for three months. Called on Mr. Whelpley. Was out late. Read. The late election in this State has issued favorably.<sup>4</sup>

22. Wrote to Dea. Ebenezer Burt, of Longmeadow,<sup>5</sup> to decline an application to preach in the new society in that town. Wrote. Afternoon rode to Hartford. The water runs over the most of the causeway in the meadow. Saw Mr. Edwards respecting the Everest fund. Did errands. Got home late.

23. Concluded to take some additional articles of Dea. Reed. I have never seen the water but a little higher than now. Almost wholly, I conclude, from snow.<sup>6</sup> Thermometer at 70°. Received of Dea. Reed a note, by him and his son, of \$60, a note against Silas Andrews of \$34.40, and \$6.12 in money, and gave him a receipt of \$100 for the society. Wrote to my brother at Enfield. Received a letter from Prof. Goodrich, of Yale College. The Wapping committee called on me. That people appear much disappointed, but I cannot think I have done wrong.<sup>7</sup>

24. Received from Dea. Reed a pair of globes at \$25, and books at \$10, for which I agreed with him on the 9th inst. Have now taken cabinet and some other articles, with which I am to do as well as I can. Rode to Scantic and visited Mr. Bartlett. Afternoon rode to East Hartford, to reside as long as God shall see fit. The water very high. Read.

25. Walked out. Afternoon attended two funerals, one at the east part of the town. There have been five deaths of grown persons this week. The

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Renselaer Osborn.

<sup>2</sup> There was a church organized there in 1830, which is now known as the Second Congregational Church in South Windsor (still called Wapping), but it has always been a rather small church.

<sup>3</sup> Having been a pastor so long in the old church, it would seem that he was trying to create a division if he settled at Wapping.

<sup>4</sup> That is to say, Gov. Gideon Tomlinson was re-elected.

<sup>5</sup> This was the East Parish in Longmeadow, Mass., which had then just been organized. It dates from 1829.

<sup>6</sup> Snow melting on the slopes of the White and Green Mountains.

<sup>7</sup> Under all the circumstances it would have been wrong, rather than right, for Dr. Robbins to have settled in Wapping. He would, undoubtedly, have drawn a number of families from the old society that were needed there.

water falls a little. Yesterday saw blossoms on the daffas, and had a good cutting of asparagus.

26. Quite cool. The south people<sup>1</sup> have to cross the water in a boat. Preached on Ps. cvi: 15, and 2 Kings vii: 3. Meetings not very full. At evening preached, without notes, at a full conference, on Matt. xv: 25. Conversed with the deacons about some church matters.

27. Read. Visited sick persons and others. Afternoon went over to Hartford with Mr. Wolcott and indorsed a note for him of \$900 at the Phœnix Bank. Called again on Mrs. Newbury. Rode to East Windsor. Sent Mr. Wolcott \$150, and took his note. Received of the society committee, \$255.55, completing what they owed me. Have had interest from the time of my dismissal. Paid the post office, sixty-one cents. Received an excellent letter from President Adams.<sup>2</sup> Received a letter from my brother Francis, which has been to Stratford. In the morning we had a hard frost. The water falls. It has been up an unusual time.

28. Paid Mrs. Wolcott, \$150, including my carpet, which she takes at \$25. Worked some. Rode to East Hartford. Wrote. Paid Esq. White<sup>3</sup> on my board-bill, \$15. Wrote to Capt. Morris, of Wilbraham, in answer to a letter received from him yesterday. I cannot comply with their earnest desire to supply them. Saw, at East Windsor, peach-blossoms. Afternoon walked out. People fish in the meadows. Conversed with church members between whom there are difficulties. Tarried out. Warm.

29. Conversed further concerning the church difficulties. They are bad. Very warm and dusty. Walked to the mills.<sup>4</sup> Am disappointed respecting the establishment of a Bible class there. Read Tasso.

30. Walked out. Read. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture, with short notes, on John xv: 9. Conversed considerably with the church committee. Visited. Wrote to Rev. S. E. Dwight,<sup>5</sup> of New Haven. At the meeting baptized three children.

#### MAY.

1. Walked to Hartford. Settled an old account with Silas Andrews, mostly in 1820. Paid him for books and some binding, \$40. He allowed me for my sermons on the Divinity of Christ in 1820, \$25. And for writing a preface, etc., for Mather's *Magnalia*, in 1821, a copy of the work at \$5 and \$2 in addition. Paid him now, \$10. The town appears very active. The water has much fallen. Visited. Read Tasso.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The people of East Hartford south of the Hockanum River. The back water from the Connecticut River had made the roads impassable.

<sup>2</sup> He did not promise, probably, to write the history of this country, though if he had undertaken it, it would doubtless have been a valuable work.

<sup>3</sup> Lemuel White, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> Paper mills at Scotland, now Burnside.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Sereno Edwards Dwight, D.D.,

from 1817 to 1826 pastor at Park Street Church, Boston; author of the *Life of President Jonathan Edwards*, and editor of his works. Afterwards, 1833-1835, President of Hamilton College, N. Y. He died in Philadelphia, 1850.

<sup>6</sup> Torquato Tasso, one of the great Italian poets, was born at Sorrento, 1544, and died at Sant' Onofrio, near Rome, in 1595. It does not appear what translation Dr. Robbins was reading.

2. Walked and visited. Warm. People are beginning their gardens. Wrote. Read the Bible. Find but little time for study.

3. Wet. Afternoon quite rainy and cold. Preached on 1 Peter i: 11, and Matt. v: 16. Attended the sacrament. This church is large. Meeting rather thin. Had no evening meeting. Walked out.

4. Read newspapers. Wrote. Prayed and dined with a military company. They appear very well. Something showery. Attended in the evening the concert of prayer. Quite thin. Read Tasso.

5. Read. Pleasant. Afternoon walked to Hartford. Saw the entrance of the Governor. The military performance very fine. Saw Judge Fairchild, of Stratford. He says they are much disappointed there at my answer to their call. They are willing to do something more. At evening attended the interesting meeting of the young men's Domestic Missionary Society of Hartford. An interesting meeting. They are doing good. Saw Mr. Emerson, of Norfolk. Got home late.

6. Attended the election. Very pleasant, but warm. The sermon was good; much better than I expected. The military appeared very finely. A great collection of people and a good number of the clergy. Attended in the morning the Connecticut Bible Society, the Ministers' Annuity Society, and the Convention of the Clergy. Afternoon, a meeting took some measures for the promotion of a temperance society. Rode with my brother to Podunk and performed a marriage. Rode to East Windsor. Received a letter from Esq. Brooks,<sup>1</sup> of Stratford, expressing an earnest desire of the people there that I would return there. They would put my salary at \$500, but retain the right of separating at pleasure.<sup>2</sup>

7. Mr. Wolcott paid me \$122 on the note he gave me last week. Conversed with Tudor. He feels unpleasantly. He conveyed me to East Hartford. Read. Most people appear to be at their labor. At evening rode to Podunk again and performed a marriage.

8. Walked to Hartford. Conversed with members of the Assembly. Paid for a half-ream of letter paper, \$1.50. Sent a donation from the Everest fund to the Domestic Missionary Society. Wrote. Read Tasso. At evening walked to Hartford again and conversed with Representatives on the subject of the common schools. The business is laborious. Got home late.

9. Wrote to A. T. Judson,<sup>3</sup> of the House of Representatives. Wrote to D. Brooks,<sup>4</sup> Esq., of Stratford. I cannot yet think it my duty to go there.

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<sup>1</sup> David Brooks, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> This condition of ministerial settlement has now become more common than it was then. It was generally opposed by ministers, as making them seem simply like hired men and detracting from the dignity of the profession. It was favored often by parishes to avoid a conflict, such as often arose in the dismissal of a minister.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Andrew T. Judson, a native of Eastford, Ct., born in 1784. He had only a common school education, but became one of the prominent public men of the State; was a member of Congress, 1835-1839, and was made Circuit United States Judge for the Southern District of New York. He died, 1853.

<sup>4</sup> David Brooks, Esq.

They do not appear to feel right toward the ministry. Wrote to Mr. Booth,<sup>1</sup> of Coventry. Read Tasso.

10. Quite rainy the most of the day. Preached a double sermon on Ezek. xviii: 32. Meetings quite thin. At evening preached in a thin conference, without notes, on John xv: 22. Read the Bible. The ground very wet.

11. Wrote to Elisha Phelps,<sup>2</sup> Esq., Speaker of the House of Representatives. Read Tasso. Wrote for the Clerical Convention to Rev. C. Wilcox,<sup>3</sup> of Greenwich, and Rev. W. Mitchell,<sup>4</sup> of Newtown. Expected to have had a Bible class in the evening, but was prevented by the rain. Visited.

12. Walked to Hartford and was about town the most of the day. Saw my cousin G. Starr and many acquaintances. Consulted about the Society for the Improvement of Schools. Prepared a petition to be presented to the Assembly for the Ministers' Annuity Society. Made my two last annual payments to the same, \$10.30. Paid for the petition, seventy-five cents. Attended the annual meeting of the Society for the Schools. Quite cool. Got home late.

13. Walked to the south part of the town. Visited families. At evening preached in the school-house on John xv: 22. Tarried out. In the morning there was considerable frost.

14. Visited. Some frost this morning. The apple-blossoms appear considerably. Rode home. Attended the funeral of an aged woman. Read. At evening met with the officers of the Sabbath-School Society. After the funeral visited a school.

15. Walked to Hartford in the morning and met with the Committee of the Assembly on Schools. Left with them a petition to be presented to the Assembly on that subject. Warm. The season is very fine. Read. The law for the relief of the Irish Catholics has passed the two Houses of Parliament by great majorities.<sup>5</sup> Saw Mr. Battell at Hartford. Sent to my mother, \$5. Wrote. Hostile movements appear to be beginning in the east of Europe.<sup>6</sup> In the evening had the first meeting of our proposed Bible class. Well attended.

16. Walked to Hartford in the morning, by request, and prayed with the House of Representatives. Showery. Wrote the most of a sermon on Deut. vi: 6, 7. Wrote late. Read. We had a good deal of rain.

17. Finished and preached in the afternoon my sermon on Deut. vi: 6, 7.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Chauncey Booth, a native of East Windsor; a graduate of Yale, 1810; pastor of the First Church in Coventry, 1815-1844. He died in 1851.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Elisha Phelps, born in Simsbury, Ct., 1779; a graduate of Yale, 1800; often in the Connecticut Legislature; six years in Congress, State Comptroller, and Commissioner to Revise the Statutes. He died in Simsbury, 1847.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Chauncey Wilcox, graduate of Yale, 1824; pastor at North Greenwich, 1828 to 1846. He died in 1852.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William Mitchell.

<sup>5</sup> The Roman Catholic Relief Bill, as it was called, passed April 13, 1829.

<sup>6</sup> The war between Russia and Turkey had been quiet during the winter, and no great battle was fought until June, but preparations were going forward.

Preached in the morning on Heb. xi: 6. Very pleasant. Full meeting. At evening attended the annual meeting of the Sabbath-School Society here. We had an annual contribution for the Connecticut Missionary Society and collected about \$33. Read.

18. Visited. Walked and rode to East Windsor. Warm. Mr. Filley<sup>1</sup> has kindly brought a part of my books from Stratford. Made calls.

19. Vegetation appears in its highest beauty. Paid a highway tax of \$2.10. Left \$90 with Mr. Wolcott to be loaned to Abner Morton. Rode home. Quite warm. Visited. Wrote. Married two persons, one belonging to Vernon and one to Berlin. Rode down street and attended a funeral of a woman, a widow of three successive husbands, brothers. Walked out. Walked to Hartford at evening and saw the Committee of the Assembly on Schools. Rainy, and they had no quorum. Got something wet. Much fatigued.

20. Walked early to Hartford and met with the Committee on Schools. I fear they will do but little. Borrowed \$100 of the Phoenix Bank and lent it to J. W. Edwards for the Everest fund. Received seventy-seven cents. Very warm. Received a letter from Esq. Ely, of Simsbury. Wrote. Left off my flannel. Walked to Scotland and attended a meeting in the evening at the school-house, and preached without notes on Matt. xv: 25. Tarried out.

21. Visited. Walked home. Fatigued with labor and the heat. Read Tasso. Gave the Sabbath-School Society here, \$1. Rode with Capt. Stewart to East Windsor. At evening performed a marriage at Mr. King's. Returned late.

22. We have an account of the death of Gov. Jay.<sup>2</sup> I think he will stand next to Washington in our history. Walked to Hartford and prayed with the House of Representatives. Wrote a plan of an act, by desire, for the improvement of common schools. A very growing season. The blossoms of a great blowth are falling. Wrote. Had company. At evening attended my Bible class. It appears well.

23. Something cooler. Hindered by company. Wrote to Mr. Brace, of Newington, and Mr. Bacon, of New Haven, and Mr. Dutton, of Guilford.<sup>3</sup> Walked out and called on Mr. Stebbins,<sup>4</sup> of West Haven, now in town.

24. Received a letter from my brother James. Our good mother is quite feeble, and I fear declining. Mr. Stebbins preached in the forenoon and evening. Preached in the afternoon on 1 Thess. v: 3. Very warm. The Sabbath-school was organized. Wrote to Mr. McEwen, of New London.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Horace Filley, probably. The name Filley was a common one in Windsor, and there were a few of the name in East Windsor. They were descendants of William Filley, who was in Windsor as early as 1642.

<sup>2</sup> Gov. John Jay, of Huguenot descent, an illustrious statesman, died at Bedford, Westchester County, N. Y., May 17, 1829, eighty-

four years of age. As a patriot, a wise legislator, and a diplomatist, his name is clear and shining, though we might not now say, perhaps, that he stands next to Washington.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Joab Brace, D. D., Rev. Leonard Bacon, D. D., and Rev. Aaron Dutton.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Stephen W. Stebbins, pastor at West Haven, 1815-1843.

25. Walked out and visited. Read. Mr. Field,<sup>1</sup> of Stockbridge, called on me, and I rode with him to East Windsor and back in a severe heat and dust. He wants documents for his history of Berkshire. At evening walked out. My thermometer was at 90°.

26. The forenoon quite rainy. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Hart, of Plymouth, Mr. Parsons, of East Haddam, and Mr. Ely, of Mansfield.<sup>2</sup> The Assembly have appointed two good judges.<sup>3</sup> Read. The ground is much refreshed.

27. Walked to Hartford and attended the exhibition of the infant-school. Very interesting. Paid a tailor, \$3. Very warm and sultry. Walked out and visited. Wrote to Rev. David Perry, of Sharon. Much oppressed with the heat.

28. Walked to Hartford and prayed with the House of Representatives. Called on Mr. Linsley. Had some conversation with him. Hear that my good Uncle Starr is some better of his severe illness. The heat very oppressive. Wrote to Rev. Samuel Backus,<sup>4</sup> of Woodstock—making twelve letters that I have written as secretary of the Convention of the Clergy. At evening attended our Bible class. Full and interesting. May God give his blessing.

29. Received a letter from my cousin William Lawrence.<sup>5</sup> Read *Picture of London*.<sup>6</sup> We had several hard showers and one of them was accompanied with powerful hail. It hailed about twenty minutes; the stones quite large, but the wind not violent. Attended a lecture at the north school-house; preached without notes on John xvi: 27. The ground almost covered with water. Visited. Baptized two children.

30. Walked a distance and visited the most of the day. A cool air after an unusual sultry turn. The hail-storm has been severe and destructive at the east of us. Read.

31. Something showery. Preached on John ix: 7, and 2 Cor. v: 10. Afternoon full meeting. Attended a conference in the evening and preached without notes on Matt. vii: 24. Baptized a child.

JUNE.

1. Cool. Went over the river and prayed with the House of Representatives. Looked at the new Episcopal church<sup>7</sup> that is building. It is

<sup>1</sup> Dr. David Dudley Field. He was given to historical writing. His *History of Berkshire*, published in 1829, is an exceedingly good book for ready reference.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William Ely, and Elijah Parsons.

<sup>3</sup> The judges appointed for that year were most noble and excellent men: Hon. Thomas S. Williams, of Hartford, and Hon. Clark Bissell, of Norwalk.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Backus was pastor at East Woodstock, 1815-1830.

<sup>5</sup> William Lawrence, the son of Grove and Elizabeth (Robbins) Lawrence, born June 8, 1801, and adopted by Mr. and Mrs.

Joseph Battell, of Norfolk, when a little child. He was, at the time of writing this letter, twenty-eight years old.

<sup>6</sup> *Picture of London* was a work by John Britton, who wrote the *Beauties of Wiltshire*, and some other works of this general character.

<sup>7</sup> Christ Church on Main Street, Hartford. The corner-stone of this edifice was laid May 13, 1828, and it was consecrated by Bishop Hobart, Dec. 23, 1829. It was 121½ feet long, 76 feet wide. This building, with some changes and additions, still stands in dignity and strength.



magnificent. Paid a shoe-maker, \$2.16. We have many accounts of the devastation of the late hail-storm in crops and glass. Wrote. Attended in the evening the monthly concert. Pretty thin.

2. Set out early and rode to West Hartland, and met with our Association.<sup>1</sup> Glad to do it again. Rode in my sulky. A long way and some of the road very bad. Mr. Crosby<sup>2</sup> preached. About half of the members present. We had a good deal of business.

3. Paid for a book, to Mr. Woodbridge, where I slept, \$1. Wrote a report of the state of religion for General Association. Made a motion, which was adopted, to take measures to form a new association out of this and Litchfield North.<sup>3</sup> My brother went on to Norfolk. Returned through Simsbury. Visited Esq. Ely and received another note from him, not expected, which completes the Everest fund at \$4,101.12. Got home late. Cool and dusty.

4. Quite fatigued. Rode to East Windsor and back with M. Stewart. Assisted Tudor in some of his work. Warm. Wrote. Visited. Attended the Bible class in the evening; attentive and increasing. Received a letter from Esq. Ely, of Simsbury.

5. Rode out with company and visited. The heat oppressive. At evening preached in an out neighborhood, without notes, on John xvi: 27. Very much fatigued. The Assembly rose today, having done but little.

6. Walked to Hartford and did some errands. Last evening, after the meeting, assisted the deacons in examining two young women for the communion of the church. I hope the first fruits of a good ingathering. Wrote on the Everest fund accounts. Read.

7. Preached on John ix: 7, and Eph. ii: 14. The heat quite oppressive. Baptized a child. Propounded two young women to the church. My good friend S. T. Wolcott was published for marriage.<sup>4</sup> At evening had a full conference. Preached without notes on Ps. cxxxvii: 1. Much fatigued.

8. Wrote. Walked out and visited. Rode out and attended the funeral of an infant child. Baptized a child in the same family. At evening attended the Sabbath-school concert. We had a hard shower and the meeting was thin.

9. Rode to Wapping, and Manchester, and East Windsor, trying to purchase a horse. Saw the desolating effects of the late hail-storm. People are plowing in the fields of grain. Cooler. Was out late. Yesterday eat strawberries.

10. Last evening received a letter from B. Ely, Esq., of Simsbury. Quite cool. Read. The manufacturing interests in England are much depressed. Wrote. Saw my brother's wife. Visited. Walked to Hartford. Paid for a bedstead, \$9.25. For two mattresses, \$9. Stockings, \$2.75. Had green peas.

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<sup>1</sup> Hartford North Association.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Stephen Crosby, pastor at East Granby (Turkey Hills), 1826-1832.

<sup>3</sup> Though the motion was passed, the new

association contemplated seems not to have been formed.

<sup>4</sup> This confirms the supposition made a little way back.

11. Wrote to Mrs. Porter, Augusta, N. Y. Visited. Had a new coat made; a very good one. Attended to the repairing of my sulky. At evening married my near friend, Samuel Tudor Wolcott, to Maria Stewart,<sup>1</sup> of this town. I bless God for this connection. We had a splendid and very pleasant wedding. June 11th, 1808, I went to live in Mr. Wolcott's family. Tudor gave me two sovereigns, the first I have seen, which cost \$10.<sup>2</sup>

12. Walked and visited. Paid thirty-eight cents for recording marriage certificates. Yesterday made a donation, \$1. Some bad difficulties exist here in the church. Read. Wrote to my brother. Wrote on a report of the Everest Fund Committee for General Association. Attended the Bible class. Quite serious.

13. Finished my report. Very fine summer weather. Paid a tax of \$1.83 to an East Windsor collector. Rode to the mills<sup>3</sup> and agreed with the proprietors of the Methodist meeting-house there to hold a weekly Bible class in it. They appear cordial. A merciful God seems to favor this object.

14. Preached both parts of the day on John ix: 7, and finished my long discourse on the means of grace. It has appeared interesting. May God give his blessing. At evening rode to the south school-house and preached without notes on Acts viii: 5. A storm was rising and the meeting was short. Soon after I got home it rained powerfully. The thunder and lightning were near and very hard. This evening the horse which I lately bought at East Windsor was sent down.

15. Set out on a journey to Stratford. The shower last night was heavy. At Hartford had a conversation with Mr. Hawes. Paid for a whip, \$1.50. Rode to New Haven. Fine traveling. Towards night we had a shower and concluded to go no further. Called on Dr. Taylor.<sup>4</sup> Looked at the new State House<sup>5</sup> in building.

16. Rode early to Stratford. Put up such clothes and books as I can carry. There has been no preaching here since I left them. The people appear disappointed very much that I declined their call. I cannot think I did wrong. Saw a few people. Rode to New Haven. Called at Mr. Stebbins's,<sup>6</sup> at West Haven, and saw Miss Pitkin, of East Hartford. Paid Gen. Howe, \$11.25, for books. Rode in the evening to Wallingford and tarried at a tavern.

17. Rode early to the center of the town and attended the morning prayer-meeting. Attended the session of the General Association. My brother is a member. The report of the Everest Fund Committee was well received. Mr. Tenney<sup>7</sup> preached well for the Domestic Missionary Society. Contrib-

<sup>1</sup> Maria Stewart, the bride, was the daughter of Capt. Allen Stewart, of East Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> The real value of the English sovereign was \$4.84, but something was paid for exchange, and in round numbers a sovereign was \$5.

<sup>3</sup> Scotland, where the paper mills were.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Nathaniel W. Taylor, of the Yale Seminary.

<sup>5</sup> The one now standing on the Common, though no longer used as a State House.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Stephen W. Stebbins.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Caleb J. Tenney, D. D., of Wethersfield.

uted \$1 for that object. Was appointed on a committee and made a report. Afternoon rode home. Something dusty. My horse has performed well. Quite fatigued. The late hail-storm did much damage in Meriden and vicinity.

18. Put up my things. Read. Visited a child very sick. Afternoon rode to the mills and commenced a Bible class. Had a good number for the first. By mistake it was held before evening. Yesterday the committee of supply here met and agreed to employ another preacher after my term has expired. The committee now find they were under some mistake, and that the people disapprove of the measure.

19. The committee concluded to recall their step and not to apply to the man they had in view. Rode to East Windsor. Paid Mr. Porter \$65 for my horse. Visited. Much hindered by company. Mr. Ludlow,<sup>1</sup> of New York, and Mr. Gillet,<sup>2</sup> formerly of Gilead, called on me. Yesterday Mr. Strong,<sup>3</sup> of Somers, called on me, and I wrote some votes for his church to pass, as he is about to be dismissed. Saw my brother returning from General Association. A Mr. Pease, of Somers, called on me with an application to preach there after I have done here. I could not, at present, engage. Attended in the evening our Bible class. Held late.

20. Walked out and visited. I pray for divine direction with regard to my Somers application. Read. Wrote. Paid for the use of a horse several times, \$3.50. For four bushels of oats, \$2. Wrote on a paper for General Association. Read the Bible. In the evening we had a pretty hard shower.

21. Cool. Preached on Prov. i: 31, and Num. xxxv: 15. At the evening meeting preached without notes on Ps. lvi: 11. The Sabbath-school is much increased. Meetings quite full. Proposed to the people to observe, in a suitable manner, the anniversary of Independence. Propounded a young woman to the church.

22. Paid for an ancient piece of gold for my cabinet, \$5.50. Rode to Hartford and saw Mrs. Whittlesey,<sup>4</sup> of Danbury. Mr. Bulkley<sup>5</sup> gave me an ancient trammel<sup>6</sup> from the Wyllys family, brought to this country by George Wyllys<sup>7</sup> in 1638. It belonged to his mother, a daughter of Mr. Smith, of Stratford-upon-Avon.<sup>8</sup> Mr. Bulkley has greatly improved the ancient Wyllys residence. Gave Miss Whittlesey for the Sabbath-school library in Danbury, \$1. Wrote. Purchased a few old books. Visited. At evening rode to East Windsor and returned.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Henry G. Ludlow.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Nathan Gillet.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William L. Strong, often mentioned, who had been pastor at Somers since 1805.

<sup>4</sup> Of the family where he made his home when in Danbury.

<sup>5</sup> Stephen Bulkley.

<sup>6</sup> The word trammel has a variety of meanings, but here it probably refers to the

books by which kettles were hung over the fire. The gift was, in itself, rude, but its value was in its antiquity and its historical associations.

<sup>7</sup> George Wyllys, the founder of the Wyllys family in Connecticut, and one of the chief men of the infant colony. The "Wyllys papers" are of much historical value.

<sup>8</sup> Shakespeare himself might have seen this ancient relic.

23. Read *Life of Legh Richmond*.<sup>1</sup> A valuable piece of biography. Spent a part of the day at Capt. Stewart's. Tudor is about taking home his new wife. Visited two sick children. Wet. Gave Dr. Skinner, of New Haven,<sup>2</sup> \$5. He is soliciting donations for the erection of a hospital in that town.

24. Went in the morning to Capt. Stewart's. Tudor and Maria and her mother went to East Windsor. I pray that they may be a family for the praise of God. Visited families. Wrote. At evening preached at the north brick school-house, without notes, on Acts viii: 5. Full meeting.

25. Visited the sick. Read Richmond's *Life*. Quite cool. Visited the grammar school. It appears well. Rode to the mills, visited, and attended in the evening the Bible class there. It appears well. Was out late.

26. Have received this week a letter from Rev. Mr. Hart,<sup>3</sup> of Plymouth. Rode to Hartford and saw a young woman who wishes to unite with this church. Visited sick persons. Read Richmond's *Life*. A committee of the people here requested me to deliver an address on the 4th of July. Wrote. At evening attended the Bible class. Such a number that I cannot go round.

27. Walked and visited. People are haying. Read. Visited sick children. At evening received a letter from my sister Battell with the painful intelligence that my brother Samuel is very sick. She wishes me to go there. The Lord be our helper. Read the Bible.

28. The forenoon very rainy. A most grateful supply to the dry ground. Thin meeting. Afternoon pleasant and a good congregation. Preached all day on Acts xiii: 2. Propounded a young woman to the church. Wrote. Towards night showery; visited sick persons. In the evening went to Hartford. Tarried at the stage-house.

29. Rode about two o'clock in the morning in the stage, and got to Norfolk about nine. Considerably unwell. Mrs. Battell and Joseph went on in the stage for Camillus,<sup>4</sup> expecting to find brother Samuel very low, if living. She wished me to go, but I cannot at present. In the afternoon a passenger in the stage informed us that he came through Camillus, and brother Samuel was a little better, and they were encouraged. Mother is quite comfortable. Cousin Philip Battell has come home from New Haven, having just taken the attorney's oath. Urania is apparently recovering from a long and severe illness. Quite cool.

30. Visited Mr. Emerson. A little before I left Norfolk brother James came there prepared, if necessary, to go on to Camillus. Soon after sister Battell returned in the stage from Albany. She there met a letter informing her that brother Samuel is hopefully beginning to recover. It becomes us to praise the Lord and live ever to his service. James concludes not to go on. Returned home. Got home late. There has been a hard rain here this

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Legh Richmond, 1772-1827, best known as the author of the *Dairyman's Daughter*, a religious story which was immensely popular.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Aaron N. Skinner.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Luther Hart, pastor at Plymouth, Ct., 1810-1834.

<sup>4</sup> It was not far from 150 miles from Norfolk, Ct., to Camillus, Onondaga County, N. Y. It shows a great kindred respect that members of the family should at once undertake a journey of this length. Families differ greatly in the love and honor shown among their members one toward another.

afternoon and evening, though I saw little on my way. Have had a journey of great mercies.

JULY.

1. Wet and cool. Rode to Hartford and met Mr. Ely,<sup>1</sup> and gave a deed for the Everest fund. Received a letter from brother F. Began to write an address to be delivered on the 4th instant.<sup>2</sup> The ground is very wet. S. T. Wolcott called to see me.

2. Wrote to brother F. Wrote on my address what time I could get. Preached a preparatory lecture with short notes on Rom. viii: 35. Attended my Bible class at the mills.<sup>3</sup> Wet and showery.

3. Wrote on my address and finished it late at night. At evening attended my Bible class. Wet, cloudy, and cold. My address is long.

4. Wet and cold. People have hay out that was mowed last Saturday. Delivered my address to the Sabbath-school and for the Colonization Society. The school well out. Not many others. Our collection for the Colonization Society was deferred. Afternoon went to Hartford and heard addresses from Mr. Linsley<sup>4</sup> and Mr. Gallaudet,<sup>5</sup> in behalf of the Colonization Society.<sup>6</sup> Rainy. The Jacksonians are very violent. Much fatigued.

5. Wet and dark. Preached with short notes on John i: 11, and on Ex. xxxii: 26. Received four young women into the church. There had been no addition for two years. Administered the sacrament. Church rather thin. Baptized four young communicants and a child. Had no evening meeting. A Mr. Gorham and his sister, from Stratford, were at meeting in the morning.

6. Pleasant. Read. Much affected with a stiff neck. Afternoon rode to Hartford. Visited a Mrs. Hale, from Stratford. Attended the monthly concert in the evening. A Mr. Tyler,<sup>7</sup> of Griswold, an unsettled minister, came here and tarried.

7. Warm. People are getting hay that has been out a week. Am quite feeble. Society matters here are not in a good state. Mr. Ely, of Simsbury, came here and paid me some money for the Everest fund. Wrote by Mr. Tyler to J. Stoughton,<sup>8</sup> of Wapping. Visited. At evening rode to East Windsor. Am unable to get green peas to send to my mother.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Benjamin Ely, Esq., of Simsbury.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robbins is now in East Hartford, but wherever he happens to be preaching he is likely to be called upon for a Fourth of July address.

<sup>3</sup> The mills already spoken of, about two miles east of East Hartford Street, at what is now called Burnside.

<sup>4</sup> Joel H. Linsley, D.D., of the South Church, Hartford.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Thomas H. Gallaudet, of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum.

<sup>6</sup> The Colonization Society was then very popular.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Joseph Punderson Tyler, a native

of Griswold, Ct.; a graduate of Brown University, 1823, and of Andover Theological Seminary, 1826. He preached at various places in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire, and died in 1844.

<sup>8</sup> John Stoughton. The letter to him was probably one introducing Rev. Mr. Tyler, thinking the Wapping people might like to hire him to preach for them.

<sup>9</sup> The gardens were earlier in the Connecticut Valley than on the Norfolk hills, and Dr. Robbins was trying to find some green peas to send to his aged mother, but his search proved vain.

8. Rode out. Am disappointed of selling my grass. It is very plenty. The crop in the meadow is great. Looked at my library.<sup>1</sup> Considerably unwell. Afternoon returned to East Hartford. At evening attended a numerous meeting, which took measures for the formation of a temperance society. On the 6th received of the State Treasurer \$6, for my late services for the House of Representatives; and paid fifty cents for a copy of a *Resolve of the Assembly* for the Ministers' Annuity Society.

9. Fine weather. Wrote. Went to Hartford and renewed a note at the bank. Paid a merchant, \$8.94. Wrote papers for the Temperance Society. Read the Bible. Walked out. Attended the funeral of a child. At evening attended my Bible class at the mills.

10. Had a long conversation with a committee-man here. The committee have managed very improperly. Rode out and visited. People are getting in hay very fast. Eat new potatoes and cucumbers. Attended at evening the Bible class. A committee-man from Somers requested me to go there for a supply when I leave here.

11. Walked out. Read the Bible. Wrote to Charles Gorham,<sup>2</sup> of Stratford. Preached at the house of a sick woman, without notes, on John x: 10. It has been a very fine week for business.

12. Quite warm. Rode to meeting. Preached on Matt. vi: 13, and John vii: 37. Full meeting. Had a contribution for the Colonization Society and collected \$20.71. A shower prevented our evening meeting. Walked out.

13. Rode to Hartford. Paid in our yesterday's contribution. People are beginning their harvest. Read. We are anxious for intelligence from the East. Wrote to my sister Battell. Walked out. At evening attended the Sabbath-school concert. Wrote to Mr. Sprague,<sup>3</sup> of West Springfield.

14. Rode out and visited. People here are disappointed by the prospect of my leaving them. Received a letter from the committee of Somers requesting me to be there the first of August. Wrote to brother Francis. Walked out. Quite warm.

15. Walked out. Examined collections of old papers in two garrets. The heat very severe. Read. The harvest is very good. Very little spirit is drank by laborers.<sup>4</sup> Visited.

16. Received a good letter from brother and sister Battell. Brother Samuel, through great mercy, is hopefully recovering. Looked at the books of old Dr. Williams,<sup>5</sup> of this town. Wrote. Rode to the east part of the town,

<sup>1</sup> His ride took him to East Windsor, where his choice library was yet stored.

<sup>2</sup> This was the Mr. Gorham, doubtless, who, with his sister, was present in the congregation at East Hartford a week before. The Stratford people were planning to give Dr. Robbins a call.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. William B. Sprague.

<sup>4</sup> The temperance reformation was now well under way. In years before men thought

that strong drink was absolutely necessary for men during haying and harvesting.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Eliphalet Williams, pastor at East Hartford, 1748-1803, son of Dr. Solomon Williams, pastor at Lebanon, Ct., 1722-1776, grandson of Rev. William Williams, pastor at Hatfield, Mass., 1685-1741. A son of Dr. Eliphalet, of East Hartford, was Solomon, pastor at Northampton, Mass., 1778-1831. It would be hard to match this fact.

visited, and baptized a sickly infant. Attended the Bible class. Got home late.

17. A very fine season for harvesting. The heat is a little abated. Rode to Hartford. Paid a merchant tailor, \$38.25. Too much. For the *Spectator*<sup>1</sup> for 1827, \$3. For the *Observer*<sup>2</sup> for last year, \$1.50. Visited. At evening had a full Bible class. Got home late.

18. Cooler. Walked and visited. Paid for repairing my sulky, etc., \$6. Wrote. Read the Bible.

19. Preached on Ps. cxxx: 3, and Ps. cxxx: 4. In the morning wet. Afterwards quite warm. After meeting rode to the east part of the town and attended the funeral of the aged Mr. Spencer.<sup>3</sup> Rode to the south district and attended our evening meeting; preached without notes on 2 Peter iii: 9. Much fatigued. Tarried out.

20. Visited. People express much regret at the prospect of my leaving here. Very warm. People generally at their harvest. Rode to Long Hill.<sup>4</sup> Visited. At evening had a meeting and preached without notes on Matt. xv: 27. Tarried out.

21. Visited a number of families. Rode to East Windsor and home. Quite dusty. The harvest, excepting the ravages of the hail, very good; no rust; the wheat good. Read. At evening walked out.

22. Wrote. Mr. Torrey,<sup>5</sup> of Ashford, called on me, soliciting donations for the erection of a meeting-house. Gave him \$2. Very warm. Afternoon rode to Hartford and attended a public Bible meeting. Drs. Milnor<sup>6</sup> and McAuley,<sup>7</sup> of New York, delivered very good addresses. I moved a vote of thanks and said a little. At evening attended a meeting of the Temperance Society here, and was requested to preach on the subject next Sabbath. Received a letter from Mr. Sprague, of West Springfield.

23. Warm and languid. Rode to East Windsor; carried some of my books.<sup>8</sup> Visited. Wrote. Read. Wet. At evening had a very good Bible class at the mills. Was out late. It is painful to leave the people here, with their anxiety for my continuance.

24. Rode to Hartford to procure some documents respecting temperance. Paid a merchant tailor, \$4. Sent Mr. Crosby,<sup>9</sup> of Turkey Hills, some books and pamphlets. Mr. Hyde, of Bolton,<sup>10</sup> called on me. Saw in a New York

<sup>1</sup> *Christian Spectator*, New Haven.

<sup>2</sup> *Connecticut Observer*, Hartford, published by P. B. Gleason.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Solomon Spencer.

<sup>4</sup> In the southeast part of East Windsor.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Reuben Torrey, pastor, 1820-1840, in the Eastford parish, Ashford. Mr. Torrey was graduated at Brown University in 1816.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. James Milnor, at first a practicing lawyer, but from 1816 to his death, in 1845, was rector of St. George's Church, New York.

<sup>7</sup> Thomas McAuley, D. D., LL. D., from

1822 to 1829 pastor of Rutgers Street Presbyterian Church, New York; afterward of the Murray Street Church.

<sup>8</sup> He carried back some books which he had taken from his library for his use in East Hartford. He is getting ready to remove.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. Stephen Crosby, pastor at East Granby (Turkey Hills), 1826-1832.

<sup>10</sup> Rev. Lavius Hyde, pastor at Bolton from 1823 to his death, 1830. He had been previously settled at Salisbury, Ct., and Ellington, Ct.

paper the account of the death of my good Uncle Starr.<sup>1</sup> He was nearly eighty-five. Visited. A worthy woman in this neighborhood has hopefully got religion in a few days. At evening had a full and solemn Bible class.

25. Wrote a supplement to my sermon on intemperance. Afternoon had a small meeting at the head of the street; preached without notes on Matt. xi: 30, and baptized a child. Saw a young joiner that had fallen from a building; badly hurt.

26. Very pleasant. Preached in the morning on Acts iv: 12; afternoon on the subject of intemperance, on Prov. xxiii: 29, 30. At evening preached without notes on Ex. xvii: 11. All the meetings unusually full. Many people appear to be quite tender. I think my labors here have not been without a divine blessing. Quite tired.

27. Had company. Rode to East Windsor and carried a number of things.<sup>2</sup> Quite dry and dusty. Paid for five volumes to Miss Sophia Pitkin, \$2.50. She gave me one quite ancient. Made calls. At evening rode out and visited. Quite warm.

28. Rode over the river. Paid Miss Abigail Williams<sup>3</sup> twenty-five cents for one small volume, and she gave me four others. People here say a good deal about my returning to them. I pray for the guidance and keeping of my father's God. Visited. At evening had a private conversation with three of the church members. Out late.

29. Warm and sultry. Made calls. Paid Esq. White towards my board, \$10. Paid Mr. Phelps for horse-keeping, \$8. Donations, sixty-three cents. Left East Hartford, where I have been laborious for fourteen weeks, to be disposed of as God shall see fit. Rode to East Windsor. Left a part of my things. Mr. Wolcott's two daughters, with each a little son, are here.<sup>4</sup> Had some tailor-work done.

30. Attended to my things. Wet and showery. Walked out and made some calls. Hot and sultry. At evening attended a meeting, by desire of Mr. Whelpley,<sup>5</sup> and preached without notes on Matt. xi: 30.

31. Wet in the morning. Bad weather for hay and things that are out. Rode to Pine Meadow. Had a pleasant visit at Mr. Haskell's. Quite sultry. There was a violent shower here yesterday. Looked at the new canal.<sup>6</sup> At evening rode to Enfield. My brother in better health than usual.

#### AUGUST.

1. Rode to Somers. A pretty lonely road. Showery. There is a good

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Peter Starr, whose name has so often appeared in this diary, was settled in Warren, 1772-1829, fifty-seven years. For four years previous to his death, Rev. Hart Talcott had been his colleague.

<sup>2</sup> He regards East Windsor as his home.

<sup>3</sup> Daughter of Dr. Eliphalet Williams.

<sup>4</sup> Mrs. Harris Haskell, from Pine Meadow, Windsor, and Mrs. Edgar Bissell. Mrs. Has-

kell's son is Thomas Robbins Haskell, now two years and a half old, and the other is little Tudor Bissell, still younger.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Samuel Whelpley, Dr. Robbins's successor at East Windsor.

<sup>6</sup> The canal around Enfield Falls, which was many years used for navigation, now supplies the water-power for the mills at Windsor Locks.



deal of hay and grain out. I am quite a stranger here.<sup>1</sup> Read Camoens's *Lusiad*.<sup>2</sup> Am to board with Mrs. Pease.<sup>3</sup> Am quite weary.

2. A pleasant day. Preached on Ps. cvi: 15, and Acts iv: 12. This is a good congregation.<sup>4</sup> The Sabbath-school is quite large. Had a third meeting at a school-house before evening, and preached without notes on Matt. xi: 30. Read the Bible. Mr. A. Gaylord,<sup>5</sup> of Norfolk, is here. Baptized a child.

3. Read Josephus. Wrote. Warm and languid. Wrote a communication for the Connecticut *Courant*. At evening attended the monthly concert. Had assistance. Thinly attended.

4. Wet and rainy through the day. Some of the time quite hard. Read Josephus and Camoens. Wrote. The war in the East begins to grow active and raging.<sup>6</sup> An unfavorable time for getting in crops.

5. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. Rode out and visited. Made calls. Visited the aged Mrs. Backus.<sup>7</sup> There appear to be a good number of good people here. Read Josephus. Warm and sultry.

6. Read Camoens. Wrote to W. W. Ellsworth. Walked out. The heat very oppressive. Read Josephus. His narrative is very feeble in comparison with the Mosaic history.

7. Read the Bible. Read in Marsh's *Ecclesiastical History*.<sup>8</sup> Afternoon attended a stated weekly prayer-meeting. The heat is enervating and severe. Am quite languid.

8. Wrote on my preaching and pecuniary accounts. These have been too much neglected. Mr. Calhoun,<sup>9</sup> of Coventry, called on me to address this people tomorrow in behalf of the Bible Society. Wrote. The heat seems not to abate.

9. Preached on Heb. vii: 25. Afternoon Mr. Calhoun preached in behalf of the American Bible Society, to aid them in the great object of supplying the whole United States with the Bible. We had a meeting in the evening principally occupied in the Bible business. About \$80<sup>10</sup> were subscribed, and the papers directed to be circulated. Heat much the same.

10. Spent some time with Mr. Calhoun. Gave for the Sabbath-school

<sup>1</sup> He had often been to Somers during his twenty years' ministry at East Windsor, but he had not become personally acquainted with the people.

<sup>2</sup> The *Lusiad*, by Luis de Camoens, is the epic poem of Portugal. The classical name of the Portuguese is *Lusitanians*. Hence the title of the poem.

<sup>3</sup> The name Pease was and is common in Somers.

<sup>4</sup> This was the congregation to which the famous Dr. Charles Backus ministered for many years, and from which Rev. William L. Strong had just been dismissed.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Asahel Gaylord.

<sup>6</sup> In battles fought in Silistria and Kainly in June and July, 1829, the Turks were badly beaten by the Russians.

<sup>7</sup> About twenty years before he called on Mrs. Backus with his uncle, Rev. Peter Starr. She was then not far from fifty years old; now about seventy.

<sup>8</sup> *Compendium of Ecclesiastical History*, by Dr. John Marsh, D. D., of Haddam, Ct.

<sup>9</sup> George A. Calhoun, D. D., pastor at North Coventry, 1819-1867. For the last five years of his ministry Rev. William J. Jennings was his colleague.

<sup>10</sup> A large sum for a plain country parish to subscribe.

here, §1. Read Camoens. Mr. Strong and my brother<sup>1</sup> called on me. At evening attended the Sabbath-school concert. The first time in this place.<sup>2</sup> Well attended.

11. Had a convenient opportunity to spend my birthday by myself. Fine weather. Wrote. I am no longer my own. Wrote to my brother Samuel. At evening walked out and visited.

12. Sent to my brother Samuel,<sup>3</sup> §5. Walked and visited the most of the day. Read. We get but little intelligence from the east of Europe.

13. Wrote. Read a Sabbath-school book. Read Josephus and the Bible. Walked out and visited.

14. Visited a sick grandchild of the aged Dea. Collins. His parents<sup>4</sup> lived in the married state seventy years. Rode and visited. Read the Bible. Attended the stated prayer-meeting. Quite thin. Walked out.

15. Read Josephus and Camoens. My brother called here on his way to Stafford to exchange. We have an account of an important victory of the Russians over the Turks.<sup>5</sup> They fight desperately.

16. Preached on John iii: 3, and 1 Thess. v: 3. Full meeting. Mr. Sheldon,<sup>6</sup> a candidate belonging here, preached at the third meeting. At evening the society committee requested me to continue to supply them for the present; to which I agreed.

17. I believe I caught cold last evening. Had quite a poor night. My brother called here. Am quite gloomy. My whole trust is in God. He has never forgotten me. Yesterday received a letter from Esq. Ely, of Simsbury. Wrote to him. Read. Wrote to my sister Battell.

18. Wet and rainy. The forenoon quite hard. Read. Finished the fine poem of Camoens. Walked out and visited.

19. A great camp-meeting is held this week in the lower part of this town. Rode to East Windsor. A pretty good road. Looked over books and papers. Occupied with company. Read. Mrs. Wolcott unusually well. Quite cool.

20. Rode to Hartford. Saw several of my Norfolk cousins.<sup>7</sup> Dined with them. Attended to my law case. Called in East Hartford. Saw Mr. Hyde,<sup>8</sup> the preacher. They are in a divided state there. I pray God to order all wisely and in mercy. At evening had company. Melons plenty.

21. Rode to Somers. Very warm. Had a long and useless talk with Dr. Reed. Passed near the camp-meeting. Yesterday and today very numerous. Attended our stated prayer-meeting. Much fatigued. We have

<sup>1</sup> Rev. William L. Strong, the pastor recently dismissed, and Rev. Francis L. Robins, of Enfield.

<sup>2</sup> He means that it was the first Sabbath-school concert ever held in Somers.

<sup>3</sup> Who had been seriously sick out in Central New York.

<sup>4</sup> The parents, not of the child, but of Dea. Collins.

<sup>5</sup> This, doubtless, was the battle of Kainly, already referred to, fought July 1, 1829.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Anson Sheldon. He became a Presbyterian minister, and labored many years at the West.

<sup>7</sup> We conjecture that he still uses cousins for nephews and nieces. He has more of the latter than of the former in Norfolk.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Charles Hyde, a native of Franklin, afterward settled in Ashford and South Coventry. He died in Hartford, July 27, 1871, aged seventy-four. He was a man of culture and ability.

the pleasant intelligence of the capture of Silistria, and other successes of the Russians.<sup>1</sup>

22. The camp-meeting broke up this morning. I think the effect, on the whole, is injurious. It becomes a scene of dissipation. Yesterday paid at the post office for pamphlets, fifty-seven cents. Read the Bible. Assisted Mr. Strong in revising the proof-sheets of his farewell sermon.

23. Quite warm. Preached on Matt. vi: 13, and Eph. ii: 14. Attended a third meeting and preached without notes on Matt. xv: 25. At evening visited. Much fatigued. Meeting not full.

24. Warm and sultry. Rode out and visited. Read Wall on *Infant Baptism*. A very valuable work. Wrote. Yesterday baptized a child. At evening walked out.

25. Rode out and visited. Looked over the remains of Dr. Backus's library. Wrote. I fear the Christian nations of Europe will not consent to the conquest of the Turks.<sup>2</sup>

26. Rode out and visited most of the day. Saw an aged man very low with a cancer. I fear this society is not in a good state. Am at times quite gloomy. The holy God be my merciful helper.

27. Quite cool. Read the Bible. Have to do the most of my own work. Wrote on my pecuniary accounts. Mr. D. Phelps,<sup>3</sup> of Norfolk, called on me. Wrote to my mother and sent her \$5. The officers and collectors of the foreign missionary associations met here. They do well. Gave them \$1. Received a letter from W. W. Ellsworth,<sup>4</sup> of Hartford.

28. Wrote on my pecuniary accounts. Assisted the deacons in settling a case of some difficulty in the church. Had a good prayer-meeting. Had company. Cool.

29. Rode out and visited in the northeast part of the town. Saw a woman with a dreadful cancer. Wrote on my documents. Read the Bible. Afternoon wet.

30. Preached on Ps. cvi: 23, and Jer. xiv: 8. Towards night had a meeting in the north part of the town, and preached without notes on Num. x: 29. There are a number of Universalists here.

31. Visited a sick man. An afflicted family. Read. Afternoon set out on a journey to Canton.<sup>5</sup> My brother is gone to New Haven to attend the college examination. Rode to Scotland,<sup>6</sup> in Simsbury, and tarried at a tavern.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Rode early over the mountain to Mr. McLean's, and with him to Canton. Mr. Ely was with us. The heat very severe and oppressive.

<sup>1</sup> These are the victories already noticed, and it is plain that Dr. Robbins's sympathies are on the Russian side.

<sup>2</sup> Lest it should break the balance of power and give Russia an undue preponderance.

<sup>3</sup> Darius Phelps, afterward town treasurer in Norfolk.

<sup>4</sup> Afterwards Gov. William W. Ellsworth.

<sup>5</sup> This journey, doubtless, was on the Everest fund business, which cost him much labor and anxiety.

<sup>6</sup> Scotland was one of the parishes in Windham. The village now called Burnside, in East Hartford, used to be called Scotland. There was a locality called Scotland in Bloomfield, and still another in Ridgefield.

The debtors paid their interest to the Everest fund very well. Our beneficiary, O. Wilcox, was with us, apparently low in a consumption. Rode to East Windsor. Rode late. My expenses on this journey are charged to the fund.<sup>1</sup>

2. The heat, perhaps, greater than yesterday. Thermometer at 92°. Gave Ursula, \$6.50, which, with what I paid for her bedstead and mattress, amounts to \$20, for the silver coin, now my own, which I gave her at the time of my dismission.<sup>2</sup> Towards night set out for Somers. At dusk a hard thunder-shower came on, and I tarried in the upper part of East Windsor.

3. Rode home. A great change in the weather. Quite cool and windy. Afternoon rode to Enfield and preached a preparatory lecture, without notes, on Rom. viii: 35. Visited. Am very anxious for my brother's step-son. Am quite gloomy.

4. Frost was expected this morning, but I do not hear of any. Rode home. Visited the sick. The ground is dry. Connecticut River is very low. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture, without notes, on Rom. viii: 35. Well attended. Had company. Received a good letter from my sister Battell.

5. Still cool, but no frost. Rode out and visited. Wrote a piece for the *Connecticut Observer* on the sentiments of the Catholics.

6. Preached on Luke xxii: 15, and Matt. xxv: 6. Administered the sacrament. The church appears large. Attended a third meeting in the third district and preached without notes on Isa. xxviii: 17. The Methodists are making exertions there. Very tired.

7. Read. The society committee informed me that a few of the people here wished to hear Mr. Hyde<sup>3</sup> further, and they expected him to be here the first of October. I think they are getting into difficulty. Dined with a military company. Attended at evening the monthly concert.

8. Rode early and arrived at New Haven—fifty-five miles—at eight o'clock in the evening. Hindered at Hartford. Quite cool. The roads very dusty. Not much fatigued.

9. Commencement.<sup>4</sup> A great collection of people. The exercises very good. A favorable day. Two of the senior class have died since the July examination. Mr. Dutton,<sup>5</sup> of Guilford, preached the *Concio ad Clerum*.

10. Made various calls. The old Education Society is much neglected.

<sup>1</sup> From the fact that he makes special mention of this here, we conclude that in previous journeys, which have been many, though shorter, he paid the expenses himself.

<sup>2</sup> If we understand this sentence, he bought back of Ursula Wolcott a silver coin he had given her, paying her \$20 for the same.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Charles Hyde, whom Dr. Robbins found at East Hartford a few days before, had also been preaching as a candidate in Somers, and they were expecting to hear him farther.

<sup>4</sup> The Commencement at Yale has been on the second Wednesday of September ever since the diary started, in 1796. But it will not remain so many years more.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Aaron Dutton, pastor of First Church at Guilford, 1806-1842. From 1825 to 1849, the year of his death, he was a member of the College Corporation. He was father of Rev. S. W. S. Dutton, D.D., pastor of the North Church, New Haven, 1838-1866. The father was a man of good culture and broad sympathies, well known in his generation.

Attended to the Everest charity. Visited the gymnasium.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Dwight<sup>2</sup> is laborious. Left New Haven towards evening and rode to Durham. Kindly entertained at Mr. Smith's.

11. There was some frost this morning. Mrs. Goodrich,<sup>3</sup> relict of the doctor, is living, and has a great great grandchild. Rode to East Windsor. Cool and very dry. Wrote. Things are unpleasant at East Hartford. Vegetation seems not to be injured by the frost.

12. Yesterday received a letter from Seth Seelye,<sup>4</sup> and others of Bethel. Wrote. Attended to my library. Wrote to Mr. S. E. Dwight, New Haven. Afternoon rode to Somers. Something fatigued.

13. Preached both parts of the day on Isa. iii: 10, 11. Full meeting. At the third meeting, in an out district, preached without notes on Matt. ix: 9. The dust is tedious. The Methodists are making efforts in the west part of the town. Tired.

14. Last night we had some rain. Very grateful. Wrote. Visited a sick man. The society had a meeting and did nothing. At evening attended the Sabbath-school concert. Read.

15. Read Dr. Taylor's<sup>5</sup> metaphysical pamphlet. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Rowland, and to Seth Seelye, of Bethel. Afternoon rode out and visited. Mr. Gaylord was with me. I am sorry he does so little.

16. Walked out and visited. Read. Capt. Morris, of Wilbraham, called here and requested me to preach there when I have done at this place. Rode out and performed a marriage. Afternoon and evening we had a hard rain. Was prevented from attending an appointed meeting.

17. Rode to Enfield and saw my brother. Am gloomy, but the Lord is my stay. Walked out and visited. Cool.

18. Looked over Mrs. Backus's books and procured a few and a good many pamphlets. Attended the usual prayer-meeting. At evening walked out. Read.

19. Rode to Ellington on horseback and visited Mr. Brockway.<sup>6</sup> He is feeble. Attended to my old pamphlets. Wrote.

20. In the forenoon expounded on Matt. xvii. It was a new exercise here. Preached on Heb. xii: 14. Attentive meeting. The evening meeting was prevented by rain. Had company.

21. Rode out and visited. Paid Mrs. Backus for books, \$5.50; for pamphlets, \$4.50; got some valuable original works. Warm. Had company.

<sup>1</sup> The first gymnasium which Yale had was established in 1826 in the open air, and \$300 a year were voted to sustain it.

<sup>2</sup> Some one of the Dwight family who had charge of the gymnasium.

<sup>3</sup> The widow of Elizur Goodrich, D. D., pastor at Durham, 1756-1797, who, it may be remembered, died suddenly while on a journey in Norfolk, in 1797.

<sup>4</sup> Father of Pres. Seelye, of Amherst.

<sup>5</sup> Nathaniel W. Taylor, D. D., professor in Yale Theological Seminary. This metaphysical pamphlet was probably the sermon which he preached the year before (1828) as his *Concio ad Clerum*, on Human Depravity, which had been published.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Diodate Brockway had then been pastor at Ellington thirty years, but he was to be in office twenty years longer. He was a man much beloved.

Traded, \$2.30. Wrote on my library catalogue. Read. The intelligence from Europe indicates a gradual progress of the Russians in their war.

22. People here are anxious about their ecclesiastical matters. Rode to Tolland and saw the aged Mrs. Williams and other acquaintance. Mrs. W. is healthy and active at the age of ninety-two.<sup>1</sup> A good turnpike road is making between here and Tolland. At evening walked out and visited. Quite cool.

23. Read. Packed up pamphlets. Rode to the northeast part of the town and visited; early in the evening performed a marriage, after which attended a meeting and preached without notes on Luke xix: 42. Tarried out. This is an industrious and serious neighborhood.

24. Visited. Rode home. Very fine weather. Wrote. Occupied with company. Walked out.

25. Wrote on my pecuniary accounts. Wet. Attended the stated prayer-meeting. Miss Reynolds,<sup>2</sup> of Longmeadow, was with us, expecting soon to go to Greece as a missionary teacher.

26. Rode out and visited. Cool; yesterday we had considerable thunder. Wrote. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott, and E. Swift, Esq.

27. Cold and windy. Wore my cloak to meeting. Preached on Hab. xi: 6, and Hab. iii: 17, 18. Meetings full and solemn. The people appear to be much concerned at the prospect of my leaving them. Attended an evening meeting in an out district and preached without notes on John iv: 29. Visited an aged man very low.

28. Read. Very pleasant. Afternoon rode out and visited on the mountain. At evening a messenger came from Norfolk and informed me that my dear mother was dead.<sup>3</sup> She became unwell last Friday, and died this morning at five o'clock. A most affectionate mother and exemplary Christian. "The Lord gave," etc. Had a short letter from Mr. Battell. Wrote to Mr. Brockway, of Ellington, and to Capt. Morris, of Wilbraham. I had engaged to attend two marriages here this week and to preach at Wilbraham next Sabbath.

29. In the forenoon we had a violent rain. The committee called on me. They regret that Mr. Hyde has been engaged to preach here. About noon set out with Mr. Seymour<sup>4</sup> for Norfolk. Rode to Enfield and Hartford. My brother overtook us at East Windsor. His wife arrived at Hartford,

<sup>1</sup> Her husband, Dr. Nathan Williams, had died four months before, in his ninety-fourth year, and after a ministry of sixty-nine years. The wife was Mary Hall, daughter of Capt. Eliakim Hall, of Wallingford, Ct. They were married in the year of his settlement in Tolland, and so had lived together not far from sixty-nine years.

<sup>2</sup> Miss Mary Reynolds, who afterwards married Rev. William G. Schauffer, missionary to Constantinople.

<sup>3</sup> His mother, Elizabeth Le Baron, was

born in Plymouth, Mass., Dec. 21, 1745, and died Sept. 28, 1829, aged eighty-three years, nine months, and seven days. She had outlived her husband sixteen years. She was married in her seventeenth year, and had been the mother of thirteen children. Though her husband died so many years before, yet his public ministry in Norfolk continued fifty-two years.

<sup>4</sup> Truman R. Seymour was probably the messenger who had brought this news, and with whom Dr. Robbins returned.

from the eastward, soon after us, and went on with us. We rode late in the evening to Northington. Roads very wet.

30. We rode early and arrived at Norfolk about noon. Brother Ammi, at Colebrook, was very unwell and not able to go with us. Found a house of mourning. The corpse retained the countenance. Attended the funeral. Mr. Emerson preached very well. A great collection of people. A pleasant day. A very affecting scene. Brother James, and wife, and two sons here, also Ammi's wife, and daughter, and son-in-law. We had a solemn evening.

## OCTOBER.

1. Mr. Bradford,<sup>1</sup> of Sheffield, and Mr. Beach,<sup>2</sup> of Winsted, were here yesterday and assisted in the exercises. Saw a good deal of company at the paternal mansion and at Mr. Battell's. This house to receive my mother in 1762, now goes out of the name. Cold and blustering. O that the God of our fathers would have this broken family in his holy keeping. Attended to our parents' wills. Paid \$5, my last quarterly donation to my mother. She has given the most of her property to my niece Sally Lawrence,<sup>3</sup> very wisely.

2. My two brothers and their wives, after an affecting parting, went away for home. Brother James went to Colebrook yesterday and found brother Ammi better. Afternoon wrote. I have now no parents' house, no settlement in the ministry, and no fixed employment. My engagement at Somers expired with last Sabbath. I desire to cast my all upon a compassionate Saviour. Wrote to my uncle, Lemuel Le'Baron. The only uncle I now have.

3. Called on Mr. Emerson. He has just received an appointment to a professorship at Andover.<sup>4</sup> Afternoon rode to my brother Ammi's. He is apparently gaining, though quite weak. Last Monday evening we had a hard frost; the first that materially affected vegetation.

4. Preached for Mr. Emerson on Heb. vii: 25, and 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57. Meetings solemn and tender. Afternoon we had our case mentioned for prayers. Towards evening we had a third meeting. This is a very good congregation. Our family are sorely broken.

5. Wrote. I have kept at the old house. Sister Battell came here early and tarried till I left. Towards noon left Norfolk and rode through Goshen to Warren. Had a good visit at my cousin Starr's. My good uncle died July 17th, aged nearly eighty-four.

6. Rode to Danbury. At New Milford looked over the books of the late Mr. Eliot.<sup>5</sup> A part of them, with a large collection of pamphlets, are sold.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. James Bradford, a native of Rowley, Mass., graduate of Dartmouth, 1811, was settled in Sheffield, 1813, and died there in 1858, aged seventy-two.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. James Beach, graduate of Williams College, 1804, pastor at Winsted, 1806-1842.

<sup>3</sup> Sally Lawrence (Mrs. Newcomb) is, at this writing (Aug. 7, 1885), in good health, at the age of eighty-seven.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Ralph Emerson, D. D. He was called to be Brown Professor and Lecturer on Pastoral Theology at Andover. He accepted the office and remained in it until 1853. He died at Rockford, Ill., in 1863, in his seventy-sixth year.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Andrew Eliot had been pastor at New Milford from 1808-1829, and had just died.

Had a pleasant visit at Mr. Whittlesey's. At evening attended a meeting, and sat a little while with the Consociation at their annual meeting. Mr. Rood<sup>1</sup> appears well. Warm and pleasant.

7. Wrote an obituary notice of my mother and sent it to Hartford. Rode with members of the Consociation to Bethel. They met on an appeal from the decision of the church last fall, when I was with them. The Consociation decided not to proceed on minutes of testimony on the former trial.

8. Last evening the committee of the church concluded, after much hesitation, to go on with the trial, and agreed with Mr. Dutton,<sup>2</sup> a lawyer of Newtown, and me to assist them as council. The day was spent in hearing testimony. Esq. Sanford, a delegate, was moderator.

9. The testimony closed early in the afternoon, and the council agreed not to argue the cause. The Consociation resulted at dusk and affirmed the decision of the church. Attended an evening prayer-meeting. I hope this trial will do good to this broken people.

10. Received from the people here, \$15, a liberal donation for my journey and assistance. Rode to Danbury. Paid for books, \$1. Walked out. Warm. Rode to New Milford to supply tomorrow in behalf of Mr. Lowe.

11. Preached on Acts iv: 12, and Heb. vii: 25. This is a good congregation. Afternoon rainy. At evening had company.

12. Pleasant. Wrote. My horse is quite lame; difficult to ascertain the cause. Walked with company and made calls. Am requested to supply here next Sabbath.

13. Set out to ride to Stratford. My horse was so lame that I had to leave him at Brookfield and get another. Mr. Brundage<sup>3</sup> assisted me. Looked over his collection of pamphlets, late Mr. Eliot's.<sup>4</sup> Rode to Bethel and tarried with Mr. Lowe.<sup>5</sup> Dr. Banks, condemned by the Consociation here last week, has made an ample confession and is restored by the church.

14. Mr. Lowe gave me an original edition of Young's *Night Thoughts*. Rode to Stratford. At Monroe paid for a book, twenty-five cents. At evening rode out and saw the deacons. This people have not been supplied half of the time since I left them.<sup>6</sup> They are very negligent.

15. Wrote to my brother F. and to S. T. Wolcott. Walked out. Was requested by the committee, and by several of the people, to come here and supply. At evening had a good meeting in the meeting-house and preached without notes on John iv: 29. Wrote an article for the newspaper relative to R. V. Dey.<sup>7</sup> Had a present of a good Dutch book from Mr. Vandyke.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Heman Rood was preaching at New Milford as a candidate, and was settled in Mr. Eliot's place the following year (1830).

<sup>2</sup> He was afterwards Judge Henry Dutton, LL. D. Law-professor in Yale, 1847-1869; Judge of the Connecticut Superior Court and Supreme Court of Errors.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Abner Brundage, pastor at Brookfield, 1821-1839.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Andrew Eliot.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. John G. Lowe.

<sup>6</sup> He is writing now of the church in Stratford.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Richard V. Dey, who had recently been dismissed from the church in Greenfield parish (Fairfield). This is the church where Pres. Timothy Dwight was settled, 1793-1795, when he left for his duties at Yale College.



16. Rode to Bridgeport. Their ecclesiastical matters are very bad. Warm. Rode on a good turnpike to Brookfield. Tarried at Mr. Peck's, where I once lived.<sup>1</sup>

17. My horse is much better of his lameness. Paid Mr. Peck for keeping him, and for the use of his, \$1.50. Called on Mr. Brundage; paid him for a book, \$1, and for eleven ancient pamphlets, \$1. Rode to New Milford. Quite warm. Paid a blacksmith, twenty-one cents.

18. Dark and cloudy, but no rain. Preached on Ps. cvi: 23, and 1 Thess. v: 3. Meetings not full. Had good singing. At evening had company. Saw Mr. H. Canfield, of Canfield, O.

19. My prospects seem to be quite confused, though not without favorable aspects. The Lord be my helper. Read. Wrote. Warm. Walked out and visited. Changed my lodging-place.

20. Yesterday wrote to my sister, and saw my cousin George Starr here. Walked out. Read newspapers. Visited. Looked over Mr. Eliot's books. Had company.

21. Rode early to Danbury and attended a public meeting, which formed a county temperance society. It appeared well. Saw Mr. Isaac Brunson. Cold and tedious. My horse continues lame.

22. We had a severe frost. Returned to New Milford. Read. Wrote. Traded, thirty-four cents. Wrote to my sister. Had company.

23. Read Josephus's and Paley's works. Rode to the west part of the town and visited a family. Much pains are taken here in the temperance cause. They are late in the work.

24. Read the Bible. Rode to the north part of the town and attended a funeral in a Baptist meeting-house. A Baptist from Litchfield preached.

25. Preached on Heb. xii: 14, and Eph. ii: 14. Full meeting. This congregation is large, but they live very much scattered. At evening went into a singing-school.

26. Read. Walked out. Called on Mr. Huntington,<sup>2</sup> the Episcopal clergyman. Rode out. At evening preached in a small neighborhood without notes on Matt. v: 6. Tarried out. Had a good evening meeting.

27. Rode to the Straits.<sup>3</sup> Visited through the day. A good neighborhood at the Straits. Most of them go seven miles to meeting. There is quite a number of good families. Cold.

28. Rode to Washington and attended the installation of Mr. Hayes.<sup>4</sup> Mr. Hawes,<sup>5</sup> of Hartford, preached and the services were well performed. Toward evening returned. New Milford and Washington are very hilly. Received a letter from my sister Battell. There seems to be a prospect

<sup>1</sup> This was when he was supplying at Brookfield, in the first years of this century.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Enoch Huntington graduated at Yale, 1821, and was for some years Episcopal minister at New Milford. He died, 1876.

<sup>3</sup> A locality in New Milford.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Gordon Hayes, who was pastor

here, 1829-1851. This is the church from which Rev. Ebenezer Porter, D. D., went in 1811 to be professor at Andover Seminary.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Joel Hawes, D. D., who was called upon largely for such public services. For many years hardly any minister in the State was more conspicuous.

that Mr. Emerson will leave Norfolk. Heard from East Hartford. Things are in a bad state there.

29. Wrote notes for a public address. Afternoon there was a public meeting, quite full, on the subject of temperance. Mr. Huntington, the Episcopal clergyman, and I delivered addresses. They took measures to form a temperance society. There is considerable opposition to the measure. At evening walked out.

30. Read the *Spectator*.<sup>1</sup> Wrote notes and preached a preparatory lecture on John xii: 23, 24. Meeting pretty thin. Wrote to my sister Battell.

31. Read the Bible. Wrote a public address on sacred music. A cold storm of rain all day. I have too much neglected writing. My boarding-place is very accommodating. On the 29th saw an account of peace having taken place between Russia and Turkey.<sup>2</sup> I was in hopes the time had come for the fall of that Mahometan power.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Wet and dark through the day. Preached on Luke xxii: 15, and Amos iv: 12. Administered the sacrament. This church is pretty large. We had a solemn and I hope a profitable day. At evening Mr. Smith and his singing-school had a public singing. The performance was very good. I delivered the address written yesterday. Many people attended. On Friday I baptized a child.

2. Walked out. Received a letter from my sister Battell. Read. Mr. Hendricks, a Dutch clergyman, called on me. At evening attended a monthly concert of prayer. Thin meeting. That has been much neglected here.

3. Walked out and made calls. Traded, \$2.58. Received a letter from Esq. Booth,<sup>3</sup> of Stratford, and wrote to him in return. Afternoon rode to Warren. The aged Mrs. Starr<sup>4</sup> is quite feeble. Cold. Roads wet.

4. Looked over my Uncle Starr's pamphlets and manuscripts. There is a large number of them. My cousin George gave me what I wished for. Afternoon rode to Bethlehem<sup>5</sup> over rough road. Cold and windy. Tarried with Mr. Langdon.<sup>6</sup> He is quite feeble.

5. Had an interesting visit with Mr. Langdon. Rode to Washington, called on Mr. Hayes,<sup>7</sup> and to New Milford. A very hilly road. Read. At evening walked out. Wrote. Mr. Langdon gave me a few valuable manuscripts.

6. Walked and visited the most of the day. Read the Bible and the *Spectator*. Agreed to take a number of Mr. Eliot's books.

<sup>1</sup> *Christian Spectator* of New Haven, then in the eleventh volume.

<sup>2</sup> The treaty of peace was signed Sept. 14, 1829.

<sup>3</sup> Elijah Booth, Esq., noticed in connection with Dr. Robbins's previous labors in this parish.

<sup>4</sup> This was the second wife. The first wife died in 1810.

<sup>5</sup> More commonly in old times written Bethlem.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. John Langdon was son of Rev. Timothy Langdon, who died in 1801, when pastor in Danbury. The son was graduated at Yale in 1809; was tutor, and was settled in Bethlem in 1816. He died in 1830.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Gordon Hayes, just settled in Washington.

7. Received a letter from D. Brooks,<sup>1</sup> Esq., of Stratford. I do not know what to do with regard to that people. O for divine teaching. Wrote to my brother Francis. Wet and cold.

8. Preached both parts of the day on Isa. iii: 10, 11. Cold and windy, but we had full meetings. At evening attended a conference and preached, without notes, on Matt. xv: 25. Well attended. Received a letter from brother Francis. Considerably unwell. Took physic. Read. Was up late.

9. Am quite feeble. Wrote. Afternoon rode to the hither part of Bridgewater and attended a funeral. The interment was here. Changed my place of boarding again. I go from one good place to another. Walked out. We are very anxious to hear from the East.<sup>2</sup>

10. Rode to the south part of the town and visited a young woman very sick. Was out the most of the day. Got wet in the rain. Visited.

11. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott, and wrote to him and to D. Brooks, of Stratford. Quite cold. At evening walked out and visited. Read.

12. The ground much frozen. Rode to the Straits. Visited. At evening had a good meeting, well attended, and preached without notes on Matt. xi: 30. There are a number of excellent people here.

13. Visited. Some families here are about seven and one half miles from meeting. Afternoon rode home. Pleasant but cold. At evening had company. Paid for flannel and stockings, \$4; procured at Bridgeport.

14. In the morning the ground was covered with snow three inches deep. The first of the season. Received two letters from brother and sister Battell. The Consociation at Norfolk judged it inexpedient to dismiss Mr. Emerson.<sup>3</sup> Wrote to Mr. Battell. I think they decided right. Read.

15. A pleasant day, with bad walking. It is said there is a good deal of snow at the North and West. Preached on John iii: 3, and John vii: 37. Had no conference, as the town-house was occupied with the Episcopal singing-school. Had company. Read the Bible.

16. Read the *Journal of Humanity*,<sup>4</sup> a very valuable paper. Rode five miles and visited a sick woman. The snow mostly gone. Wrote. Gave to an Auxiliary Bible Society, lately formed here, \$1.

17. Expected to have gone today on a journey to East Windsor and Enfield. Prevented by the rain, which was steady the most of the day. The committee called and informed me they are expecting a preacher who was sent to before I came here. I engaged to stay a little longer. They wish me to stay if he fails. I make no such engagement.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> David B. Brooks, Esq., a justice of the peace, and a prominent citizen of Stratford, before noticed.

<sup>2</sup> About the results of the war between Russia and Turkey.

<sup>3</sup> This only made it necessary for that body to meet again.

<sup>4</sup> The *Journal of Humanity and Herald of*

*Temperance* originated in the year 1829, and was published in Andover, Mass. It continued for several years. Justin Edwards, D. D., whose home was in Andover, Mass., was from 1829 to 1836 secretary of the American Temperance Society.

<sup>5</sup> His self-respect would not permit him to play this subordinate and secondary part.

18. It rained hard the most of the night. The ground very wet. Rode on my journey through Litchfield to Canton. Very muddy. Warm. Tarried at a tavern.

19. Rode to Hartford and East Windsor. Northington is much increasing at the canal.<sup>1</sup> Did errands in Hartford. Attended to my suit against Dr. Reed. The people of East Hartford have given up Mr. Hyde and are trying to recall Mr. Brace. Got home about dark. All things well. Quite pleasant and muddy.

20. Found here a letter from D. Brooks, Esq., Stratford.<sup>2</sup> Put up a few things. Hoped to have gone on this journey to Enfield and Somers, but I cannot. Wrote to my brother F. and Mr. Hawes, of Hartford. On the 17th received a letter from S. W. Benedict,<sup>3</sup> of Norwalk, and wrote to him. Afternoon set out on my return. Cold. Better traveling. Rode to Canton and tarried at the same tavern. The ground quite frozen.

21. Rode to New Milford. Have been greatly favored on account of the weather and have had a prosperous journey. All of God. Received an urgent letter from D. Brooks, Esq., of Stratford, that I would return there. I think it my duty to go. Received a letter from my sister. Mr. Emerson is still determined to leave there. Wrote.

22. Preached both parts of the day on Ps. lxxxiv: 2.<sup>4</sup> Meeting full for unfavorable weather. At evening preached at the conference without notes on Ps. iv: 5. After which attended the singing. Quite tired.

23. Rainy and wet. Wrote. We had considerable thunder. Wrote to Mr. Brooks, of Stratford, and to my sister Battell. Began a sermon for Thanksgiving on Rev. xi: 16, 17. I have too much neglected writing.

24. Wrote considerably on my sermon. Walked out. Received a letter from Mr. Battell. Hindered by company. Was up late. Read the important and extraordinary treaty of peace between Russia and Turkey.

25. Wrote and finished my sermon on Rev. xi: 16, 17. Considerably unwell. In the morning a hard frost. Wrote to B. W. Birge,<sup>5</sup> of Philadelphia.

26. Thanksgiving. Preached the sermon finished yesterday. Long. It snowed the most of the day. Meeting pretty thin. Dined at Mr. I. Canfield's. He has a very worthy family. The peace in the East and the humiliation of the Mahometan power gives a great interest to this Thanksgiving.<sup>6</sup>

27. Read. Walked out. Attended in the burying-ground the funeral of a child. The snow is about three inches deep. Sleighs move some. Wrote. Visited.

<sup>1</sup> The Northampton Canal ran through Northington (Avon), and gave a new impulse to the place.

<sup>2</sup> This letter, doubtless, offered him again the pulpit at Stratford, which he was inclined to accept.

<sup>3</sup> Seth W. Benedict, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> This Sabbath he preached at New Milford.

<sup>5</sup> Backus W. Birge, who owed him money on the Everest fund.

<sup>6</sup> Neither power was just and righteous enough to create much enthusiasm in its behalf.

28. Rode out and visited. Out the most of the day. Bad riding. Am very kindly treated by the people. The members of the society are very much scattered. Read.

29. Dark and damp weather. The snow wastes away. It is said yesterday was the only day of clear weather, through the day, we have had this month. Preached on Heb. xii: 16, and 2 Cor. viii: 9. Meeting well attended for the weather. Had no evening conference; the town-house occupied by the Episcopalian singing-school. Had company.

30. Wrote. Read in La Voise's great *Atlas*.<sup>1</sup> Wet and very changeable weather. Walked out and visited. The Russian autocrat appears to be very haughty after his victories. The Turkish power is effectually bridled.

DECEMBER.

1. Walked out and visited. People appear to be desirous to have me return here. Pleasant for the season. Was out with company. Read *History of Redemption*.<sup>2</sup> Always instructive.

2. Walked out. Rode and visited. At evening had a good meeting in the east part of the town; preached without notes on John iv: 29. Married with a good family. Weather very changeable. A great quantity of pork produced in this town.

3. Cold. Visited. Purchased of Mr. Eliot's<sup>3</sup> administrator twenty-one volumes, and gave my due-bill for \$23.70. Paid a merchant, \$1. Paid for grain given my horse, \$1.75. Put up my things. Saw an account of the death of Judge Washington.<sup>4</sup> Am treated very kindly here. Received a letter from my sister Battell. Wrote.

4. Left New Milford, where I have lived nearly two months very pleasantly, and I hope usefully. Have been requested to return, but have made no engagements. Quite cold and the ground hard frozen. Rode to Stratford through Monroe and Huntington.<sup>5</sup> Kindly received. The ride was fatiguing.

5. Went to Mrs. Thompson's to board. In the morning rainy. Have been expected here for a good while, and to appearance earnestly. Read. Am in a good family. Am something unwell. Was up late.

6. Wet and dark. Meeting not full. Preached all day on 2 Cor. viii: 9. At evening had a good conference and preached without notes on Luke xx: 17, 18. Left the meeting before it was finished, and rode out and performed a marriage. Took medicine.

7. Warm and pleasant. Walked out. Yesterday put on my flannel.

<sup>1</sup> C. V. Lavoise and C. Gros were the authors of *A Genealogical, Historical, and Chronological Atlas*, first published in London, folio, in 1807.

<sup>2</sup> Jonathan Edwards's celebrated treatise, first published in Edinburgh in 1777, nineteen years after his death.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Andrew Eliot, as before mentioned, had died only a short time before.

<sup>4</sup> Bushrod Washington, LL. D., associate judge of the Supreme Court of the United States. He was born in Westmoreland County, Va., June 5, 1762; graduated at William and Mary College, 1778, and died in Philadelphia, Nov. 26, 1829.

<sup>5</sup> New Milford to Stratford was a journey of thirty miles or more, through a hilly and romantic country.

Wrote. Read newspapers. At evening attended the monthly concert. This has been much neglected here.

8. Quite warm. Read. Walked and visited. Yesterday wrote to my sister. Saw Mr. Hunter,<sup>1</sup> of Fairfield. At evening attended the Bible class. It has been continued since I was here. But it is small.

9. It snowed and rained moderately the most of the day. Read Pierce's *Vindication of the Dissenters*.<sup>2</sup> Walked out and visited. Tarried out.

10. Very pleasant. Visited. Read *Life of I. Newton*.<sup>3</sup> Wrote. Hindered by company. Walked out.

11. Saw the President's long Message<sup>4</sup> and read a part of it. It has been carried along with a childish rapidity. He speaks abusively of the Indians. Rode to Oronoke<sup>5</sup> and visited. At evening attended a meeting and preached without notes on Matt. iv: 21, 22. Paid for soling my boots, \$1.67.

12. Visited. Rode home. Wet and a little rainy. Bad riding. Wrote. In the evening we had a violent rain. Read.

13. Windy and cold. Full meeting. Preached on Heb. xii: 6, and Isa. v: 4. At evening had a full conference and preached without notes on Matt. iv: 21, 22.

14. Walked out. Quite warm. Rode to Bridgeport with company. Very muddy. Ecclesiastical matters there are very bad. At evening set out on a journey. Rode in the stage to New Haven. The mail is carried from here in a wagon, and I could not get a passage. Read. Was up late.

15. Was all day getting to Hartford in the stage. Came through Middletown. Some of the way very bad. Crossed to East Hartford. The society here have given another call to Mr. Brace.<sup>6</sup> They are not unanimous. Was brought late to East Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott is unusually well. Warm.

16. Rode to Enfield. Visited at East Windsor Hill and at Pine Meadow. In the morning Mr. Ely,<sup>7</sup> of Mansfield, called on me and borrowed several books. He is writing a historical work. My brother is much afflicted with his nervous headache. Windy and cold.

17. The ground is hard frozen. Rode to Somers. The people here are in a broken state. Cold. Paid for work, etc., \$1. Put up my things remaining here and rode in my wagon to East Windsor. The society here

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John H. Hunter, pastor at Fairfield, 1828-1834. He was afterwards pastor of Bridgeport, 1839-1848. A minister of the same name was, at a later date, settled among the Presbyterians, probably the same man.

<sup>2</sup> James Pierce, 1673-1726. *Vindicia Fratrum Dissentientium Angliæ adv. Gulielm. Nichols*, London, 1710, 8vo, English, 1717.

<sup>3</sup> This was the *Life of Sir Isaac Newton* by Sir David Brewster, first published in the *Family Library* in 1820; afterwards issued in far better style.

<sup>4</sup> Gen. Jackson was inaugurated for his first term March 4, 1829. The Message here

referred to was the one given on the assembling of the Twenty-first Congress, Dec. 7, 1829. Dr. Robbins did not like Gen. Jackson well enough to speak kindly of him. With all his faults, people now think well of him. His two administrations fill an honorable place in our history.

<sup>5</sup> Oronoke, as before stated, was one of the local districts of the town of Stratford. There was a locality in the town of Waterbury, Ct., with the same name.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Samuel William Brace, before noticed.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. William Ely.

have had their annual meeting today. The society is much diminished. They think Mr. Whelpley cannot continue with them long. Read.

18. Had much to do in putting up my things. Had tailor-work done. Walked out. Had company. Was up late.

19. The ground is covered with snow. Rode to Hartford. Took the stage through Farmington to New Haven.<sup>1</sup> Rode late in the mail-stage to Stratford. The roads rough, but not bad traveling. At Hartford received a letter and a dozen of Mr. Emerson's sermons at mother's funeral. Sister Battell and Urania have gone on to Plymouth. My letter and sermons were from Mr. Battell. At Hartford traded, \$2.50. Much fatigued. Expenses of my journey to East Windsor, \$8.90.

20. Pleasant and full meeting. Preached on Ps. cxxx: 3. Afternoon Mr. Vandyke,<sup>2</sup> of the State of New York, preached for me. At evening had a serious conference, and preached without notes on Matt. viii: 25. Have much assistance in this conference. Tired.

21. Put up my things.<sup>3</sup> Read. Traded, \$1. Walked to the river. A man was drowned here today by the upsetting of a boat. Wrote. Judge Johnson<sup>4</sup> and Rev. Mr. Shepard<sup>5</sup> called on me.

22. Read the Bible. Hindered by company. Visited. At evening attended our Bible class. It is not large, but does well. We are in the book of Joshua.

23. Rode to North Milford<sup>6</sup>; attended the installation of Mr. Parsons.<sup>7</sup> The prospects are favorable. The parts were well performed. Prof. Fitch<sup>8</sup> preached well. Returning, called on Mr. Pinneo,<sup>9</sup> at Milford, confined by a wound; and attended in the evening a large temperance meeting. Delivered a long address. Rode home late. Quite dark. Last night and the forenoon quite cold.

24. Received a letter from Mr. Strong, of Somers, at New Haven, and wrote him in reply. Gave my consent for him to go to New Milford. Rode to Oronoke and visited. Preached in the evening, without notes, on Matt. viii: 25. Rainy and warm. Tarried out.

25. Quite warm and mild. Attended a meeting and the communion at the church. Mr. Shepard performed well. The services long. Read. Wrote. Occupied with company.

26. Have caught a cold, which is quite oppressive. Received a letter

<sup>1</sup> Going from New Haven to Hartford he took the eastern road through Middletown. In returning he went through Farmington.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. John B. Vandyke, of Coxsackie, N. Y., who turned from the ministry to medicine.

<sup>3</sup> Arranged them at his boarding-place.

<sup>4</sup> Judge William S. Johnson, LL. D.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. George C. Shepard, at that time Episcopal minister of Stratford. He and Dr. Robbins seem to have been on very

friendly terms. He was on similar terms of intimacy and friendship with Rev. Nathaniel Huse when at East Windsor.

<sup>6</sup> North Milford is now known as Orange.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Horatio Adams Parsons, pastor at Orange, 1829-1832. He was graduated at Williams College, 1820; at Andover Seminary, 1823; and died at Niagara, N. Y., 1873.

<sup>8</sup> Prof. Eleazar T. Fitch, D. D., pastor of the Yale College Church.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. Bezaleel Pinneo.

from B. W. Birge,<sup>1</sup> of Philadelphia, with good promises. I fear I shall get nothing more. Wrote to D. S. Boardman, Esq.,<sup>2</sup> of New Milford. Received a valuable map of this town, a present from the author, J. H. Linsley.<sup>3</sup> Read the Bible. Wrote.

27. Wet and dark through the day. At times it rained hard. Preached on Titus ii: 4, and Ps. cxxx: 4. Afternoon meeting quite thin. Had no conference. Quite oppressed with my cold. Read Lewis's *Bible Translations*. Warm for winter.

28. Very pleasant. Walked and visited. Read. The ground has been but little frozen. Wrote. Last week the boys played ball. On Saturday saw a man plowing. Read the annual Treasury Report. Reform is the hobby.

29. Wrote. Much hindered by company. Visited a school with Mr. Shepard and others. At evening attended the Bible class. Read the Bible.

30. Walked and visited without an out-coat. Read. At evening attended a meeting in a new school-house and preached without notes on Mark xii: 7. A full meeting. Traded, sixty-three cents.

31. Wet. Walked out. Wrote to Mr. Linsley, of this town, and to B. W. Birge, of Philadelphia. Visited. At evening had a long conversation with some of the principal men here respecting a settlement with them. I pray for divine direction.

<sup>1</sup> Backus W. Birge, indebted to the Everest fund.

<sup>2</sup> David S. Boardman, of New Milford, was a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1793. Though not well prepared, he soon made his mark as a scholar, and after grad-

uating was offered a tutorship, but declined. He was a strong and original thinker, and lived to great age, dying in 1864, more than ninety years old.

<sup>3</sup> This was Rev. James Harvey Linsley, the teacher and scientific man already noticed.





## 1830.

### JANUARY.

1. Endeavored early to devote myself, with all my powers and wants, to the mercy, guidance, and keeping of a holy God for the ensuing year. Very pleasant and mild weather. Walked out and called, by invitation, on a lady who kept open house for the day.<sup>1</sup> Preached a preparatory lecture with short notes on John xii: 23, 24. Well attended. Walked. Visited.

2. Wrote a sermon on 2 Kings xx: 1. I have written but little for some time past. Had to walk considerably for exercise. Finished, by divine favor, in good season. There have been thirty-three deaths in this town the year past. About half belonging to this society. Ten over seventy years.<sup>2</sup>

3. Preached with short notes on Zech. xiii: 17, and the sermon written yesterday. Administered the sacrament. Very pleasant, and the church and congregation very full and solemn. At evening attended the conference and preached on Luke xiv: 23. Much fatigued. In future I shall not mention my preaching at extra meetings as "without." It will be a matter of course. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott.

4. Am affected with labor. Read. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. At evening attended the annual meeting of the Tract Society, in this place, and the monthly concert together. The services of the latter were quite short.

5. Read the Bible. Quite cold. Wrote. Made this almanack.<sup>3</sup> Walked out. Had a conversation with the society's committee. Read.

6. Winter weather. Read the Bible. Visited a family who have just lost a little child. The society here had a meeting and voted to give me a call to settle with them. Salary, \$500. In their existing state it seems no more is to be expected.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This was a New York rather than a New England custom, but Stratford, and the other southwestern towns of Connecticut, are natural neighbors to New York.

<sup>2</sup> Another illustration of the fact that more people live beyond the age of seventy than is commonly supposed.

<sup>3</sup> Interleaved it. For a long course of years Dr. Robbins used the almanacs published by Isaiah Thomas, of Worcester. For a few years he had used what was known as the *Christian Almanack*, published by John P. Haven, of New York. His copies for 1826, 1827, 1828, were of this kind. But the one used for 1830 (as also for 1829) was as follows: "*New England Farmer's Almanack* for the year 1830. By Thomas

G. Fessenden, Editor of *New England Farmer*. Boston: Published by Carter & Hendee [proprietors of the copyright], corner of Washington and School Streets. Sold also by John B. Russell, at the Seed Store connected with *New England Farmer* Office, No. 52 North Market Street. Sold also wholesale and retail by D. F. Robinson & Co., Hartford, Ct.; Chauncey Goodrich, Burlington, Vt.; Horatio Hill & Co., Concord, N. H.; John Prentiss, Keene, N. H.; John W. Foster and Nathaniel March, Portsmouth, N. H.," etc.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins, under the circumstances, is disposed to accommodate himself to their necessities. He liked Stratford for its interesting historical associations.

7. Walked and visited. The weather is mild. Attended the funeral of the child deceased yesterday. Received a letter from Mr. Vandyke,<sup>1</sup> of Cocksackie. Attended the Bible class. Mr. Mitchell,<sup>2</sup> a candidate converted here, was with me. The committee of the society called on me. They state that there is much solicitude in the society and the town that I would accept the call, and that they consider nothing threatening in the small minority of yesterday. Engaged to consider the subject.

8. Walked out. High winds. Wrote. Concluded to exchange with Mr. Mitchell for the next Sabbath and go to Killingworth.<sup>3</sup> Visited.

9. Cold. Rode to Killingworth. The riding very good. Stopped at New Haven. Traded.

10. A hard steady rain all day. Thin meeting. Preached on Titus ii: 14, and Isa. v: 4. There is a great work of divine grace here. The society has been in a very broken state, but is hopefully improving. Mr. Mitchell is much liked and very useful. At evening attended a meeting and preached on John iv: 29. Saw old acquaintance.

11. Very cold and tedious. Rode facing a severe wind to Middletown. Froze a part of my face. Rode to East Windsor. The ground very hard.

12. Thermometer yesterday about 10°; today about 17°. Rode to Enfield. My horse performs very well. The river almost full of ice. My brother is quite ill with his headache. He and his wife approve of my call.<sup>4</sup> Rode home. Visited.

13. Wrote. A sheriff had Dr. Reed's real estate prized off on my claim for the Everest fund.<sup>5</sup> Visited. Looked over my things.

14. The weather moderates. Rode to East Hartford and got some of my things there. There is a prospect that Mr. Brace will accept their call, though they are not united. Visited. Paid Ursula, \$4.50, and took back a mattress which I let her have. Received sundry pamphlets from the post office.

15. Saw Dr. Reed early. I expect to lose by him and his brother. Rode to New Haven. Hindered at Hartford. Paid Mr. Wadsworth,<sup>6</sup> the sheriff, \$10. Paid for a pair of gloves, \$1.50. For wine, eighty-four cents. Towards evening it rained. Very good traveling. Rode when it was quite dark.

<sup>1</sup> John B. Vandyke, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> John Mitchell was a native of Chester, Ct.; was graduated at Yale, 1821, and at Andover, 1824; was editor of *Christian Spectator* at New Haven, 1823-1828; was ordained Dec. 8, 1830, and was pastor at Fairhaven, Ct., and Northampton, Mass. He was the author of a valuable little volume entitled, *A Guide to the Principles and Practice of the Congregational Churches of New England*, Northampton, 1838. He died in Stamford, Ct., April 28, 1870.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Mitchell was supplying the pulpit

at Killingworth, which was thirty miles east of Stratford.

<sup>4</sup> That is, they approve of his accepting his call to Stratford.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Robbins had been a great friend of Dr. Reed and his brother, Dea. Reed. But he felt obliged to do everything he could to recover the money belonging to the Everest fund, while he might not have been disposed to take the same steps to recover money of his own. While Dr. Robbins was thrifty, he was also very generous.

<sup>6</sup> Horace Wadsworth.

16. We had a steady rainy night. Rode to Stratford. Muddy, but not deep. Have had a prosperous journey. The church here had a meeting and voted to give me a call. They balloted, and there were four negative votes. The minority is said to be produced by a man that is a Baptist. Wrote. Warm. The sum paid to Wadsworth was \$10. The charge for yesterday was \$1.08. Today, \$1.71. Conversed with several persons relative to my call. Received a letter from Esq. Ely,<sup>1</sup> of Simsbury.

17. Wet. Forenoon meeting thin. Afternoon we had a good number of singers. Preached on 1 Peter i: 15, 16, and Matt. xxv: 1, 2. At evening the committee of the church called and presented me their call. There appears to be much engagedness among the people relative to my settlement; unexpectedly so. The small minority is in the church, and evidently from external, Baptist, influence. Had much conversation with the committee. Promised to give an answer soon.

18. Wrote answers of acceptance to the calls of the church and society, and in the evening delivered them to the committees. Signed the contract with the society committee. The event is committed all to God; may it please him to give his blessing. Wrote to my brother Francis. In the morning the ground was covered with snow. Cold and tedious all day. Read the Bible. Wrote to Esq. Ely, of Simsbury.

19. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Stebbins,<sup>2</sup> of Orange. Visited an afflicted family. Rev. Mr. Blatchford<sup>3</sup> called on me; likely to be installed at Bridgeport. The morning severe cold, but it moderates. Read.

20. Read the Bible. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. Walked out and visited. Two or three persons here give me some trouble. The Lord is infinitely wise and good. Read.

21. Severe cold. The ground is very hard frozen and rough. This is a very pleasant winter town. Dined at Judge Johnson's with Mr. Shepard. Read Patrick's *Exposition*.<sup>4</sup> Walked a distance and visited. At evening attended the Bible class.

22. Spent the day at Esq. Booth's,<sup>5</sup> my former boarding-place, where I receive much kindness. At evening visited. The prospects of this people improve.

23. Severe cold. Wrote. Walked out. Read the Bible and the *Christian Observer*.<sup>6</sup> Am burdened with the cold.

24. No abatement of the cold. Meeting pretty full. Some new hearers. Preached with notes on Luke xxiv: 47, and a sermon on John vii: 37.

<sup>1</sup> Benjamin Ely, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Stephen W. Stebbins in the parish of West Haven (Orange). Mr. Stebbins was graduated at Yale, 1791, and had been settled over the Congregational church in Stratford, 1784-1813, and was pastor at West Haven, 1815-1843, making him one of the half-century ministers of Connecticut, with several years over.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. John Blatchford, son of Rev. Sam-

uel Blatchford, D. D., who had been pastor at Bridgeport, 1797-1804. The son was ordained in 1830, and was pastor till 1836.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Patrick, Bishop of Ely, who died 1707. Among many other works, he wrote an *Exposition of the Commandments*.

<sup>5</sup> Elijah Booth, Esq.

<sup>6</sup> The Hartford religious paper, which continued from 1825 on almost twenty years.

At the evening meeting preached on Ps. i: 2. Received a letter from brother Francis. The attention among this people increases.

25. Last night it snowed. Wrote a draft of a church letter to call the council for my installation. Wrote to my brother F. Received of the society treasurer here, \$32; my dues to the commencement of the present year. Read the *Christian Observer*.

26. We have some more snow. Blustering. The society meeting yesterday completed the arrangements for my settlement. The treasury accounts are settled, and it is in advance. Visited. Wrote to Mr. Battell and to Mr. Parsons,<sup>1</sup> of North Milford. At evening attended the Bible class. Severe cold.

27. Rode to Huntington. Visited at Oronoke.<sup>2</sup> Tedious cold. Had a good visit with Mr. Punderson.<sup>3</sup> Read.

28. Rode with Mr. Punderson to Bridgeport, and assisted him and others in organizing the new church of one hundred and eighteen members. The occasion was interesting and solemn. The new church voted to call Mr. Stanton<sup>4</sup> to be their pastor. Afternoon rode to Fairfield and saw Mr. Hunter, and returned to Stratford. At evening preached at a school-house on Matt. xi: 28. Thermometer at Huntington this morning, 8°; yesterday, 6°. Mr. Bowe, of East Windsor, has been here and left a citation for me to the Circuit Court at Hartford, in Dr. Reed's case. Quite fatigued.

29. Yesterday wrote to Judge Hill,<sup>5</sup> of Greenfield. Wrote to Dr. Taylor,<sup>6</sup> of New Haven, and to Mr. Kent,<sup>7</sup> of Trumbull. Still very cold. Afternoon we had a solemn season of prayer, well attended, preparatory to the expected installation. Wrote to Mr. Pinneo,<sup>8</sup> of Milford, and Esq. Tomlinson,<sup>9</sup> of this town. At evening attended, awhile, a singing-school. Quite large.

30. The most severe day we have had. Very tedious. Assisted some ladies who are making a new cushion for the pulpit. Wrote. Towards evening rode to Bridgeport to exchange with Mr. Blatchford.<sup>10</sup> It seems as if I never rode in a colder time. It was facing a heavy wind. The thermometer about zero.

31. Last evening the thermometer was 05°; this morning 02°. Preached on John iii: 3, and Heb. vii: 25. The morning meeting thin and very cold. Both parts of this divided congregation attended meeting. I think it well that they are divided.<sup>11</sup> Rode home. The cold abates but

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Horatio A. Parsons, just settled in Orange, then North Milford.

<sup>2</sup> The district called Oronoke seems to have been in the northern part of the town of Stratford, on the way to Huntington, two miles or more from the center.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Thomas Punderson, pastor at Huntington, 1818-1844. He died in 1848.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Benjamin F. Stanton, who had been dismissed the year before in Bethlem. He was a native of Stonington, but for some reason was not settled in Bridgeport. He had been, before settling at Bethlem, a Pres-

byterian minister, and in 1831 appears again as a Presbyterian minister. He died in 1843.

<sup>5</sup> Judge Henry Hill, graduated at Yale, 1772.

<sup>6</sup> Nathaniel W. Taylor, D.D., of Yale Theological Seminary.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. James Kent, pastor in Trumbull, 1825-1835.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Bezaleel Pinneo.

<sup>9</sup> Jabez H. Tomlinson, Esq.

<sup>10</sup> Rev. John Blatchford.

<sup>11</sup> That is, he thought there were people enough for two congregations.

little. Stratford and Bridgeport harbors are both closed. At the evening meeting preached on Phil. iii: 8. Thin. It snowed.

## FEBRUARY.

1. Last night we had a considerable fall of snow of four or five inches. It rained through the forenoon, but did not appear to diminish the snow. Wrote to Ellsworth<sup>1</sup> and Holland,<sup>2</sup> of Hartford. Worked a little at the meeting-house. On account of the weather the monthly concert was omitted.

2. Read. Sleighs move considerably. Spent some time preparatory to the great scene before me.<sup>3</sup> Towards evening the council assembled. My good brother Francis came in his sleigh. My sister Battell came with her children, Joseph and Irene.<sup>4</sup> Good sleighing from Norfolk to East Windsor. Some of the council failed. But four ministers and two delegates present. After some hesitation they resolved to proceed. I was examined, and they made arrangements for tomorrow. The council sat late.

3. I was solemnly installed pastor of the First Church and Society in Stratford. The day very pleasant and the sleighing very fine. The exercises very well performed and very acceptable. A great collection of people. The singing very good. My brother preached exceedingly well. Gov. Tomlinson present. S. T. Wolcott and Mr. Filley<sup>5</sup> here from East Windsor. At evening visited with my friends. They are kindly entertained in this family. Received a letter from Mr. Battell. My brother is much affected with his nervous headache.

4. Walked with my brother and made several calls. In the morning my sister, with her son and daughter, set out for home. Dined out. After dinner my brother went away. The snow thaws some. A great deal of sleighing. Mr. Wheelock,<sup>6</sup> agent of the Home Missionary Society, called on me. Received a letter from Mr. Birge, of Philadelphia, and a church letter to convene the Consociation at Bridgeport. Hindered by company. Read.

5. Rode out and visited a school. Dined out. Very cold. Wrote to Mr. Holland, of Hartford, and Mr. Boardman, of New Milford. Received a letter from Dr. Porter, of Farmington, and wrote to him in reply. Last night there was a light snow and the sleighing is very fine.

6. The cold is very severe. Wrote a sermon on Ezek. iii: 17-19. Wrote slow and pretty indifferently. Much oppressed with the cold.

7. The thermometer in this neighborhood this morning was at 04°; last Sabbath, 03°. Morning meeting thin; afternoon thin. Severe cold through

<sup>1</sup> Hon. William W. Ellsworth.

<sup>2</sup> William M. Holland, a Hartford lawyer.

<sup>3</sup> His installation at Stratford.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph Battell, Jr., was then twenty-three years old, and six years out of college, while Irene, his sister, afterwards wife of Prof. William A. Larned, of Yale College, was then seventeen years old. These three are now all dead.

<sup>5</sup> Samuel Tudor Wolcott, Esq., and Mr. Horace Filley.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. James Ripley Wheelock was born at Hanover, N. H., 1790, and was graduated at Dartmouth College. He had been settled, 1827-1829, over the Congregational church in Canterbury, Ct. He preached also at Newport, N. H., and Lancaster, N. H. He died in 1841.

the day. Preached with short notes on Rom. viii: 14, and the sermon written yesterday. A solemn season. Had no evening meeting.

8. Last night we had a heavy fall of snow. Worked considerably shoveling paths. Wrote to Mr. Holland, of Hartford. Read. At evening attended the Bible class. Thin.

9. Walked out. Rode with a delegate to Bridgeport and met with the Consociation. They have not a good knowledge of our ecclesiastical system. Mr. Blatchford appeared well on examination. Kindly entertained at Mr. Thacher's.

10. Mr. Blatchford was installed. The exercises good. I made the installing prayer. A very pleasant day and a large audience. The snow thawed considerably. Returned. Read. Our meeting-house seats have sold well this week.

11. Read the most of the day in the *Encyclopædia*. Walked out and visited. An aged respectable man died suddenly last night. Visited the (Episcopal) family.<sup>1</sup> Cold and tedious.

12. Read the Bible. Wrote. Walked out. Icy and slippery. Rode out in a sleigh with company and visited. Very fine sleighing.

13. Read the *Christian Observer*. Read the Bible. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. Still severely cold. Did not go out.

14. Preached a double sermon on Eph. ii: 5. Attended with Mr. Shepard the funeral of the late Gen. Nichols.<sup>2</sup> At evening meeting preached on Heb. x: 31. Mr. Mitchell,<sup>3</sup> a candidate here, was present and assisted.

15. Read a periodical. Called on Mr. Mitchell. It snowed. We have a severe winter. Yesterday had a present of a good scarf.<sup>4</sup> Wrote. At evening attended the Bible class.

16. Walked and visited. It thawed considerably. Find it difficult to procure a place for permanent boarding. Read *North American Review*. Rev. Mr. Kent<sup>5</sup> called and dined with me. Wrote. Read the Bible.

17. Rode with company to New Haven. Very good sleighing. It thaws. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Brundage,<sup>6</sup> of Brookfield. Went to the college and fixed on four beneficiaries of the Everest fund.<sup>7</sup> Called on Mr. Merwin. Friends here appear to be quite glad that I am in Stratford. Paid for a book, \$1. The streets wet.

18. Did errands. Saw an ancient Bible. Am something unwell. Rode home. The sleighing begins to fail. Visited. The papers have many accounts of the late severe cold.

19. Walked and visited. The roads quite wet. Visited our grammar school. Am unexpectedly offered a good place for boarding. Received a letter from Dea. Reed, of East Windsor, and one from H. Davidson,

<sup>1</sup> This betokens that the Congregationalists and Episcopalians in Stratford maintained Christian intercourse and civility, which was not always the case.

<sup>2</sup> Gen. Matthias Nicoll, not Nichols.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. John Mitchell, before noticed.

<sup>4</sup> Probably from the family of Gen. Nicoll, whose funeral he had just attended.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. James Kent, of Trumbull.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Abner Brundage.

<sup>7</sup> This fund yielded not far from \$240 a year, being about \$4,000.

of Waldo, Me. Read the *American Almanack*. Wrote. At evening called on Mr. Shepard. Visited an elderly woman quite sick.

20. Wrote to Mr. Brundage, of Brookfield, and to Dea. Reed, of East Windsor. Walked out. Very wet in the streets. The snow goes very fast, though a foundation of ice. Read the Bible.

21. The sleighing is about done, after a good turn of three weeks. The traveling very bad. People well out. In the morning expounded on Matthew from the beginning to the ii: 19. Preached on John iii: 19. Had a thin conference and preached on James i: 15. Visited. The ground almost covered with water.

22. Read Mr. Hayne's<sup>1</sup> eloquent, unprincipled speech in the United States Senate. Walked and visited. Warm and pleasant. At evening attended my Bible class. Well attended.

23. Rode to Bridgeport. The roads are getting to be very muddy. Wrote. Read the Bible. Made calls at Bridgeport. The harbors broke up about Saturday and Sabbath-day.

24. Wrote to my brother F., to S. T. Wolcott, and to Rev. Mr. Freeman,<sup>2</sup> of Weston. Rode and visited. The frost begins to break through. Visited an aged man very low. Tarried out.

25. Rode to Oronoke and visited. Very bad riding. Saw several aged people. The ice yet on the river. Spent the day in visiting. Tarried out.

26. Pleasant. Visited. Rode home. The ground very soft. Wrote. Mr. Shepard and his wife called here. At evening walked out.

27. Read the Bible. Rode to Fairfield to exchange with Mr. Hunter.<sup>3</sup> Passed him on the way. The mud deep and the riding very bad. Rode on horseback. Some places begin to be settled. Stopped at Bridgeport and saw some of the members of the new society. Mr. Hunter and wife live as boarders.

28. Cold but pleasant. Preached on John iii: 3, and Eph. ii: 14. This is a fine congregation. The largest, I think, in the county. The Governor<sup>4</sup> and several others were down from Greenfield.<sup>5</sup> They have no meetings there. Drank tea with Rev. Mr. Lee,<sup>6</sup> now keeping school here. At evening was at Mr. Osborne's.<sup>7</sup> Kindly treated.

#### MARCH.

1. Called at Mr. Sherman's.<sup>8</sup> Rode home. Cold and rough east wind. The ground hard frozen. Walked out. Read. At evening attended the monthly concert.

<sup>1</sup> Robert Young Hayne, born near Charleston, S. C., Nov. 10, 1791, died at Asheville, N. C., Sept. 24, 1839. The speech here referred to was that audacious oration in the Senate which called out the famous reply from Daniel Webster.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Nathaniel Freeman, a native of Lebanon, Ct., a graduate of Yale, 1805, was pastor in that part of Weston now known as Easton, 1819-1832. He died 1854.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. John H. Hunter

<sup>4</sup> Gov. Gideon Tomlinson.

<sup>5</sup> Greenfield parish, on the high lands north of Fairfield Center, is in the town of Fairfield. That parish was now vacant. After the dismissal of Rev. Richard V. Dey, in 1829, they had no regular minister until 1833.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Chauncey G. Lee.

<sup>7</sup> Thomas B. Osborne, Esq., clerk of the court.

<sup>8</sup> Hon. Roger Minot Sherman, who made his home at Fairfield.



2. Received a letter from B. Ely, of Simsbury, and one from S. T. Wolcott. Wrote answers to them both. We had a severe snow-storm through the day. Read a part of Mr. Webster's very able speech in the United States Senate.<sup>1</sup> The Bible class prevented by the storm.

3. Wrote to my brother James. Received a letter from W. M. Holland, of Hartford. The snow of yesterday the deepest we have had this year. Quite tedious. Rode to Oronoke and preached a lecture on 2 Cor. v: 9. Ten aged people in a small neighborhood. At evening attended a singing-school. Tarried out.

4. Visited. The snow thaws and the sleighing is poor. Read Pitkin's *History*.<sup>2</sup> Have much visiting to do. Read the remainder of Mr. Webster's noble speech.

5. Read the Bible. Cold. Wrote. Yesterday received a printed letter from Rev. C. A. Goodrich.<sup>3</sup> Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture on Rom. viii: 35. Pretty thin. This family had company. Very bad going for this place.

6. Wrote a sermon on Matt. v: 13. Finished before nine. Walked out. The snow thaws and the ground is very wet.

7. Preached with notes on John i: 11, and the sermon written yesterday. Quite wet and rainy. The church pretty well out. Administered the sacrament. Had no conference. In the evening we had a hard rain and thunder. Walked out.

8. We have many accounts of a very severe winter in Europe. The rivers frozen in Spain. Wrote to Mr. Battell. At evening had a full Bible class. Quite cold.

9. Walked and visited. The ground quite frozen. Assisted in visiting a school. Read the Bible. At evening was out in a large party; very decorous.

10. Read *Ivanhoe*.<sup>4</sup> Walked and visited several places where I have not been. The ground settles but little. Reading periodicals occupies much time.

11. Rode to the north part of the town and visited two schools. One of them well instructed. Visited families. Had considerable conversation with Mr. Curtis,<sup>5</sup> the antinomian Baptist preacher. Still bad riding. Got home late.

12. Received a letter from Dea. Reed, of East Windsor. Received two packets from W. W. Ellsworth,<sup>6</sup> and one from N. Barber,<sup>7</sup> members of Con-

<sup>1</sup> Nothing which Daniel Webster ever did in his life gave him more fame than this masterly reply to Senator Hayne.

<sup>2</sup> Timothy Pitkin's *Political and Civil History of the United States*. This work was published in two volumes in 1828.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. Chauncey Allen Goodrich, D. D., of Yale College.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins reads some novels, but not very many. He read Scott's *Antiquary* a good many years before. *Ivanhoe* is often the first one read.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Mr. Curtis is not among the Con-

necticut ministers of that year, and probably had no parish.

<sup>6</sup> Hon. William W. Ellsworth was in Congress, 1829-1873.

<sup>7</sup> Hon. Noyes Barber was a native of Groton. He was both a merchant and a lawyer. He was a Member of Congress, 1821-1835. Lanman, in his *Dictionary of Congress*, says of him: "He was a man of ability, and while in Congress accomplished much good for his native State, where he was universally respected as a man and a statesman."

gress. Read. Attended a funeral with Mr. Shepard of a child that died in New York. Had a communication relative to a place of living. I know not how I am to be provided for. The deacons called on me. Cold.

13. Am called unexpectedly to a severe trial. Intended to write today, but am unable. Walked out. Read. Read the Bible. Made calls.

14. Preached a double sermon on 1 Tim. iii: 16. Warm. The ground settles. Attended the evening conference and spoke on Luke xvi: 30. The principal men here act a very friendly part towards me.

15. Am quite feeble. Walked out and visited. Saw an afflicted family. Read. Read Patrick's *Commentary*. On the 13th let Mrs. Thompson have \$16. Wrote. At evening had a good Bible class. Much fatigued.

16. Walked out. Wrote. Afternoon rode to Milford and attended the meeting of the County Temperance Society. Good addresses were made. At evening attended a large Bible class for Mr. Pinneo. He is still feeble.

17. A steady rain all day. Tarried at Mr. Pinneo's till towards night and rode home. Got something wet. The frost mostly out of the ground. Read.

18. Walked and visited. Visited an aged man very low. Received a letter from my brother James, and one from J. W. Huntington,<sup>1</sup> Member of Congress. Wrote to him in reply. Was up late. I pray that I may be profited by all my trials.

19. Assisted in visiting two schools. They do pretty well. Pleasant spring weather. Read. At evening walked out.

20. Have a hoarseness contracted on the 17th. Read the Bible. A Mr. Riggs,<sup>2</sup> a young minister, called on me. Wrote by him to Dea. Barnum,<sup>3</sup> of Bethel. Wrote notes for preaching. Am much burdened and pretty feeble.

21. In the morning showery. Preached with notes on Matt. iii: 8, and a written sermon on 1 Cor. x: 9. Spoke with much difficulty on account of my hoarseness. Mr. Mitchell prayed in the forenoon and performed the most of the service at the evening conference. By request, warned a church meeting.

22. Am very feeble and languid. Walked out. Can do but little. Warm. Wrote. People are beginning to plow and garden. Assisted in visiting a school. At evening attended the Bible class. Am much occupied.

23. Last night we had a hard thunder-shower. Wet and cold. Afternoon we had a church meeting. Am much relieved, through the divine blessing, from painful anxieties. Had kind assistance from Mr. Mitchell.

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Jabez W. Huntington was a native of Norwich, but residing in Litchfield; a graduate of Yale, and Member of Congress, 1829-1834, when he was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of Errors.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Thomas Riggs, a native of Oxford, Ct.; a graduate of Hamilton College, 1823, and of Andover Seminary, 1826. He after-

wards preached at several places in New England and New York, and died at Glens Falls, N. Y., July 9, 1880.

<sup>3</sup> Dea. Ephraim Barnum, of Bethel parish, Danbury; doubtless introducing Mr. Riggs to him as a candidate, the pulpit being then vacant by the recent dismissal of Rev. John G. Lowe.

24. Wrote to B. W. Birge, Philadelphia. Read. Assisted in visiting a school. Walked out and visited. Am treated with much kindness.

25. Read the Bible. Walked far and visited two aged sick men. Read the *Quarterly Review*.<sup>1</sup> Walked out and visited.

26. A hard storm of rain and snow began last evening, and continued through the night and, with some intermissions, through the day. Some of the time cold and violent. Read the Bible and the *Quarterly*. Walked out. Wrote. I do but little important business.

27. Read *Ivanhoe*. In the morning there was a body of snow on the ground, but the most of it went off during the day. Mr. Turner,<sup>2</sup> a candidate, called on me. I let him take my sulky to ride to Norwalk. Walked out. Received a letter from my brother F. L., and one from S. Babcock, New Haven. Read the Bible.

28. Preached with notes on Luke ix: 31, and a sermon on Matt. xxv: 6. Full meeting. After meeting rode to the north part of the town and performed a marriage. At evening attended a meeting at Oronoke, and preached on Matt. xiv: 33. Tarried out.

29. Assisted in visiting a school. Attended a funeral of an aged man. Am considerably unwell. Read. Had company.

30. Last evening Mr. Linsley<sup>3</sup> called and conversed with me considerably. Walked and visited. Quite warm. Afternoon attended a church meeting. But little done. At evening attended the Bible class. Much fatigued.

31. Wrote to the cashier of the Hartford Bank, and to Mr. Mead, of Greenwich. Walked out. Had company. Finished reading *Ivanhoe*. Read the Bible.

#### APRIL.

1. Warm and pleasant. Walked and visited. Am considerably unwell. Took physic. Read *La Fayette in America*.<sup>4</sup> Vegetation is beginning.

2. Received a letter from Mr. Merwin, of New Haven, and one from Pres. Day. Wrote to Mr. Merwin,<sup>5</sup> and to Mr. Davies,<sup>6</sup> of Saugatuck. Read. Am much unwell and debilitated. Took medicine. Cold and wet. Visited. Assisted in examining a school-teacher.

<sup>1</sup> He was reading the number of the *Quarterly Review* probably for January, which was the beginning of the forty-second volume, two numbers making a volume, so that there are two volumes a year.

<sup>2</sup> This was, without much doubt, Rev. Asa Turner, long known as Father Turner, who was just then closing his studies at the Yale Seminary. He was graduated at the college (Yale) in 1827, and at the seminary, 1830. He was ordained an evangelist in September following at New Haven, and has since done a great work in the West, where he is still living in his old age. His present residence is Oskaloosa, Iowa.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. James Harvey Linsley, the teacher and scientist before noticed.

<sup>4</sup> *La Fayette, General Memoirs of*, with an account of his visit to America, and of his reception by the people from his arrival, Aug. 15, to the celebration at Yorktown, Oct. 19, 1824. Boston, 1824.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Samuel Merwin, of the North Church, New Haven.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Thomas F. Davies, who had succeeded Dr. Edward W. Hooker as pastor at Green's Farms (Saugatuck). Mr. Davies was a graduate of the University of North Carolina in 1822. He was pastor at Saugatuck, 1829-1839.

3. Am some better, through divine favor, but feeble. Walked out. Wrote. Read the Bible and an expositor. Received a proclamation for Fast after much delay and difficulty.

4. Expounded on Matt. ii: 19 to the end of chapter third. Preached on Prov. xxiii: 26. Full meeting. Much difference between morning and afternoon. Had a full conference; spoke on Eph. iv: 30. Much fatigued.

5. Rode a distance and visited a sick woman. People begin to take shad. The electors' meeting appeared to be numerous. I like the districting for senators.<sup>1</sup> Parties cannot be so strong. At evening attended the monthly concert. Quite thin. Read.

6. Walked out and visited. Find it very difficult to procure a place to live. Wrote to my brother at Enfield. Read the Bible. Rode to the north part of the town and attended in the evening a temperance meeting. Some gentlemen were down from Derby. Was out late.

7. Wrote to my cousin, Mrs. Gilman,<sup>2</sup> at New Haven. Began to write a sermon on Dan. x: 12 for the Fast. At evening had a good Bible class.

8. Wrote and finished, late in the evening, the sermon begun yesterday. Walked out. Have hindrances. At evening the deacons called to see me. There appear to be here a few restless people.

9. Fast. Preached on Joel ii: 12-14, and Dan. x: 12. Quite warm. Saw daffas in full blossom. Much fatigued. Had company. Afternoon meeting quite full.

10. Rode to New Haven. Wet. My horse is considerably lame. Mr. Merwin took my horse and sulky and rode to Saugatuck. Mr. Hunter<sup>3</sup> is to supply me tomorrow. Walked out. Looked at the new State House. It will be a noble building. Saw various acquaintance.

11. Very rainy all day. Preached in the forenoon for Mr. Merwin. Addressed the Sabbath-school. Afternoon exchanged and preached for the new Third Society.<sup>4</sup> A fine new house and good congregation. Mr. Boardman<sup>5</sup> is out of town. Preached on 1 Tim. iii: 16, and Isa. iii: 10, 11. Thin meetings. At evening called on Prof. Fitch. The ground almost covered with water.

12. Wet and cold. Made calls. Paid John M. S. Perry,<sup>6</sup> for the Everest

<sup>1</sup> This refers to the new law for shaping the senatorial districts of the State, referred to in a previous note. The law had been accepted by the popular vote.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Hannah Gilman, wife of B. I. Gilman, formerly of Marietta, O.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. John H. Hunter, pastor in Fairfield.

<sup>4</sup> The Third Church in New Haven was the one which last year (1884) united with the North Church, making the present Union Church. It was formed in 1826, and until 1830 was supplied by Dr. Nathaniel W. Taylor, of the Yale Seminary.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Charles A. Boardman was settled over the church just mentioned in March, 1830. He had been previously settled, 1818-1830, over the church in New Preston.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Perry had graduated at Yale College in 1827, and was, when Mr. Robbins met him, in the middle class of Yale Seminary. He was licensed by the Litchfield North Association, June 8, 1830. He died in 1838. The trustees of the Everest fund seem to have been unfortunate thus far in taking up men destined to an early death. This was not true of the later beneficiaries, and the men aided were generally of fine abilities.

fund, \$10. Attended Mr. Merwin's Bible class. At evening heard a lecture on ecclesiastical history from Dr. Murdock.<sup>1</sup> Afternoon went with Dr. Taylor to one of his theological lectures. Found, late at evening, that I have lost my valuable gold watch-key. Paid for books, \$1.75.

13. Looked for my watch-key and directed to have it advertised. Rode to East Windsor. Last night it rained again, and the riding is quite bad. Quite cold and rough. Mrs. Wolcott has been quite unwell, but is now better. Tired.

14. Put up a large bundle of clothes for my brother James's family. Read. I fear I have lost articles from my library. Received of J. Hill for grass, \$4. Walked out.

15. Rode to Hartford. Received of Mr. Cook, for writing for him some years ago, \$6.82. Saw various acquaintance. Saw people in East Hartford. Their ecclesiastical matters are in a poor state. Paid for pamphlets, \$2.13. Pleasant but still cold. At evening attended, awhile, Mr. Whelpley's meeting. Spoke a little.

16. Wrote. Had company. Visited. Cool, and the season advances but slowly. Attended to my things.

17. Maj. Hayden paid me \$28, and took up a note I have long held against him. Rode to Hartford. Received of the Phoenix Bank a dividend of \$45. Paid Hartford Bank, \$75.20, and took up my note. Paid a merchant, \$3.46; and for Mr. Wolcott, eighty-four cents. Rode to Windsor and Pine Meadow and visited friends. Rode to Enfield. I think my brother is as well as for some time past.

18. Preached for my brother on 1 Tim. iii: 16, and John vii: 37. We had meetings in the school-house, as the meeting-house is repairing. There has been a good work of grace here for some months past. The Methodists have made great efforts. At evening attended a conference in the north part of the town and preached on Eph. iv: 30. It grows warmer. Meetings quite full.

19. Looked at the meeting-house. It will be much improved. Rode to Somers. The people have lately called a Mr. Dennis<sup>2</sup> to settle with them. Got nothing of my dues.<sup>3</sup> Rode to East Windsor. Visited. Got home late.

20. Made a donation, \$2. Worked at my books and papers. Wrote. The thermometer was above 80°. Rode out. Received \$14.34, the rent

<sup>1</sup> James Murdock, D. D., a native of Westbrook, Ct., and a graduate of Yale, 1797. He was a man of large learning. In 1802 he was ordained minister of the Congregational church in Princeton, Mass., where he was pastor, 1802-1815. In 1815 he was chosen Professor of Ancient Languages in the University of Vermont. From 1819 to 1828 he was Professor of Sacred Rhetoric and Ecclesiastical History in Andover Seminary. In 1829 he removed to New Haven, and was engaged in revising and publishing his works.

He was an eminent scholar. He died in 1856.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Rodney G. Dennis, who was pastor at Somers, 1830-1839. He afterwards lived many years at Grafton, Mass., and Southboro', Mass., supplying pulpits. He died in the last-named town Sept. 23, 1865, aged seventy-four. He was a graduate of Bowdoin College, 1816.

<sup>3</sup> It was very hard work in those years to collect debts, however just. In this respect the present age is much better.

of one half of my land for the last year. Mr. Rockwell engaged to take the whole for the present year at the same rate.

21. Worked, putting up books and other things. It is quite fatiguing. Walked out and made several calls. Am treated very kindly. Thermometer at 82°. Paid for a large box, \$2.25; and taxes, forty-four cents. The ground has become quite dry.

22. Engaged, putting up my things. Called at several places. Thermometer 84°. Wrote. We had a large cutting of asparagus. Called on Mr. Robbins,<sup>1</sup> the Baptist preacher here. Mr. and Mrs. Whelpley visited at Mr. Wolcott's. At evening attended a meeting with Mr. W. in the meeting-house, and preached on Luke ix: 30, 31. I fear the Everest fund will sustain a severe loss by the Reeds.

23. Tudor agrees to go to Stratford with my things.<sup>2</sup> Paid him towards expenses, \$5. Set out on my return. It seems like leaving home. Quite warm and dusty. Received my dues from the society of East Hartford, \$185.25. Paid Esq. White for boarding, \$15. Received of Silas Andrus, of Hartford, money lent last year to Dea. Reed, \$35.52. Paid him for books and binding, \$9.50. Paid H. Wadsworth for legal services for the Everest fund, \$10. Left Hartford, afternoon, and rode to Wallingford. Tarried at a tavern.

24. Last night it rained a good deal and it has become quite wet and cold. Rode early to New Haven. Made calls. Paid Mr. Twining,<sup>3</sup> for four college beneficiaries of the Everest fund, \$66. My gold watch-key has been found. Paid for the advertisement for it, seventy-five cents; and the promised reward, \$1.<sup>4</sup> Rode home. Received a letter from B. W. Birge, of Philadelphia, and one from B. Ely, Esq., of Simsbury. Wrote to Birge.

25. Cold and wet. Our people are painting the inside of the meeting-house, and we had meeting in the town-house. Well accommodated. Preached a double sermon on James i: 23, 24. Received and read to the church a letter from the Consociation, desiring the church to send a delegate to attend the proposed installation at New Milford. The pastor was not mentioned. The church appointed me to go.<sup>5</sup> Visited a woman very sick. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. The evening meeting was prevented by the wet.

26. Paid Mrs. Thompson on my board-bill, \$20. Wrote. Walked and visited. Saw the sick woman; a little better. Read. At evening attended the Bible class. Pretty thin.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Gurdon Robbins was the Baptist minister at East Windsor. He was only very distantly related, if at all, to Dr. Thomas Robbins. He does not seem to have been a man of college education.

<sup>2</sup> As he was now settled again in the ministry, he wanted many of his books and other articles with him. Since his dismissal at East Windsor they had been chiefly left in that town, stored at his old home. It was some years before they were all taken away.

<sup>3</sup> Stephen Twining, steward of the college, 1819-1832.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins maintained a valuable watch-key if he could afford to pay such sums for its recovery. Most men now carry one costing from five to ten cents.

<sup>5</sup> The committee did not apparently remember that a minister had recently been settled in Stratford. However, the Stratford church got over the difficulty very handsomely by appointing their *pastor* their *delegate*.

27. Set out early and rode to New Milford. Quite cold. Frost in the morning. My horse is mostly free from lameness. Attended the examination of Mr. Rood. He appears pretty well, but the examining was indifferent. The Consociation considered my standing. I refused to sit as a corresponding member or delegate. I presented the minutes of the council that installed me and gave a brief summary of my doctrinal faith, and was voted a member of the body. I was such, as pastor of this consociated church.<sup>1</sup> Tarried at Mr. Canfield's.

28. Find very cordial friends. Received of this society, \$56. Paid for books from Mr. Eliot's library, \$23.70. Paid a blacksmith, seventy-five cents. Set out for home, and rode late in the evening to a tavern in Trumbull. In the morning there was a pretty hard frost, but we had a very pleasant day. Apple-tree blossoms appear. The council had a very good dinner, with no drink but common beer and water.<sup>2</sup>

29. Rode home early. Mr. S. T. Wolcott came with a load of my things from East Windsor. They came with much care and without injury. Afternoon he set out on his return. Worked at my things. Think of changing my lodgings. At evening visited Esq. Booth. He has been much misled.<sup>3</sup>

30. Wrote. Engaged a new place to live. I move for the sake of having more house room. Wrote to Charles T. Hillyer, of Granby. Warm. On the 23d paid \$1.50 at East Hartford for old newspapers. Afternoon rode to Oronoke and visited. Was out late. On the 26th wrote to Mr. Ely, of Simsbury.

## MAY.

1. Wrote a report for the Convention of the Clergy.<sup>4</sup> Wrote to Mr. Hooker,<sup>5</sup> of Hartford. Visited the sick. Mr. Hunter, of Fairfield, called on me unexpectedly to exchange tomorrow. Paid the man that keeps my horse, \$10. Have many avocations. Warm.

2. Rode early to Fairfield. Preached on 1 Tim. iii: 16, and John vii: 37. There is considerable commotion in this society on account of a sermon preached by Mr. Hunter on Fast Day.<sup>6</sup> Saw friends. At evening Mr. Hunter returned. Quite warm.

3. Conversed with Mr. Hunter and others. I think the difficulties here will subside. Rode home. Trees are generally in blossom. Worked at my things. Walked out. Saw a military company. Wrote. At evening attended the monthly concert. Wet, and the meeting thin.

4. Conversed with the deacons. Wrote to Nathan Wells, of this town.

<sup>1</sup> Altogether, this whole business, from the beginning to the end, was curious and disagreeable.

<sup>2</sup> The temperance cause was making progress.

<sup>3</sup> There were inharmonious elements stirring in Stratford when Dr. Robbins was settled there.

<sup>4</sup> Convention of the Congregational ministers, such as occurred each year in the month of May, during what was called Election Week.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>6</sup> Preachers on Fast and Thanksgiving days were apt to take up political and kindred themes.

Afternoon rode to New Haven. Quite warm. The Governor<sup>1</sup> got in late, but made a good display. Saw many acquaintance. Received a letter from Chester Chapin.<sup>2</sup> Called on Mr. Merwin.

5. In the morning attended the Ministers' Annuity Society. Then the Convention of the Clergy. We had to wait very long for the public exercises. Mr. Boardman<sup>3</sup> preached very well. The new State House, I think, will be more magnificent than convenient.<sup>4</sup> Kindly accommodated at Mr. R. Sherman's. Saw my sister, and Col. Lawrence<sup>5</sup> and wife on their way to New York. At evening attended a meeting relative to the Domestic Missionary Society. Its funds are declining.

6. Called on my cousin, Mrs. Gilman,<sup>6</sup> lately come here from New York to reside. Paid Gen. Howe for books, \$6.81. Received communications for the convention. Rode home. My horse is lame. Visited. At evening attended the Bible class. Mrs. Ogden,<sup>7</sup> of Southington, was with me.

7. Wrote. Walked out. Afternoon rode to Putney,<sup>8</sup> visited, and in the evening attended a Bible class for the first time in that part of the town. Got home late.

8. This morning there was considerable frost. Read. Wrote to Mr. Brace,<sup>9</sup> of Newington, and Mr. Edson,<sup>10</sup> of Brooklyn. The painting and repairs of the meeting-house are completed and very well done.

9. Quite cool. Preached with notes on John xv: 22, and a sermon on 2 Chron. vi: 41. Made a sort of new dedication of the meeting-house. It has been closed three Sabbaths. It appears very well. At evening had a full conference and spoke on Heb. x: 26.

10. Considerable frost. Took a long walk. A great blowth of the apple-trees. Wrote. Carried some of my books and papers to my new place of living. Attended the Bible class. Read the Governor's message. A very good one.

11. Frost again this morning. Began to write a public address for the

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Gideon Tomlinson, LL. D., was Governor of Connecticut, by re-election, from 1827 to 1831.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Chester Chapin, whom we met frequently in the earlier years of the diary, was now, if we mistake not, laboring on the Western Reserve.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Charles A. Boardman, who, two months before, had been dismissed from the church in New Preston and settled over the Third Church in New Haven. He was a native of New Milford, and a graduate of Yale, 1819.

<sup>4</sup> It was also more showy than solid.

<sup>5</sup> This was William Lawrence, son of Grove and Elizabeth (Robbins) Lawrence.

<sup>6</sup> Mrs. Hannah (Robbins) Gilman, the wife of Judge Benjamin Ives Gilman, was

now sixty-two years old, having been born in Plymouth, 1768, the daughter of Chandler Robbins, D. D. She was married to Mr. Gilman in 1790, and she and her husband were among the earliest settlers in Ohio. She and her husband had been living in Philadelphia and New York since leaving Marietta, but now had located at New Haven.

<sup>7</sup> Wife of Rev. David L. Ogden, graduate of Yale, 1814, and pastor at Southington, Ct., 1821-1836. Mr. Ogden was afterward settled in the State of New York and in the town of Marlborough, Mass. He died in 1863.

<sup>8</sup> Another of the special localities.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. Joab Brace, D. D.

<sup>10</sup> Rev. Ambrose Edson, pastor at Brooklyn, Ct., April, 1824, to December, 1830.



Temperance Society. Walked out and visited. Saw a garden of about 10,000 tulips.

12. Carried three loads of books and other things in my sulky to the place of my expected residence. Wrote. Attended a church meeting. A few were present and did poorly. Made calls.

13. Removed my residence from Mrs. Thompson's, where I have been very kindly accommodated, to Mr. Southard's. Two New York ladies are fellow-boarders. My moving makes a good deal of labor. Had the assistance of a man and team. Rainy.

14. Visited. Called on sick persons. Read. Rode to Oronoke and attended in the evening a Bible class. It was held late. Tarried out. The season is very promising.

15. Wrote on my temperance address. It requires a good deal of labor. I have been too much out of the way of writing for some time past. Am burdened with the bad conduct of some of my people. The Lord be my helper.

16. Preached on Heb. xii: 2. In the afternoon Mr. Mitchell<sup>1</sup> preached for me, serious and well. At evening we had a full conference; attentive and solemn. Spoke on Luke xii: 20, and had assistance. Full meetings. Wrote.

17. Wrote and finished my address on intemperance. Rainy and cold. Sat below by a fire. Had no Bible class. Read. Am perplexed with the conduct of some church members.

18. We have had a great deal of rain. Rode on horseback to North Milford. Expected to have met with the New Haven County Temperance Society, but found that the meeting had been postponed. Visited Mr. Pinneo. The ground very wet.

19. Visited. Received a letter from Mr. Hoffman, of New York, informing me that he has bought some volumes of Dr. Mason's<sup>2</sup> library for me. Wrote to Mr. Hoffman, and to Rev. Mr. Perry,<sup>3</sup> of Sharon, and to Rev. Mr. Wilcox,<sup>4</sup> of Greenwich. Last Sabbath I married two persons from Milford, who came here and were published, and attended meeting, then came to this house and were married. The society here had a meeting and appointed a committee to attend to their difficulties. Visited.

20. Last night took medicine, and am quite feeble. Walked out. Am much burdened. Wrote. Read the Bible.

21. Read. Am very feeble. The people of my society are divided and in an unpleasant state. The Lord be our helper. Attended our Bible class at Putney. Was out late. Our Assembly do poorly. They appear to love ungodliness. A beginning of the new State House.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Mitchell, before noticed.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. John M. Mason, who died Dec. 26, 1829. He had been one of the foremost clergymen in the country, and Dr. Robbins would naturally desire to possess some of his books.

<sup>3</sup> John M. S. Perry, yet a member of Yale Theological Seminary, was a native of Sharon.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Chauncey Wilcox, pastor at North Greenwich, 1828-1846. He was a graduate of Yale, 1824, and died in 1852.

22. Walked and visited. Received a letter from Henry Birge, of Philadelphia, with a most acceptable remittance of \$131.50, due from B. W. Birge to the Everest fund.<sup>1</sup> This morning there was a little frost. I desire to rejoice that I am wholly in the hands of God. Wrote.

23. Mr. Mitchell preached for me in the morning. Afternoon preached on 1 Thess. v: 3. Quite cool. I am quite feeble. At the conference spoke on Phil. iii: 8. Was out late. The Lord is most holy in all his chastenings. Tired.

24. Walked out and made calls. Saw the deacons. Afternoon attended a church meeting. They received a report of their committee and adjourned without day. The church is in an unpleasant state, but I hope now it will be better.

25. Am some better of my complaint. Rode with Mr. Mitchell to Huntington and met with the Association. I sat with the body, but did not join them. No business done but matters of course. But six members present. Had a steady fire. Collected some things for the convention.

26. We adjourned in the morning. Rode home by Bridgeport. Called at the bank. Yesterday received a good letter from my brother James. Received a valuable newspaper from Mr. Ellsworth,<sup>2</sup> at Congress. Took medicine. Read. Visited. Wrote. The Indian question<sup>3</sup> excites great interest at Congress. Wrote to Dr. Tenney,<sup>4</sup> at Wethersfield, and to Mr. Hooker,<sup>5</sup> of Hartford.

27. Wrote. Walked out and visited. The season grows more mild. Wrote on the business of the Everest fund. Mr. Pinneo, of Milford, called on me. The society here had a meeting, which terminated favorably.

28. Wrote. Walked out. My health is better than it has been. Rode to Oronoke and attended in the evening my Bible class. Well attended.

29. Made calls. Rode home. Got wet with rain. A part of the day it rained hard. Refreshing to the ground. Received a box of books from New York, fourteen volumes purchased from Dr. Mason's library, for \$45. There are eleven very valuable folios. A valuable addition to my library. Paid for my books, \$45.<sup>6</sup> Read.

30. Expounded on Matt. iv. Preached on Ps. li: 17. Some people are absent from meeting. Wet. Attended the burying of a poor colored man who was drowned. Had been drinking. At evening attended a marriage. We have some sick.

31. Visited a sick woman. Read. Afternoon walked with Mr. Shepard<sup>7</sup> and saw the raising of the Globe House. It will be a good building. At evening had a good Bible class. Paid for a book, \$1.50. Wrote to Rev.

<sup>1</sup> That money was thus happily restored to the fund.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. W. W. Ellsworth, M. C.

<sup>3</sup> The Indian questions arising at that time pertained to the Southern rather than the Western Indians. The Seminoles were the tribe especially under consideration.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Caleb J. Tenney.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>6</sup> This was the purchase which Mr. Hoffman had made for him from Dr. John M. Mason's library.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. George C. Shepard, rector of Episcopal church in Stratford.

Mr. Leavitt, of New York, with a dismissal and recommendation of William Russell from this church. Received a letter from H. Davidson, of Waldo in Maine.

## JUNE.

1. Walked and visited the sick and others. Afternoon we had a very hard shower. Wrote to Mr. Hawes, of Hartford. Congress has passed the fatal Indian Bill.<sup>1</sup> An indelible disgrace to our country.

2. Rode to New Haven with company and returned. Had a pleasant visit with Mr. Gilman and his family. Saw members of the Legislature. The Assembly do poorly. Quite warm. We have had no warm day in May. Vegetation appears very well.

3. Am pretty feeble. Read. Afternoon walked a distance and visited. I find much to be done here. The people have not been ecclesiasticised.<sup>2</sup>

4. Walked out. Received a letter from Mr. Ogden, of Southington. Wrote to Mr. Ely, of Simsbury. Wet. Had no Bible class on account of the rain. Read Fuller's<sup>3</sup> *Ecclesiastical History of Britain*.

5. Rode out and visited. Warm. Vegetation advances rapidly. Paid a blacksmith, \$1. Had my sulky well repaired, for which I paid \$7.87. Read Brewer's *Turkey*.<sup>4</sup>

6. Preached a double sermon on John vi: 44. Wet and rainy. Thin meetings. We organized our Sabbath-school. It has been too long neglected. Received a letter from Mr. Brace, of Newington, and one from my sister. Wrote to her. Had no evening meeting.

7. Pleasant, after a great deal of wet. Wrote. Read Brewer's interesting book. Walked and visited. At evening attended the monthly concert. Very thin.

8. Showery and warm. Walked and visited. Read the Bible. Preparing for my journey. At evening had a full Bible class.

9. Left home early and rode with company to Southington. Made a short visit at Mr. Ogden's, and left my company. Rode to Farmington and Northington. Tarried at a tavern. A very pleasant road from New Haven near the canal. Northington is now a town—Avon.

10. In the morning hard showers. Rode early to Esq. Ely's, in Simsbury. Mr. McLean and his wife are hard sick. Mr. Ely and I attended to the business of the Everest fund. Mr. Porter<sup>5</sup> and Mr. McLean could not attend with us. We had much to do. Near noon set out on my return.

<sup>1</sup> This was the beginning of that unjust policy looking toward the removal of the Southern Indian tribes, against their own will, west of the Mississippi River. It cost much treasure and many lives.

<sup>2</sup> That is a somewhat new word, but bears its meaning plainly upon its face.

<sup>3</sup> The famous Thomas Fuller, 1608–1660, who wrote the *Worthies of England*, and his *Ecclesiastical History*, the more exact title of

which was, *The Church History of Britain from the Birth of Jesus Christ until the Year 1648*. This was published in folio in 1655. He was author, also, of other well-known works, and was a very racy and entertaining writer.

<sup>4</sup> Brewer's *Travels in Turkey*, by Rev. Josiah Brewer, a foreign missionary. The book was published in New Haven in 1830.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Noah Porter, of Farmington.

Rode to Southington. Looked with Mr. Ogden at his elegant new meeting-house. Rode to Hamden late and tarried at a tavern.

11. Rode early to New Haven and home. Fine weather. Have had, through mercy, a prosperous journey. Much fatigued. On the 9th left off my flannel, and removed from my hat the crape which I have worn since my mother's decease.<sup>1</sup> Wrote. Considerably unwell with a bowel complaint. Dined at Mr. Johnson's. Had green peas. Rode to Oronoke. At evening had a good Bible class.

12. Visited. Rode home. Wrote a report on the Everest fund for General Association. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Dutton,<sup>2</sup> of Guilford. Am much employed.

13. Very rainy through the forenoon. Preached with notes on Ps. li: 10, and a sermon on Num. xxiii: 19. Morning meeting very thin. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Thompson,<sup>3</sup> of Humphreysville. Evening meeting full; spoke on John ix: 4. Prepared for my journey.

14. Rode to East Windsor. It rained the most of the way from Meriden to Hartford. Called on Mr. Hawes. Mrs. Wolcott is quite well for her. The earth is very wet. Am much fatigued with labor and want of sleep.

15. Warm. Almost the first summer day. Walked out and made calls. Saw Mr. S. Bancroft,<sup>4</sup> aged nearly ninety-three. My brother came here and dined. We had green peas. Rode to Wethersfield. The General Association in session. The Clerical Convention met towards evening, did a little, and adjourned. At evening heard an excellent sermon on intemperance from Dr. Edwards,<sup>5</sup> of Boston. Thermometer when I left East Windsor, 86°.

16. My brother and I tarried together at Mr. S. B. Goodwin's. Presented the report of the Everest fund to the General Association, which was accepted. Rode to Southington. Very warm. Went into the meeting while Mr. Ogden was delivering his dedication sermon. A great collection of people. But few ministers. The most of them are at Wethersfield. A great collection there.<sup>6</sup> Afternoon attended a public singing and addressed the singers.

17. Rode home. The heat very oppressive. Traveled slow. People are beginning a little to mow. My horse performs well. At evening saw my cousin, Dr. Gilman,<sup>7</sup> of New York.

18. Yesterday received a church letter to convene the Consociation at Redding. Vegetation advances rapidly. Wrote on<sup>8</sup> the accounts of the Everest fund. Not as warm as it has been. Had a good Bible class in the evening at Putney. Was out late.

<sup>1</sup> His mother died Sept. 28, 1829, about eight months and a half before.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Aaron Dutton.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Charles Thompson, pastor in Humphreysville (now Seymour), 1830-1833.

<sup>4</sup> This was Mr. Samuel Bancroft, son of Nathaniel and Ann (Wolcott) Bancroft. He was born Oct. 29, 1737, and would have been ninety-three the following October.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Justin Edwards, who had just resigned his pastorate at Salem Street Church, Boston, to become Secretary of the American Temperance Society.

<sup>6</sup> Probably the arrangement was made for this dedication at Southington without the thought that the General Association was to meet at the same time.

<sup>7</sup> Son of Judge Benjamin I. Gilman.

19. Walked out and visited. Ecclesiastical matters here are in an unpleasant state. I pray for divine teaching and guidance. Read. Rev. Mr. Condit<sup>1</sup> called on me.

20. In the morning quite rainy, and thin meeting. Afternoon meeting well attended. Towards night very wet again. Had no conference. Walked out. We have a very wet season. Expounded on Matt. v: 1-3, and preached on Ex. xxxii: 26.

21. Rainy and wet. Read. Wrote. Our Bible class was prevented in the evening by rain.

22. Very cool for the season. Rode by way of Oronoke and Huntington to Redding. My delegate failed. A bad road. Met with the Consociation. The examination was nearly through when I arrived. I hope this Consociation may be strengthened. Tarried at Mr. Battell's.

23. Mr. Strong<sup>2</sup> was installed. Mr. Nash,<sup>3</sup> of Tolland, preached well. I gave the right hand. A good season. Rode home by Fairfield. Got home late. Had a light shower. Tired.

24. Wrote. Walked and visited. Dr. Tomlinson is very low. Received a letter from Mr. Thompson, of Humphreysville. Wrote to Mr. Pinneo, of Milford. At evening attended our Bible class.

25. Walked and visited. Wrote to my brother Francis. Rode to Oronoke and attended a good Bible class. Tarried out. Visited a sick man.

26. Visited at Oronoke. Rode home. A fine season. Received a letter from Mr. Pinneo, of Milford, and one from my sister. Paid Mr. Southard, \$10. Wrote to Mrs. Battell. Towards night Mr. Pinneo came here to exchange. Read.

27. Rode early to Milford. Preached on Num. xxiii: 19, and John vii: 37. Quite warm and sultry. This is a large and fine congregation. After meeting there was a hard shower. Rode home. Got something wet. Had no conference. Mr. Pinneo remained here.

28. Warm and sultry. Am quite languid. Read. Hindered by company. A hard thunder-shower. An unfavorable time for haying. Have a troublesome irruptive complaint. Wrote.

29. Looked over the old library of Dr. Johnson.<sup>4</sup> It has many valuable works. Received a letter from Mr. Blatchford, of Bridgeport. Mr. Frost, agent of the Temperance Society, called on me. Walked and visited. Was requested to assist in the celebration of Independence. Read. Warm.

30. Read the *African Repository*. Mr. Thomas Eggleston, of New York, called on me. Wrote. At evening we had a pretty numerous meeting in the meeting-house, and Mr. Frost made a very good temperance address. But few additional signers to the paper were procured. Some measures were adopted towards the formation of a society.

<sup>1</sup> Prof. Jonathan B. Condit.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William L. Strong, late pastor at Somers, was installed at Redding, and remained pastor, 1830-1835.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Ansel Nash.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Samuel Johnson, first president of Columbia College, and the first Episcopal minister in Connecticut.

JULY.

1. Rode early and went to Wallingford,<sup>1</sup> and met with the New Haven County Temperance Society. Interesting reports were received from the delegates. Afternoon there was a full public meeting and I delivered my address. Prof. Silliman spoke after me, very well. I think the meeting was useful. Returned to New Haven. Quite warm. Kindly entertained at Mr. Gilman's.<sup>2</sup>

2. Rode home. Very warm. Conversed with persons respecting Independence. Rode to Putney<sup>3</sup> and attended our Bible class. Quite thin. Tarried out.

3. Visited. Rode home. Read. Walked out. Sultry and showery. Wrote.

4. A warm and very pleasant day. I believe we have had several Sabbaths more or less wet. Meeting very full. There was no church.<sup>4</sup> Expounded on Matt. v: 38 to vi: 9, and preached on Luke xvi: 25. At evening attended meeting with the Methodists at their meeting-house, and after the meeting arrangements were made for the proceedings of tomorrow.

5. Read. Dined out. Afternoon we had a public exercise at our meeting-house. I delivered a part of my address written last year and addressed a large number of children who were present. Mr. Peck, a Methodist minister, spoke on the subject of the Colonization Society, for which we had a collection, and Mr. Sherman,<sup>5</sup> a Methodist minister, prayed. A good assembly. At evening attended the monthly concert; very thin. A very pleasant day. Saw rye cut.

6. Wrote. Walked out and visited. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. At evening attended our Bible class. Rather thin.

7. Yesterday afternoon we had a severe shower, which has considerably prostrated the corn. Warm. Afternoon set out on a journey. Rode to Humphreysville. Tarried with Mr. Thompson.<sup>6</sup> A rough road from Stratford to Derby.

8. Rode about three miles and stopped on account of rain, and remained at a private house till afternoon. Read the Bible. Rode to Woodbury and Washington. Was hindered by a shower. Tarried with Rev. Mr. Hayes.<sup>7</sup> A great deal of rain fell.

9. Rode to Warren. Washington is a very hilly town. The roads are much washed by the rains. Had a pleasant visit at my cousin Starr's.

<sup>1</sup> It was a ride of about twenty-five miles from Stratford to Wallingford.

<sup>2</sup> Judge Benjamin I. Gilman and his wife, Mrs. Hannah (Robbins) Gilman, were now, as will be remembered, living in New Haven.

<sup>3</sup> Part of the town of Stratford.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins means by this that there was no public service at the Episcopal church. It seems to us, by this use of language, that he gratuitously yields the question as between that church and all dissenting churches.

Doubtless he does not so intend, but it is an infelicitous way of speaking.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Charles Sherman, Bridgeport.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Charles Thompson had been ordained the previous April and settled at Humphreysville (now Seymour). He remained three years, and was then settled in Salem, Ct., where he preached till 1855, the year of his death.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Gordon Hayes, pastor at Washington, Ct., 1829-1851.

Called on Rev. Mr. Talcott.<sup>1</sup> He is quite unwell and has not preached since last November. In the evening we had a meeting at his house and preached on Matt. xiv: 33.

10. Conversed a good deal with cousin Starr. Rode to New Milford. Took my books bought last fall from Mr. Eliot's library, a valuable collection and well bought, and rode to Southbury and Oxford. It grew dark and I stopped and tarried at a tavern.

11. Rode early to Humphreysville. Mr. Thompson went yesterday to Stratford. Preached on Num. xxiii: 19, and John vii: 37. This is a small new society, but appears well. Attended a third meeting at five o'clock and preached on Ps. i: 2. In the evening married a couple; received a dollar and gave it to Mrs. Thompson.<sup>2</sup>

12. Wet and something rainy. Rode home. Dr. Tomlinson<sup>3</sup> died on Saturday evening. Attended his funeral. Got something wet. Had no Bible class.

13. Rainy; in the forenoon very hard. There is a good deal of grain out. The whole season has been very wet. Wrote. Read Brewer's *Turkey*. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Train,<sup>4</sup> of Milford. Walked out.

14. Read the Bible. Attended to my library. Clear weather. Had company. The French expedition to Algiers<sup>6</sup> is inexplicable. Visited.

15. Quite warm. Good harvest weather. Walked and visited. Looked over a collection of old books. Wrote. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Ely, of Mansfield. At evening had a good Bible class.

16. The heat severe and oppressive. People are very laborious in their harvest. The harvest is abundant. Can do but little on account of the heat. Rode to Putney and attended a Bible class. Read the Bible and expositors. Paid a blacksmith, seventy-five cents.

17. The heat still severe. Received a letter from my brother Francis. Read the Bible and Brewer's *Turkey*. Visited.

18. The heat much the same. People appear much oppressed with it. Meeting quite thin. Preached on Eph. ii: 12. At evening conference spoke on Heb. xii: 25. Much fatigued.

19. Our nights are as unusually warm as are the days. Wrote. Read the Bible. At evening had a good Bible class. Walked out.

20. No apparent abatement of the heat. Walked and visited. Am

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Hart Talcott, who had been settled as colleague with the aged Rev. Peter Starr in 1825, and remained till his own death in 1836. He had previously been settled, 1817-1824, in Clinton, Ct. He was a graduate of Dartmouth College, 1812, and of Andover Seminary, 1816.

<sup>2</sup> That was according to the law of ministerial courtesy in such cases.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Charles Tomlinson.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Josiah Brewer's work, of which we have already taken notice.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Asa M. Train, pastor of Plymouth Church, Milford, 1828-1850. He was a graduate of Amherst College in 1825, and of Andover Seminary, 1829. He was a native of Enfield, Mass.; born in 1800, and died in Milford, Ct., in 1863.

<sup>6</sup> The French had been at war with Algiers since 1827. On the 5th of July, 1830, they took Algiers. The Algerines had a facility in making enemies. We took our turn with the Barbary States in the early years of the present century.

languid and can do but little. A fine time for gathering some crops and the growing of others. Read Brewer's *Turkey*. Conversed with some of my people. The ground is heated.

21. Walked out and visited. Occupied with company. I go very thinly clad. Was out late in the evening.

22. Walked and visited. The people are laborious, though they complain much of heat. Mr. Linsley<sup>1</sup> is evidently laboring to introduce Baptists here. Read Bradford's *Massachusetts*. We had considerable thunder, but very little rain. Wrote.

23. Procured a good pair of thin pantaloons. Something cooler. Worked at the meeting-house, planning the new communion table and Sabbath-school book-case. I give the latter, at the cost of \$12. Paid towards it, \$5.<sup>3</sup> Rode to the north part of the town and attended the Bible class. Tarried out.

24. Visited at Oronoke. The harvest is generally in and very good. Read. Warmer. Towards night Mr. Kent<sup>4</sup> came here, unexpectedly, to exchange. Mr. Cushman<sup>5</sup> came here and baptized two persons, looking probably to a future increase.

25. Rode early to Trumbull. Preached on Ex. xxxii : 26, and Heb. vii : 25. The heat severe and oppressive, about the same as during the past week. This congregation is not large, but appears well. The society, I think, is improving. Towards evening returned. Met Mr. Kent. Attended our evening conference and spoke on John i : 11, 12. We had a light shower in the afternoon. The ground is becoming dry. Very tired.

26. Wrote. Cooler. Afternoon visited a school, with others. At evening attended the Bible class. Visited.

27. Rode to Oronoke. Very warm. The ground is dry. Rode out with company and visited. Read the Bible and the *Life of Christopher Wren*.<sup>6</sup> An eminent man. Received a letter from my sister Battell.

28. Wrote. Walked out and visited. Received a letter from Joseph Goodwin, of East Hartford.

29. Wrote to Dea. A. Pettibone,<sup>7</sup> of Norfolk. Rode to Bridgeport and Fairfield. Paid \$4.45 for six volumes of Mr. Eliot's books. Visited Mr.

<sup>1</sup> James H. Linsley, the teacher and scientist, but educated for the Baptist ministry, is introduced in a new character.

<sup>2</sup> Alden Bradford, LL. D. He was Massachusetts Secretary of State, 1812-1824, and was also Clerk of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts. He was born in Duxbury, Mass., 1765; graduated at Harvard, 1786, and died in 1843. His *History of Massachusetts* reached from 1764 to 1820.

<sup>3</sup> That is, he paid down \$5, and was to pay the \$7 afterwards.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. James Kent, of Trumbull.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Elisha Cushman, then of Bridgeport, but formerly of Hartford; one of the

more prominent Baptist ministers in the State.

<sup>6</sup> Sir Christopher Wren was the son of the parish rector at East Knoyle, Wiltshire, Eng., where he was born in 1632. He was graduated at Oxford in 1650, and became a learned professor of astronomy. From such an education it was not to be expected that he should become the most remarkable architect in England, as he was. St. Paul's Church, London, is only one of many magnificent structures in England erected under his care. He died at Hampton Court in 1723.

<sup>7</sup> Amos Pettibone, deacon of the Congregational church in Norfolk, 1825-1845.



Blatchford.<sup>1</sup> Wet and cool. But we get but little rain. Returned. Received a letter from Mr. Ely,<sup>2</sup> of Mansfield.

30. Wrote. Walked and visited. Read expositors. Rode to Oronoke and attended my Bible class. Tarried out.

31. Visited. People are much hurried with their labor. Read. We have some sick. Received a letter from Joseph Parker, of Philadelphia, with two numbers of *Encyclopædia*, after an interruption of four or five years.

AUGUST.

1. Expounded on the Lord's Prayer, Matt. vi, and preached on Jer. ix: 1. Full meeting. At evening spoke at the conference on Matt. xviii: 26, 27. We had a contribution for the Sabbath-school library; got but \$5. Sultry.

2. Wrote. Walked out. Dined with friends at Mrs. Hoffman's. Set out on a journey. Got into the stage at five o'clock and rode to Hartford. Slept at Hartford about three hours. It was a pleasant night.

3. Rode early in the stage to East Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott is pretty feeble. Looked over my library<sup>3</sup> and papers. At evening rode out with Mr. Wolcott.

4. Walked out. Saw Dr. and Dea. Reed. I fear the Everest fund debt which they owe will be lost. Made calls. Took pamphlets at the post office and paid sixty-three cents.

5. Walked and rode out. Quite warm. This society is in a critical state. Mrs. Haskell and her little son came down. Attended to my books and papers. I fear some are lost.

6. Rode to Hartford. There is a prospect of the settlement of a minister at East Hartford.<sup>4</sup> Paid at the post office there for pamphlets, forty-five cents. Paid for a book, \$1. Paid a debt to a merchant, \$5.82. Traded, \$1.75. Got into the stage at about three o'clock and rode home. Rode the most of the way alone. Got home about eleven o'clock. Very tired.

7. Yesterday received at Hartford Bank a dividend of \$15. Wrote. Walked out. The heat very oppressive. Heard of the death of the British King,<sup>5</sup> who died June 26th. Am quite languid.

8. Sultry hot. Preached on Matt. v: 18. Meetings well attended. Much oppressed with the heat. Spoke at the conference on Deut. xxxii: 18. The ground is dry and nights are warm.

9. Visited a sick child. Read. I do much less than I ought. At evening had a good Bible class.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Blatchford, pastor at Bridgeport.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William Ely.

<sup>3</sup> His library was still at East Windsor, though he had removed to Stratford a few books such as he more especially needed.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Asa Mead was settled there in 1830, but died in 1831. He was the father of that saintly child, James Mooney Mead, whose record was widely circulated and read

fifty years and more ago. Mr. Mead was a native of Meredith, N. H.; was graduated at Dartmouth, 1818, and at Andover Seminary, 1821; was pastor at Brunswick, Me., 1822-1829; then at East Hartford, 1830 to his death, 1831.

<sup>5</sup> George IV, sarcastically called "the first gentleman of Europe." His father, George III, died in 1820, after the longest reign but one in the whole history of England.

10. Read the Bible. Walked and visited. Called on Mr. Mitchell,<sup>1</sup> who is invited to preach at Norfolk. Wrote to Col. Olmsted,<sup>2</sup> of East Hartford. The British nation appear to have highly respected their late monarch.<sup>3</sup> Paid \$7, the remainder for the Sabbath-school book-case.

11. Read. Vegetation begins to suffer with drought. Put nothing in my mouth for about ten hours. At evening walked out and visited.

12. Visited a sick man. Read *Christian Spectator*.<sup>4</sup> Wrote to my sister Battell. Flies and insects are troublesome. At evening walked out.

13. Wrote. Began a sermon on Matt. xxiv: 32, 33. Walked out and visited. Read. Rode to Putney and attended the evening Bible class. Quite thin. Tarried out. Vegetation suffers much from the drought.

14. Rode home. Hot and sultry. Wrote the most of the sermon begun yesterday. I have neglected this duty too much.

15. Finished and preached my sermon on Matt. xxiv: 32, 33. Morning preached with notes on Ps. xl: 9. Warm and appearances of rain, but we had none. Had our last prayer in reference to the drought. Had no evening meeting. Walked out.

16. Rode with company to Bridgeport. Visited there. Very dusty and the flies tedious. At evening attended our Bible class.

17. Rode to New Haven and returned. Signs of rain fail. Dined at Mr. Gilman's. Did errands. The dust very severe. The drought is said not to be extensive. At evening walked out. Received letters from Mr. Crosby<sup>5</sup> and Mr. Hillyer, of East Granby.

18. Clear weather returns without having had any rain. Received a letter from Dea. Amos Pettibone, of Norfolk. Wrote to Mr. Ely, of Simsbury, and Horace Cowles, Esq., of Farmington. On the 16th paid Mr. Booth towards my horse-keeping, \$10. The air very clear and dry. Walked and visited. Read.

19. Rode and made calls the most of the day to give notice of the meeting we have appointed for tomorrow. Went to the north part of the town. Everything seems to suffer with the drought. Got home late.

20. Received a letter from Rev. G. Barrett.<sup>6</sup> Wrote to my neighbor, Mr. Shepard,<sup>7</sup> and received a reply. Walked and made calls. In the afternoon we had a season of prayer on account of the drought. It was well attended. Mr. Shepard and Mr. Sherman, and numbers of their people were with us. The former took no part. Mr. Mitchell was with us and assisted. The people appear to feel their want. May God hear our prayer. At evening called on Mr. Mitchell. He is going to preach at Norfolk.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Mitchell, before noticed.

<sup>2</sup> Col. Solomon Olmsted.

<sup>3</sup> People say kind things even when bad men die. George IV, living or dead, was never greatly admired, and yet, with all his faults, he had some virtues.

<sup>4</sup> Quarterly *Christian Spectator*. It began in 1819, and ten volumes were made up of

monthly issues, ten more of quarterly, and the publication ceased in 1838.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Stephen Crosby was pastor at East Granby, 1826-1832.

<sup>6</sup> This was Rev. Gerrish Barrett, a Presbyterian minister.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. George C. Shepard, already mentioned, Episcopal rector in Stratford.

21. Am considerably unwell. Visited sick persons. Dry and hot. Wrote. Attended the funeral of a child that died with a short illness.

22. Expounded on Matt. vi: 14 to the end, and preached on Rev. iii: 2. Mr. Barrett, agent of the Prison Discipline Society, came here and preached in the evening on that subject.<sup>1</sup> Our meetings were full. Gave Mr. Barrett \$2.

23. A holy God withholds the rain. Visited. The ground is becoming brown. Read. Received a valuable present of two old folios and two curious ancient pamphlets from friends in Coxsackie, N. Y. At evening had a good Bible class. Very warm.

24. Wrote. Saw young Mrs. Gilman,<sup>2</sup> of New York. Walked out and visited. Read.

25. Wrote to my brother Battell. Walked and visited. We have some sick. Cloudy, but no rain. Visited Mr. Linsley.<sup>3</sup> We are anxious for intelligence from Algiers.<sup>4</sup>

26. We had a hard storm of wind and a little rain. This is a great mercy, but we need much. I have worn thin pantaloons every day for six weeks. Cool. Had some lettering done on books. Read the Bible. Walked out.

27. Mr. Cogswell<sup>5</sup> called on me, an agent of the American Education Society. Wrote. Read. Afternoon we had a church prayer-meeting in view of our low state. I hope we had a good season. Our Bible class was omitted. Evening walked out. The little rain of yesterday seems to be gone.

28. Wrote the most of a sermon on Prov. xxix: 1. Cannot write long at a time. Walked out. The appearance of the earth is very gloomy. "The rain is powder and dust."

29. Finished and preached my sermon on Prov. xxix: 1. In the forenoon preached with notes on Ex. xvii: 11. Quite warm. Solemn meetings. After a short recess in the afternoon we had a serious and good season of prayer for rain. It was well attended. Our only help is in God. Attended the conference. We are returned to the academy. It was pretty thin. Very tired. Spoke on Luke xii: 51, 53.

30. Wrote. Afternoon rode to Oronoke and visited a school. Visited several families. The school performed well. Got home late. Much of the corn appears to be dead. The ground is very hard. In the morning we had a light shower. Small but grateful.

31. Rode to Farmington. Quite warm and very dusty. Attended a little while, at Southington, at a missionary meeting. Spoke a little. Heard the

<sup>1</sup> This reveals the object of his letter received two days before.

<sup>2</sup> Wife, probably, of Benj. I. Gilman, Jr.

<sup>3</sup> James H. Linsley.

<sup>4</sup> Algiers was taken by the French more than six weeks before, but the news had not arrived.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. William Cogswell, then agent of the American Education Society; afterwards,

1832-1841, its secretary. He was born in Atkinson, N. H., 1787, and was graduated at Dartmouth College, 1811. He was pastor at South Dedham, Mass., 1815-1829, when he was called into the service of the Education Society. After leaving that society, in 1841, he was professor in Dartmouth College and Gilmanton Theological Seminary. He died in Gilmanton, N. H., 1850.

important and pleasing intelligence of the capture of Algiers by the French.<sup>1</sup> It fell with less resistance than was expected. Kindly accommodated at Mr. Horace Cowles'.

## SEPTEMBER.

1. Rode with Mr. Cowles<sup>2</sup> to Canton and met with Mr. McLean and Mr. Ely, of the committee of the Everest fund. I resigned the treasury and Mr. Ely was appointed. We did a good deal of business. Mr. Cowles is a valuable addition to our committee. Returned to Farmington. It is dry here, but not like Stratford. Paid for Webster's *Dictionary*, \$20.<sup>3</sup>

2. Cool. Rode by Plymouth, Waterbury, and Derby, to Stratford. Five or six miles further than by New Haven, and much worse road. Got home late. Very dusty. Much fatigued.

3. Wrote. Fatigued by my journey. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture with notes on Rom. xiii: 12. Received a letter from my cousin George Starr,<sup>4</sup> one from Mr. Battell, and one from A. R. Plumley, an agent of the American Colonization Society. At evening rode to Oronoke and attended a temperance meeting. We had a moderate and refreshing shower. Was out late. Attended the examination of a ladies' school.

4. Walked out and made calls. We have the unexpected and important intelligence of a sudden revolution in France. Received a letter from my brother Francis. Wrote to Mr. Battell. Called on Mr. Halsey,<sup>5</sup> a candidate from New Jersey. Mr. Plumley, the agent, came here and tarried.

5. Mr. Halsey preached for me, very well. Administered the sacrament. Some members of the church were absent. I have severe trials. Yet the church was pretty full. In the evening we had a meeting, quite full, and Mr. Plumley delivered an interesting address for the Colonization Society.<sup>6</sup> Yesterday morning we had a pretty hard thunder-shower. The ground has not been truly wet before in more than fifty days—since July 13th.

6. Cool. Leaves fall considerably; I conclude from the drought. Walked and visited. Wrote. Visited with Mr. Halsey and other company. Had his assistance at the monthly concert. Our people are quite slack in attending this meeting. After the concert attended a little time at a splendid party. Let Miss Southard have \$1.

7. Rode to New Haven. Have had a pair of elegant gold spectacles made for me. Paid for them, \$21.<sup>7</sup> Attended the meeting of the Phi Beta

<sup>1</sup> The news of the taking of Algiers has arrived.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Horace Cowles, of Farmington.

<sup>3</sup> A much larger price than is paid now for a far more valuable work under the same title.

<sup>4</sup> This was probably the cousin at Warren whom he had recently visited.

<sup>5</sup> Very likely this was Rev. Job F. Halsey, D.D., who had, two or three years before, been expected to settle at Norwalk.

<sup>6</sup> The Colonization Society then had a very large place in the thoughts and plans of Christian people. It still lives and doubtless is still doing some good work, but the range of its activity is limited as compared with what it was forty and fifty years ago.

<sup>7</sup> Though money was scarce and worth more, in general, then than now, yet some things cost more actual money then than at present. A very nice pair of gold spectacles can be bought now from ten to fifteen dollars.

Kappa Society. Quite interesting. The society dined together. Mr. Grimke,<sup>1</sup> of South Carolina, delivered a very fine oration before the society, which was written at Stratford. Attended a little while at a meeting of teachers of schools. In the evening we had an interesting meeting of the Society of the Alumni. Wet the most of the day. At evening it rained hard.

8. Wet and rainy. Very refreshing to the dry ground. The streets very wet. The exercises about as usual. The speaking good; drank tea at Mr. Silliman's.<sup>2</sup> Dr. Tenney<sup>3</sup> preached the *Concio*. After which we had a meeting of the Convention of the Clergy. It was held late. Had a pleasant meeting of many acquaintance.

9. The morning rainy. Paid Mr. Twining,<sup>4</sup> \$66, for four beneficiaries of the Everest fund. Dined at Mr. Gilman's. Rode home. The ground is quite wet. At evening Mr. Rutledge<sup>5</sup> delivered a good address to the Bible Society here in the church.

10. Wrote. Dined with Mr. Rutledge at Mr. Johnson's.<sup>6</sup> Rode to Putney. The Bible class here has been omitted for two weeks past, and I found no one was expected. Vegetation is greatly revived. Tarried out. People now have a good seed-time.

11. Visited families. Rode to the lower part of Huntington and visited a school, and returned home. A fine season. Much fatigued.

12. Preached on Rom. viii: 6 with notes, and a written sermon on 1 Thess. v: 3. A serious meeting. Wrote to my brother Francis. Attended the evening conference and spoke on Mark viii: 36. On the 10th gave \$3 to the Bible Association. Today spoke in public in favor of that object.

13. Visited a woman very sick, in the morning and late in the evening. Read. Cool. At evening had a good Bible class. Paid my subscription for foreign missions, \$3. Wrote to my cousin George Starr, of Warren.

14. Read the Bible. Visited the sick woman. A very valuable woman. I fear she will not live. Read. Afternoon rode with Mr. Punderson<sup>7</sup> to Bridgeport. Walked the most of the way home. The new society there have given a call to Rev. Mr. Hewitt.<sup>8</sup> Wrote to Capt. H. L. Dekoven,<sup>9</sup> of Middletown.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Smith Grimke, LL. D., a distinguished scholar and philanthropist. He was born in Charleston, S. C., 1786, and was graduated at Yale in 1807. It was on the occasion of his giving this Phi Beta Kappa oration, in 1830, that the college conferred on him the degree of LL. D. He died of cholera in 1834.

<sup>2</sup> Prof. Benjamin Silliman, LL. D.

<sup>3</sup> Caleb J. Tenney, D. D., of Wethersfield.

<sup>4</sup> Stephen Twining, Esq., steward of the college.

<sup>5</sup> This, without much doubt, was Francis H. Rutledge, D. D., afterwards Bishop of Florida. He was a graduate of Yale, 1821.

He probably came to New Haven that year because of Mr. Grimke's address. Bishop Rutledge was a native also of Charleston, S. C.

<sup>6</sup> Samuel William Johnson, of Stratford, Judge of Probate, and son of William Samuel Johnson, LL. D.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Thomas Punderson, of Huntington.

<sup>8</sup> Nathaniel Hewitt, D. D., who left his church in Fairfield in 1827. He was settled over this Second Church in Bridgeport in December, 1830, where he continued till September, 1853.

<sup>9</sup> Capt. H. L. Dekoven was at that time one of the selectmen of Middletown.

15. On the 12th received a church letter from Mr. Blatchford. Read the Bible. Wrote. Walked and visited. Visited a school. Our district schools are in a pretty low state. Read.

16. Walked and visited the most of the day. We have several sick. Read. We have much news from France. I fear that country is to be again visited with the judgments of heaven.<sup>1</sup> Wrote.

17. In the morning there was some frost. The first this season. Wrote a part of a sermon on 1 Thess. v: 25. Quite cold and windy. Walked to Putney and visited a school, and to Oronoke and preached in the evening on Mark viii: 36. Tarried out.

18. We had a cold night. Considerable frost. Was brought home. The woman severely sick I hope is gaining. I need a fire in my chamber. Wrote and finished my sermon begun yesterday. I have too much neglected writing.

19. Quite cool but pleasant. Expounded on Matt. vii, and preached on 1 Thess. v: 25. Afternoon meeting quite full. At evening spoke at the conference on Prov. i: 27-29. In the afternoon meeting spoke plainly and was much affected.

20. Walked out and visited. Warmer. Received a letter from Capt. De-koven, of Middletown. At evening attended the Bible class.

21. Rode early on a journey to Norfolk and arrived in the evening at Warren—about forty-seven miles. I have lent my horse lately and he has been hardly used, and he travels poorly. Very dry and dusty. Cool.

22. Have had a pleasant visit with my good cousin Starr. Visited Mr. Talcott. He is quite lame and feeble. Rode through Goshen to Norfolk. Put up at my mother's old mansion, now occupied by two families. Found my brothers, James, Francis, and Ammi, at Mr. Battell's. Saw Mr. Mitchell, the candidate. Have a pleasant visit, but my parents are gone.

23. Walked with Mr. Mitchell to the burying-ground. My brothers went off near noon for their homes. My cousin W. Lawrence<sup>2</sup> here has been lately married. Afternoon attended, by desire, a church meeting. An unpleasant case of discipline was happily disposed of. Paid for a pair of hose, \$2.25. Streams and springs here are very low. The last week frost appears to have been extensive.

24. Walked out and made calls. Quite warm. Mr. Battell and a part of his family went off for New York. Afternoon rode to Warren. The most of the road is pretty good. Conclude to stay here over the Sabbath.

25. We have seen frequent appearances of an equinoctial storm, but have had none. Wrote. Read *Christian Spectator*. Wrote to my brother Francis. Had a quiet day. Took tea at Mr. Hartwell's.

26. Cloudy, but little wet. Preached on Heb. xii: 16, and Heb. vii: 25. Mr. Talcott is absent on a journey. He has preached but a few times

<sup>1</sup> This news pertained to the revolution of July, 1830, which led to barricades and fightings in the streets, to the expulsion of Charles X, and the bringing in of Louis Philippe.

<sup>2</sup> William Lawrence, son of Grove and Elizabeth (Robbins) Lawrence, had now grown to manhood, and was with Mr. Joseph Battell in his store. The business centering about that store was very large.

in ten months. This is a good congregation. At evening attended a meeting and preached without notes on Luke ix: 30, 31. Was assisted by Mr. Sacket,<sup>1</sup> a candidate. An interesting day.

27. Had a conversation with my cousin Starr. Have had a pleasant visit. Rode to New Milford and Danbury. Tarried at Mr. Whittlesey's. The roads are very dry and the earth generally.

28. Walked out and called on Mr. Rood,<sup>2</sup> and others. Afternoon prayed at the opening of the Superior Court; Judge Daggett. Rode to Bethel and met with the Consociation for the installation of Mr. Cole.<sup>3</sup> He passed a good examination. We had a good deal of other business. We sat late in the evening.

29. Mr. Cole was installed. I made the first prayer. The people here are well united. I was here last year and the year before at this season on ecclesiastical trials. We deferred our consociational business. Rode home. Cool. Have had a prosperous journey. Have had but small traveling expense.

30. Last evening received a letter from Rev. Mr. Leavitt,<sup>4</sup> of New York. Today received one from W. Newell,<sup>5</sup> at New Haven. Visited the sick woman, who remains very low. Walked and visited. In the morning there was considerable frost. At evening had a good Bible class. Some boarders in this family are gone.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Read. Mr. Ufford,<sup>6</sup> the teacher here, supplied my pulpit last Sabbath by exchange with Mr. Train,<sup>7</sup> of Milford. We have remarkably pleasant days and evenings. Wrote. Walked and visited.

2. Rode to Putney and made calls. Quite warm. Read. I think there is a prospect of troubles in France, and I fear of war in Europe. Read the Bible. My feet are tender and something sore.

3. Preached on John ix: 7, on the means of grace. After meeting rode out and performed a marriage. At evening attended the conference; pretty thin. Meeting well attended.

4. Walked out and visited the sick. There are several. Worked at my

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Seth Sacket, a graduate of the Yale Theological School, 1831. He was far enough advanced in his studies to be allowed to preach.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Anson Rood, settled over the First Church in Danbury in 1829, where he remained until 1837.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Erastus Cole, pastor at Bethel, 1830-1837. He received from Yale College the honorary degree of A. M. in 1834. He died in 1864.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Joshua Leavitt, formerly of Stratford.

<sup>5</sup> Afterwards William Whiting Newell, D.D. He was a graduate of Yale in 1830,

and was doubtless one of the Everest beneficiaries. He was graduated at Andover in 1833, and became a well-known Presbyterian minister. He was a native of South Natick, Mass. A son of his, of the same name, is also a Presbyterian minister. The father was living in 1883.

<sup>6</sup> Hezekiah G. Ufford was graduated at Yale in 1806, and was licensed to preach by the Fairfield East Association, Oct. 15, 1807. He was a teacher rather than a minister. We do not discover that he was ever settled. But he was a man of culture and was accustomed to preach occasionally.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Asa M. Train.

books. Have changed my chamber.<sup>1</sup> Attended the monthly concert. We had a good meeting.

5. Rode to Fairfield. Bought of Miss Eliot a very fine ancient folio Bible, her grandfather's, for \$6.50. Paid her \$1.50 for a few more small volumes from her late brother's<sup>2</sup> library. There is some prospect that Mr. Hunter<sup>3</sup> will leave Fairfield. Mr. Hewitt is expected to be settled at Bridgeport. Was present at the funeral of an aged man who died yesterday. The Methodist minister read a burial service. Was invited out to tea. Quite warm and very dusty.

6. Wrote. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Leavitt, of New York, and to my brother Battell. Visited. My great Bible is very valuable.

7. Visited. Worked some. Paid for light wood and labor, seventy-five cents. Paid for two books, \$1.50. Had some valuable pamphlets given me. Visited the sick. Read the *Quarterly Register*<sup>4</sup> of the Education Society. Cool and very dry.

8. Gave Mr. Ufford, in consideration of his supplying me Sabbath before last, \$4. Yesterday paid for cutting wood, sixty cents. Attended to my library. Walked out and visited. I think I have taken some cold. Received a letter from my sister.

9. Oppressed with my cold. Wrote on my catalogue of books. It rained the most of the day. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Boardman,<sup>5</sup> of New Haven, and to W. Newell,<sup>6</sup> of Boston. Finished reading my Bible in course, which was begun too long ago.<sup>7</sup>

10. Preached on John ix: 7, and finished my quadruple sermon. Wet in the morning and in the forenoon meeting thin. At evening spoke at the conference on Deut. xxxii: 35. Was out late.

11. Walked out. Read. Read Patrick's<sup>8</sup> *Exposition*. At evening had a good Bible class.

12. Quite warm. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Boardman, of New Haven. Rode to Bridgeport and attended a meeting of school-teachers. I was appointed to write some essays for the newspapers on the condition of common schools. Rode to Fairfield, and in the evening to Green's Farms. Tarried at Dea. Hyde's.

<sup>1</sup> A change of room, but not of boarding-place.

<sup>2</sup> Miss Eliot's late brother was Rev. Andrew Eliot, who died the year before, having been pastor at New Milford, Ct., 1808-1829. Her father was Rev. Andrew Eliot, a native of Boston, a graduate of Harvard College, 1762, who was pastor at Fairfield, Ct., 1774-1805. Her grandfather, from whom the folio Bible came, was Rev. Andrew Eliot, born in Boston, a graduate of Harvard, 1737, pastor at the New North Church, Boston, 1742-1778. Her great grandfather was Andrew Eliot, a merchant of Boston.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. John H. Hunter. He had only been settled there two years.

<sup>4</sup> The *American Quarterly Register*, in fifteen volumes, 1827-1842, contains the statistics of the Congregational churches in this country more fully than any other work. It also contains, in large measure, ecclesiastical statistics of all kinds. As a work for reference it is invaluable, and ought to be in all public libraries.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Charles A. Boardman, pastor of the new Third Church in New Haven.

<sup>6</sup> William Whiting Newell, noticed in previous note (see Sept. 30).

<sup>7</sup> He used to give the dates, showing when the process began and when it ended, but he prefers now to leave it in general.

<sup>8</sup> Bishop Simon Patrick, 1626-1707.



13. We had, unexpectedly, a steady hard rainy day. Kindly entertained at Dea. Hyde's. He and Mr. Davies<sup>1</sup> absent at Consociation. Read. Read an ancient black-letter Bible.

14. Left my hospitable friends. Called at Mr. Davies's. He has erected a new house. Called on aged Dr. Ripley.<sup>2</sup> He and his wife have lived together sixty-five years. Paid him for books, \$6. Rode to Bridgeport, and to Huntington and attended a missionary meeting. Mr. Kirk,<sup>3</sup> of Albany, spoke very well. Rode home in the evening. Quite dark.

15. Wrote. Wrote on the catalogue of my library. At evening visited at Esq. Booth's.

16. Wrote a piece for the newspapers in this county on the improvement of common schools. Wrote to Mr. Hunter, of Fairfield.

17. Expounded on Matt. viii: 1-22, and preached on Rev. iii: 18. The Methodists had no meeting and our meeting was full. Immediately after meeting I went to the church and heard Bishop Brownell.<sup>4</sup> Several were confirmed. In the evening Mr. Young,<sup>5</sup> agent of the Education Society, preached in my pulpit. Yesterday received a letter from Joseph Parker, of Philadelphia.

18. Rainy all day. Attended the funeral of Philo Blakeman. Read. Received a letter from M. B. Whittlesey, of Danbury. Wrote to my brother Francis and S. T. Wolcott.

19. Wrote. Visited a sick man. Rode to Bridgeport with Mr. Linsley and attended the meeting of the Temperance Society. Mr. Sherman<sup>6</sup> and Mr. Dutton<sup>7</sup> spoke very well. At evening had company. Read.

20. Began to read my Bible again in course. Paid Mrs. Thompson, \$6.50, and closed my boarding-bill. Gave Mr. Young \$2 for the American Education Society. Afternoon we had a hard shower. Wrote a second paper for the printer.

21. Had no Bible class on Monday evening on account of the rain. Wrote to Mr. Whittlesey, of Danbury, and to Rev. Mr. Bacon,<sup>8</sup> of New Haven. Walked and visited the most of the day. Read. Received an invitation to marry my cousin, Eliza Gilman,<sup>9</sup> at New Haven next week.

22. Visited. Warm. A fine young man was killed yesterday at Oronoke, by a gun, by accident. Rode to Bridgeport. Paid for a small stove and pipe for my chamber, \$8.70. A candlestick and candles, fifty-five cents. A whip, sixty-three cents. Read the Bible. Wrote to Mr. Gilman.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Thomas F. Davies, pastor at Green's Farms, 1829-1839.

<sup>2</sup> Hezekiah Ripley, D. D., former pastor at Green's Farms, 1767-1821. He died in the following year (1831), between eighty-five and ninety years of age.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Edward N. Kirk, D. D., from 1828 to 1836 pastor at Albany; then an evangelist, and, 1842 to his death, pastor of Mount Vernon Church, Boston; a man of remarkable pulpit power and usefulness.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Church Brownell, D. D., was made Bishop of Connecticut in 1819.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. George D. Young, afterwards a missionary of the Connecticut Missionary Society on the Western Reserve.

<sup>6</sup> Possibly Hon. Roger Minot Sherman, of Fairfield, but probably it was the Methodist minister of Bridgeport.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Aaron Dutton, of Guilford.

<sup>8</sup> Dr. Leonard Bacon.

<sup>9</sup> Daughter of Judge Benjamin I. Gilman.

23. Wrote. Rode to Oronoke and was present at the melancholy funeral of the young man killed by a gun. Mr. Rossiter,<sup>1</sup> an Episcopalian from Monroe, performed the service. Towards night Mr. Hunter came from Fairfield unexpectedly, and I rode there in the evening to exchange. Quite cool.

24. Preached on 1 Tim. iii: 16, and John vii: 37. The congregation was large. Had no evening meeting. Visited Mr. Lee<sup>2</sup> and Mr. Sherman.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Hunter's difficulties here are likely to be adjusted.

25. Made calls. Rode home. Cold. Received a letter from Mr. Gilman, of New Haven. Read expositors. At evening attended the Bible class. Mr. Mitchell<sup>4</sup> informed me that he has received a call at Norfolk. They are not quite united. He now supplies at Fair Haven.

26. Wrote. Wrote notes for preaching. Rode to Oronoke. Visited the afflicted and others. At evening we had a full and solemn meeting. Preached on Isa. xl: 6-8. I hope the late afflictive dispensation here may be the means of good. Rode home.

27. Rode to New Haven. Dined at Mr. Gilman's. Had a very pleasant visit there. Did errands and made calls. Procured some new books. Took tea with Pres. Day.

28. Breakfasted with Prof. Goodrich. In the forenoon I married Mr. Martin Hoffman, of New York, to my cousin, Eliza H. Gilman. No company but some of the family connections. Rode to Stratford and dined at Mrs. Hoffman's. Quite fatigued. Warm and damp.

29. Had my stove set with additions, which cost fifty-eight cents. Received a letter for the church from Mr. Punderson. Yesterday Mr. Hoffman made me a present of \$20. Last evening read in a new volume of Hutchinson's *History*,<sup>5</sup> just received from England. Worked considerably.

30. Last evening and today wrote a piece for the newspapers. Warm and very pleasant. Visited Esq. Ufford. He is very low. Wrote to J. Barnes, Esq., Middletown. At evening my cousin Gilman and his family came here to Mrs. Hoffman's.<sup>6</sup> Wrote a conclusion to an unfinished sermon.

31. Expounded on Matt. viii: 23 to ix: 18, and preached on Ps. x: 13. My friends here were at meeting. At evening had a good conference. Contributed for the room.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Rodney Rossiter, of Stratford.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Chauncey G. Lee.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Roger Minot Sherman.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. John Mitchell.

<sup>5</sup> The third volume of Gov. Thomas Hutchinson's *History of Massachusetts*. He had published two volumes between 1764 and 1767. When he was compelled to leave the country in 1774, because of the hatred of the patriots, his work was unfinished. The third volume, covering the period from 1749 to 1774, was left by him in manuscript when he died in England, 1780, and was published by his grandson, Rev. John Hutchinson, of

Trentham, Eng., London, 1828. Dr. Robbins had the volume in 1830.

<sup>6</sup> Mrs. Hoffman was doubtless of the kindred of Mr. Martin Hoffman, Jr., the bridegroom. She may have been his mother, the wife of Martin Hoffman, Sr., of New York. There was a double tie by marriage between the Gilman and the Hoffman families. Prof. Chandler Robbins Gilman, M. D., married Serena, daughter of Martin Hoffman, Sr. This Chandler R. Gilman was professor in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city, and died in 1865. He was a graduate of Pennsylvania University.

## NOVEMBER.

1. Read. Walked out. Rode with Mr. H. G. Ufford to Oronoke, and attended in the evening the monthly concert. We have a warm fall, favorable to late vegetation.

2. Walked out and made calls. Read Greppo<sup>1</sup> on *Egyptian Hieroglyphics*. Read expositors, and had at evening a good Bible class. Spent some time with my friends at Mrs. Hoffman's.

3. Set out early and rode to Newtown. Mr. Kent<sup>2</sup> went with me from Trumbull. Met with the Consociation. I was scribe. Attended to the request of Mr. Mitchell for a dismissal. Had a long hearing and discussion. The Consociation quite full. At evening there was a heavy rain. Contributed \$1 for the benefit of Mr. Crocker,<sup>3</sup> of New Fairfield.

4. Could not leave till the question was taken. We voted not to dismiss Mr. Mitchell.<sup>4</sup> Left the session and rode home. Mr. and Mrs. Gilman and son, Mrs. Hoffman, and Mr. Hoffman and wife, dined and took tea here.<sup>5</sup> We had a pleasant day and visit. At evening attended a meeting of the school visitors. Three teachers were examined and approved. Received a letter from Mr. Battell.

5. Mr. and Mrs. Gilman and son went to New York. We have had bad news from Europe. Various insurrections and commotions. I expect a sanguinary war. May God in his mercy prevent. On Tuesday afternoon attended the funeral of the late Esq. Ufford; Mr. Shepard<sup>6</sup> performed the service. Preached a preparatory lecture with short notes on Jer. xxix: 13. In the evening wrote a number for the newspaper.

6. Wrote to the postmaster at Fairfield. Wrote a sermon on Luke vii: 40-43. Am troubled with smoke from my stove. Wrote half of my sermon in the evening. Warm.

7. Preached with notes on Matt. xxvi: 29, and the sermon written yesterday. Administered the sacrament. Some members were absent, but we had a good number. At evening we had a good conference; spoke on Acts xxvi: 28. Called on Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman, expecting to leave here tomorrow. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Bulkley, of Fairfield.

8. Sent \$8 to J. Parker, of Philadelphia, for two numbers of the *Encyclopædia*. Paid for meat, ninety cents.<sup>7</sup> Paid an old subscription to the Tract Society here, \$1. Read. Received a letter from Jona. Barnes,<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> J. G. H. Greppo on the *Hieroglyphic System of Champollion, Jr.*, translated by I. Stuart, Boston, 1830; 12mo.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. James Kent, then preaching in Monroe. His name was sometimes spelled Kant, but usually Kent.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Daniel Crocker was settled from 1809 to 1824 in Redding, and from 1829 to his death in the small parish of New Fairfield. He was in feeble health and died in 1831.

<sup>4</sup> But, as in other cases, it only made it necessary to call the Consociation together again the next year, when he was dismissed.

<sup>5</sup> These were the people that had been at the wedding.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. George C. Shepard, the Episcopal rector of Stratford.

<sup>7</sup> He was a boarder, and he had probably paid for the meat used when he had his recent company to dinner.

<sup>8</sup> Jonathan Barnes.

of **Middletown**. Visited a sick man very low. Wrote to Mr. Bulkley, of **Fairfield**.

9. Wrote on the catalogue of my library. Attended the funeral of Mr. Philip Fairchild. Visited. Mr. Mitchell called on me. He has received a call at Fair Haven and concludes to give a negative answer to Norfolk.

10. Wrote to Mr. Battell. Received a letter from Mr. Bulkley, of Fairfield. Walked out and visited. Mr. Young,<sup>1</sup> the agent, came here. Visited with him. At evening assisted in examining a school-master.

11. Paid for coal and carrying it, sixty-nine cents. Rode with Mr. Young to Oronoke. Visited. Tarried there. Some people there have been misled.

12. Rode home. Cold and rough. Read. Walked out. On the 10th received a letter from Mr. Dikeman, of Bridgeport. At evening assisted in examining two school-masters.

13. Last night we had a hard rain, and it continued moderately, without intermission, through the day. Visited a sick woman. Rode to Bridgeport to meet the Committee on Schools. None came. Rode on horseback in a steady rain to Monroe<sup>2</sup> to exchange. Found Mr. Jones<sup>3</sup> gone to Stratford.

14. Wet and rainy all day. Had a small meeting. Preached on 1 Tim. iii: 16. Went at noon and after meeting to Mr. Beardsley's. This society, I think, is improving. We have very dark nights. Read.

15. Rode home. Foggy and warm. Prepared for my journey. After sundown took the stage and rode to Hartford in about eight and one half hours. Quite dark. Went very comfortably.

16. Rode about five o'clock to East Windsor. Slept again. Mrs. Wolcott is better than she has been. Mr. Wolcott is preparing his old house for Tudor. Warm and pleasant. Called on Dea. Reed. My prospects of pay from him are poor. Rode out. Mr. Whelpley has given notice here that he shall leave the people.<sup>4</sup> Made calls.

17. Conclude to return home today. Rode to Hartford. Paid for books, \$1.50. Made a visit to Mr. Hawes. Warm and pleasant. Roads very wet. Took the stage at half-past two and rode home in nine hours. Have had a prosperous journey.

18. Fatigued by my journey. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Bulkley, and wrote to Mr. Hunter and Mr. Dikeman. Wrote. Visited. Mrs. Bunker, of this family, came from New York.

19. Wrote. Walked out. Spent some time in Dr. Johnson's library.<sup>5</sup> Wrote a piece for the newspapers. Visited a sick person.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. George D. Young, agent of American Education Society.

<sup>2</sup> Monroe was anciently the parish of New Stratford.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Daniel Jones, pastor at Monroe, 1828-1835.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Whelpley was settled there in April, 1828, and he left the next month, December, 1830.

<sup>5</sup> This, as we understand, and as has been before suggested, was the library of the elder Dr. Johnson, first rector of the Episcopal church in Stratford, and President of Columbia College. His library, in a good measure, had been kept together, and was now with his grandson, Judge Samuel W. Johnson, whom we shall have still further occasion to notice.

20. Rode to Bridgeport. Dined with Mr. Hewitt.<sup>1</sup> Met with a committee on the subject of schools. Wrote.

21. Preached with short notes on Gen. xxii: 13, and 1 Cor. ii: 9. Full meeting. The evening conference rather thin.

22. Mrs. Bunker and her child went off for New York. A hard rain the most of the day. Wrote. Read the *Episcopal Review of Mr. Hawes's Lectures*. At evening walked out.

23. Rode to Bridgeport and returned my little stove and got a large one. Paid \$6.80, which, with \$8.70 for the former, makes \$15.50. Had it set up. Read an interesting number of the *Register* of the Education Society.<sup>2</sup>

24. Yesterday wrote to Mr. Punderson, of Huntington. Wet and rainy the most of the day. Had a severe rheumatic pain in my back. Was quite confined for some hours. Put on my flannel. At evening wrote an addition to my last Thanksgiving sermon.

25. A violent storm of rain. Am feeble, though better than yesterday. Preached on Rev. xi: 16, 17. Had a few at meeting. At evening visited at Mr. Plant's.

26. Read. Worked at my books. Walked out. Wrote a piece for the newspaper. Am requested to preach my Thanksgiving sermon again next Sabbath.

27. Cold. Received from Mrs. Bunker, of New York, a present of a gallon of wine<sup>3</sup> and a piece of carpet for my pulpit. Rode to Oronoke and visited. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Punderson. Paid for a load of wood and cutting, \$3.25. Have various trials.

28. In the forenoon Mr. Mitchell preached for me. Afternoon preached again my Thanksgiving sermon on Rev. xi: 16, 17, by request of a number of people. There was no church nor Methodist meeting. I think I never saw the meeting-house so full.<sup>4</sup> The day was pleasant. At evening had a full conference. Spoke on Luke ii: 48.

29. Wet and rainy all day. Bible class again prevented. Read. Much confined. Wrote a long letter to Mr. Hawes, of Hartford.

30. Made a draft of a constitution for a society for the improvement of common schools. Rode to Bridgeport and attended the dedication of the new meeting-house.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Hewitt preached very well. It is a very neat house. The roads very wet. At evening Mr. Mann<sup>6</sup> preached. Sat with the West Consociation. The examination was omitted. Paid Mr. Booth for my horse-keeping, \$10.

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<sup>1</sup> Nathaniel Hewitt, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> This was one of the numbers of the third volume of the *American Quarterly Register*.

<sup>3</sup> Temperance principles had not yet so far progressed but that a friend might make a minister a present of a gallon of wine.

<sup>4</sup> That was certainly a graceful Christian courtesy, and a handsome compliment to Dr. Robbins.

<sup>5</sup> This was the meeting-house of the Second Church, which was organized in January, 1830.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Joel Mann, who had recently been set over the Second Church in Greenwich. At this meeting preparation was made for installing Dr. Hewitt the next day. The dedication of the house and the installation of the pastor were thus brought close together.

DINNER.

1. Last evening it rained and snowed to such a degree that I did not get home. The snow disappeared this morning. Attended the installation of Mr. Hewitt. Dr. Woods<sup>1</sup> preached remarkably well. The parts well performed. At evening assisted in forming a society to promote the improvement of common schools. The weather became clear. Paid for the Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society, \$5. Rode home.

2. Walked and visited. Read. Wrote to Mr. Ed. C. Herrick,<sup>2</sup> of New Haven. Assisted in examining a school-master. Visited a sick woman.

3. Wrote the most of a piece for the newspaper. Walked and visited. Read the Bible. At evening attended a meeting of school visitors and teachers. Assisted in examining two teachers. Read Hawes's *Lectures*.

4. Walked and visited. Received a letter from my sister. Read. Read expositors.

5. Expounded on Matt. ix: 18 to x: 11. Afternoon Mr. Mitchell preached for me. Meetings well attended. Attended the conference and spoke on Matt. xxi: 40, 41. Visited. Read late.

6. It rained and snowed all day. Very tedious. Wrote on my library accounts all day. I have about three hundred folios and quartos.<sup>3</sup> A man in this neighborhood died suddenly last night. Received a letter from my brother F. L., and one from Mr. Hooker,<sup>4</sup> of Hartford.

7. There are three or four inches of snow, and sleighs move considerably. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Hooker, of Hartford. Read the Bible. Attended a funeral. The streets very wet. At evening had a good Bible class.

8. Rode early in the cold to Danbury. Some snow all the way. Met with the Consociation at a special meeting to adopt a system of permanent rules. Attended closely to the business. Kept at Mr. Whittlesey's.<sup>5</sup> At evening we had a meeting for religious worship.

9. Rainy, and freezing, and wet. We were close at business all day and finished late at night. Tarried at Dr. Botsford's.<sup>6</sup> This town increases.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Leonard Woods, D. D., Abbot Professor at Andover Theological Seminary, 1808-1846.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Claudius Herrick, who was not a graduate of the college, but received from it the degree of A. M. in 1838, was a man of remarkable learning and of delightful character. His father, Rev. Claudius Herrick, a graduate of Yale, 1798, was a native of Southampton, L. I., and was pastor, 1802-1806, at Woodbridge, Ct. Because of ill health he left the ministry and established a young ladies' school in New Haven, which was highly successful. Here his son, Edward C., was born, Feb. 24, 1811. So enthusiastic was he in literary and scientific studies, so thoroughly acquainted with books, that in 1843 he was made the college librarian, which office

he held till 1858. In 1852 he was also made college treasurer, and this office he held till his death in 1862. During all this official connection he was an honor and an ornament to the institution. In the October number of the *New Englander* for 1862 (Vol. XXI) may be found Prof. Thomas C. Thacher's beautiful and touching tribute to his memory.

<sup>3</sup> Large, ponderous books were more fashionable then than now.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>5</sup> *Kept* was used then where we should say *stayed*. Mr. Whittlesey's is, as we understand it, his old boarding-place of thirty years before, when he was teaching in Danbury.

<sup>6</sup> Russell Botsford, M. D., graduate of the Yale Medical School, 1816.

10. Rode home—about twenty-five miles. It thaws some. Bad riding. Mr. Gilman,<sup>1</sup> from New York, is in town and called on me. Much fatigued. Walked out.

11. Walked out. Wrote. Afternoon rode to Trumbull to exchange with Mr. Kent.<sup>2</sup> Met him on the way. Cold and bad riding.

12. Clear and pretty cold. The snow does not get off. Preached a double sermon on 1 Tim. iii: 16. Rode home. The Trumbull Society, I think, is improving. Attended our evening conference, quite full. Spoke on John i: 36. Called on Mr. Gilman.

13. An aged woman died in the neighborhood by her clothes taking fire. Read the President's long Message.<sup>3</sup> Read expositors, and at evening had a good Bible class.

14. Rode to the north part of the town and visited two schools. Rainy. Got pretty wet. Read.

15. We have had a hard rain for more than twenty-four hours. Wrote to my brother F. L., Esq. Ely, of Simsbury, and Mr. Blatchford, of Bridgeport. Visited a school. Visited. Read the Bible.

16. Walked out. Conversed with some of my people. I think I shall leave this place.<sup>4</sup> The Lord is most holy in all his dealings. Wrote my eighth and last essay for the newspaper on the improvement of common schools. Was up late.

17. Received of the society treasurer, \$20, and paid Mr. Southworth, \$10. Rode to Oronoke and visited. This people are in considerable agitation. Cold. Tarried out.

18. Rode home. It snowed some. Conversed with the deacons. Read the Bible. Very dark weather.

19. Snow and something stormy. Preached with notes on Deut. xxxii: 18, and a sermon on Hab. iii: 17, 18. Thin meeting. Had no evening meeting. Walked out.

20. Read. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott. The ground is icy. Mr. Whelpley was dismissed from East Windsor week before last. Attended the Bible class.

21. Last night we had a fall of snow of five or six inches. Sleighs move a good deal. Wrote a long letter to S. T. Wolcott. Looked over my accounts. At evening walked out. Cold.

22. Winter cold. Good sleighing. There was very little thawing with a clear sun. Read. Walked out and visited. Have a smoky chamber.

<sup>1</sup> B. I. Gilman, Jr., a physician in New York. He was graduated at Brown University, 1813, and died, 1866.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. James Kent.

<sup>3</sup> President Andrew Jackson's Message at the opening of the second session of the Twenty-First Congress, Dec. 6, 1830.

<sup>4</sup> It is a little noticeable that since the death of Rev. Israel Chauncey, in 1703, there

had been eight ministries, including Dr. Robbins's, none of which was terminated by death. If we mistake not, the same is true of the eight or ten ministries in the Congregational church at Stratford which followed that of Dr. Robbins. It is pleasant for an old church to have the graves of its ancient ministers near at hand, that the people may see their monuments and be reminded of their services

23. Last evening the thermometer was below zero. Mr. Condit<sup>1</sup> called here, late from Longmeadow. More snow that way than here. Read Hutchinson's third volume. Visited. Read the Bible.
24. Wrote on the church records.<sup>2</sup> The weather moderates. Sleighs go well. Read Hutchinson. Walked out and saw friends from New York.
25. Rainy and wet. Warm and the snow is mostly gone. Attended the public service in the Episcopal church. A thin meeting and no communion. Dined at Judge Johnson's. Am something unwell; took physic.
26. Very warm and pleasant. The frost seems to be out of the ground. Preached a double sermon on Isa. ix: 6, 7. At evening attended a public meeting at the Methodist meeting-house, and Mr. Linsley delivered an address on temperance. One hundred and sixteen members in our Temperance Society.
27. Wrote. Walked out. Wet and rainy. Dined out. Had no Bible class. Read Hutchinson.
28. Visited a school; pretty poorly regulated. Visited. Looked at a fine cornb factory. Read.
29. Rode to Bridgeport. Called on Mr. Hewitt. His wife is very low. Very pleasant, and bad riding. Read. The European nations are in great commotion.<sup>3</sup> Wrote. The society's committee called on me.
30. Read. Received of the society treasurer, \$100. The society had their annual meeting. Sent a writing to the meeting that I design to ask for a dissolution of my connection with the society within three months. I think I am called in Providence to do this.<sup>4</sup> The meeting did well. Visited.
31. Walked and visited. Warm and showery. Read the Bible. Afternoon and evening a very hard rain. Our preparatory lecture was prevented. Received some valuable Congressional documents from Mr. Senator Foote.<sup>5</sup> Received a letter from J. A. Whittlesey, of Danbury. Wrote to my cousin, P. R. Starr,<sup>6</sup> of New York. In the evening walked out. Endeavored to close the year as in the presence of God. To him be all praise.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, before noticed, was a native of Hanover, N. J., and a graduate of the College of New Jersey in 1827. He was pastor at Longmeadow, Mass., 1831-1837, though he had been preaching there a considerable time before. He was afterwards professor at Amherst College.

<sup>2</sup> He would be likely to leave the church records in good shape.

<sup>3</sup> The principal commotions in Europe at that time grew out of the recent revolution in France, but these troubles altogether were small in comparison with those which grew out of the French Revolution of 1793.

<sup>4</sup> The motives compelling him to do this must have been strong, for Dr. Robbins was not a man loving change.

<sup>5</sup> Samuel Augustus Foote, LL. D., United States Senator from Connecticut, 1827-1833. He was son of Rev. John Foote, of Cheshire, Ct., and a graduate of Yale, 1797.

<sup>6</sup> His name stands in the Williams College *Triennial* as Hon. Peter Starr, LL. D. The R here introduced may mean that he had taken the name Robbins to do honor to his mother, Sarah, daughter of Rev. Philemon Robbins, of Branford, and who had now been dead many years.





## 1881.

### JANUARY.

1. Endeavored early to bless God that I may see a new year, and to commit my ways, my cares and burdens and wants to his infinite mercy, and to confide in all his will. Had some New Year's calls. Wrote. Spent some time in appropriate duties. Walked out. At evening wrote an addition to a New Year's sermon. The deaths in this town for the year past have been but twenty-two.<sup>1</sup>

2. The day very pleasant. Preached with notes on Col. ii: 6, and a sermon on 1 Cor. vii: 31. Administered the sacrament. The church full. We had a good season. At evening attended a serious and full conference. Spoke on Gen. vii: 16. Quite tired. Five members of the church were dismissed and recommended.<sup>2</sup>

3. Visited. Wrote. Visited a most distressed maniac. At evening attended the annual meeting of our Tract Society. Subscribed and paid to it, as before, \$1. Had a short service for the monthly concert.

4. Wrote on the church records. Visited. Read. At evening had a good Bible class. Wet.

5. We had a hard rain through the day. Wrote to J. A. Whittlesey, of Danbury. Read Fuller's *Church History*.<sup>3</sup> At evening walked out.

6. Rode to New Haven. Bad traveling. Did errands. Looked over the remains of Dr. Dana's<sup>4</sup> library. Paid a book-binder, \$3.50. Called on Mr. Merwin. Gave Dr. Percival<sup>5</sup> and E. C. Herrick<sup>6</sup> a number of old election sermons.

7. Called on —. Rode home. Last evening saw the beneficiaries of the Everest fund. The ground is very little frozen. The streams have lately been very high. At evening visited. Read Mr. Stuart's very valuable essay on intemperance.<sup>7</sup>

8. Walked and visited the sick and others the most of the day. Carried in wood. The springs are said to be very high. Wrote. Read expositors.

9. It snowed steadily all day. But few at meeting. Preached a double

<sup>1</sup> The population of Stratford, as given by the census of 1830, was 1,814, so that the deaths were only a little above one per cent.

<sup>2</sup> To other churches.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Thomas Fuller, before noticed, 1608-1660.

<sup>4</sup> James Dana, D. D., pastor of First Church, New Haven, 1789-1805.

<sup>5</sup> James Gates Percival, M. D., born in Berlin, Ct., 1795; graduated at Yale, 1815;

for a short time Professor of Chemistry and Mineralogy at West Point; poet and scientist. He died in Wisconsin in 1856.

<sup>6</sup> See note, Dec. 2, 1830.

<sup>7</sup> Essay on the question whether the use of distilled liquors, or traffic in them, is compatible at the present time with making a profession of religion. By Prof. Moses Stuart, of Andover, 1830. The temperance cause early found a home at Andover.

sermon on 2 Cor. v: 19. No evening meeting. Received a good letter from my cousin P. R. Starr, of New York. Read.

10. Shoveled paths. The snow is eight or nine inches deep. Read the *Christian Spectator*. Read expositors and attended my Bible class. Bad walking.

11. I am too late nights and mornings. Visited sick persons. Walked a distance and visited. The ground is unfrozen and it is not good sleighing. Received a letter from Esq. Ely, of Simsbury. Received some newspapers from Hartford. Received of the society treasurer, \$108. Paid a merchant's bill of \$1.86, and a post office bill for a year of \$5.93. Paid Mr. Southard,<sup>1</sup> \$50. Read late.

12. Wrote to Mr. Ely, of Simsbury, and to T. T. Merwin,<sup>2</sup> of Norwalk. Read Fuller's *Church History*. Assisted in examining a school-master. Visited. It grows cold.

13. Read the Connecticut *Observer*. The Episcopal controversy is warm in Hartford. Attended the funeral of a woman who died of insanity. Visited a sick man. Read Fuller. Very cold; the thermometer this morning about zero.

14. The cold about the same as yesterday. George Rockwell,<sup>3</sup> of East Windsor, called on me. Rode with him to see a sick man. Good sleighing. Mr. Peck, Methodist preacher, spent the day and night here. Read. Walked out. The cold is oppressive.

15. A very tedious snow-storm through the day. Went but once out of the house. Cold. Hard snowing. Wrote to Mr. Hooker, of Hartford. Read. Spent the evening in the consideration of important interests.

16. It snowed some, and the snow blew violently, with severe cold, through the day. Had no meeting. Do not recollect to have spent such a Sabbath for some years. Had a sort of religious service at home. Mr. Peck is still here. Walked out, but all thought it best to have no meeting. Called on Mr. Shepard. Read the Bible. At evening walked out.

17. The snow is deep, drifted, and very solid. Shoveled paths. Drifts are high as the fences. Walked and visited. Gave poor Gaylord<sup>4</sup> a new blanket. Had no Bible class. Wrote.

18. Rode in a sleigh to Norwalk. Difficult traveling on account of the drifts. A few bare places. A very cold morning. Met with the County Temperance Society. But few attended and there were no public services. Called on former acquaintance. All the harbors are frozen. Tarried with Rev. Mr. Benedict.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The man with whom he boarded.

<sup>2</sup> Timothy Taylor Merwin, Esq., a graduate of Yale in the class of 1827.

<sup>3</sup> George Rockwell was the son of Nathaniel and Anna (Bullen) Rockwell. His earliest American ancestor was William Rockwell, of Windsor, one of the early founders of the town.

<sup>4</sup> Some man, sick and poor, who he feared was suffering from the severe cold. Dr. Robbins had a thoughtful Christian kindness, and we shall find other references to this Mr. Gaylord.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Henry Benedict, pastor at Norwalk, 1828-1832. He was a native of Norwalk, and graduated at Yale, 1822. He died in 1863.

19. Made calls. The weather moderates. Rode home. The paths are made better. At Fairfield looked over books. Read.

20. Wrote. Walked out. But little use of the sleighing here compared with other parts of the country.<sup>1</sup> Read Mr. Grimke's excellent oration.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Southard's son<sup>3</sup> and wife came here. Read the Bible.

21. Thermometer this morning at 01°. Gaylord is quite low. Walked and visited. Saw Mr. Ogden, of Southington. Read. It is cold and I do but little. An Indian preacher of the Pequot tribe called on me. Gave him, and paid for a little book, \$1.

22. We have an addition to our snow. Paid for my sleigh to Norwalk, sixty-two cents. Read. Walked out and saw Gaylord. Severe cold. Read expositors.

23. Severe cold and very tedious. Expounded on Matt. x: 11 to 30. Preached on Mark x: 23. Thin meeting and short exercises. Meeting-house pretty cold. At evening walked out.

24. Yesterday received a letter and today a pamphlet from the editors of the *Student's Companion*,<sup>4</sup> Yale College. Read the Bible and expositors, and had a good Bible class. Very fine sleighing. It appears to be very extreme.

25. Thermometer this morning 06°. Wrote to the editors of the *Student's Companion*. Walked out and visited. It thaws very little with a clear sun. Looked over pamphlets.

26. Went with Mr. Shepard to the funeral of Mrs. Ufford. Wrote. Rode to Oronoke and visited. It is good crossing the river<sup>5</sup> on the ice. The cold very uniform.

27. Wrote. Looked over old pamphlets. Attended the funeral with Stephen Curtis. Visited. Was called late to see Gaylord. Very low.

28. Rode in a sleigh to New Haven. Pretty good sleighing, with deep drifts and bare places. Saw young Mr. Bacon, a principal editor<sup>6</sup> of the *Student's Companion*. Did errands. Received of Mr. Linsley, of Hartford,<sup>7</sup> a copy of his able report to the Clerical Convention. Traded, \$4.60. Returned.

29. Mr. Southard is quite feeble. The New Haven harbor is frozen

<sup>1</sup> Stratford lying on the Sound, her snows were apt to melt speedily.

<sup>2</sup> Two volumes at least were published containing *Addresses and Orations* by Thomas Smith Grimke, LL. D.

<sup>3</sup> Son of the man with whom he was boarding.

<sup>4</sup> The *Student's Companion* was the famous Yale periodical beginning in January, 1831, and ending in the following April, four numbers. It purported to be the work of nine students (each having a department of his own) calling themselves, "Knights of the Round Table." But the secret leaked out at

last that it was all the work of David Francis Bacon, of the class of 1831, brother of Dr. Leonard Bacon. While the secret remained, it was a matter of great curiosity to know who these nine gifted young editors were. Dr. Robbins, minister at Stratford, seems to have caught the curiosity. When the matter was known, it was a great surprise that one student could have personated nine writers and played his part so effectually.

<sup>5</sup> The river there might be called a creek, sharing in the ebb and flow of the tide.

<sup>6</sup> As already stated, he was sole editor.

<sup>7</sup> Joel H. Linsley, D. D.

beyond the light-house. Ours is beyond the two points of land. Wrote to T. G. Fessenden,<sup>1</sup> of Boston. Walked and visited. The weather moderates. Read.

30. Cold, but a pretty pleasant day. People well out. Expounded on Matt. x: 30 to the end, and preached on Luke xvii: 22. At evening had a good conference; spoke on Acts xxiv: 25. Made calls. Mr. Linsley<sup>2</sup> holds regular meetings at the usual times of worship on the Sabbath, at an old store on the wharf. He began on the 9th instant. In the morning visited a young woman very low; in the afternoon she died.

31. Visited the afflicted family and others. Read. Carried in wood. At evening had a good Bible class. It began to snow in the evening very fast. There are many accounts of the sufferings in the storm of the 15th. In Pennsylvania it was very severe. The snow thawed some on the 28th and 29th, but the sleighing continues.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. The snow is now quite deep and heavy. Wrote. Mr. Gaylord died this morning. Afternoon attended the two funerals. Difficult getting about. Much fatigued.

2. Quite cold. About noon set out in a sleigh with Mr. Gorham<sup>3</sup> on a journey to East Windsor. The roads not well trod, and an abundance of snow. Rode to Middletown. We have an account of an expected revolution in Poland.<sup>4</sup> Tarried at a tavern.

3. Rode early to Hartford. Very cold and frosty. The river very hard frozen. Received a dividend of the Phoenix Bank of \$45, and one from Hartford Bank of \$15. Rode to East Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott is quite well. Rode to Pine Meadow and returned in the evening. The river is good crossing. The mercury here has been about 10° below zero.

4. Last night it snowed and then rained some, and the mercury this morning was about 40°. Mr. Wolcott has repaired his old house and Tudor occupies it. Looked over books and papers. I fear I have lost some important manuscripts. Made some calls. Mr. Gorham returned from Enfield and we set out on our return. Traded at Hartford. \$5. Paid for soap, \$1.13. Called on the Miss Bowdens, from Stratford. It grew

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Green Fessenden, born in Walpole, N. H., 1771, was graduated at Dartmouth, 1796, and died in Boston, 1837. He was nominally a lawyer, but better known for his literary abilities. He was a witty poet and a general writer. From 1822 to his death he published the *New England Farmer*, a popular and valuable periodical.

<sup>2</sup> James Harvey Linsley, already mentioned, educated for a Baptist minister.

<sup>3</sup> We know not who this Mr. Gorham was, but he seems to have had relatives in Enfield, or business that carried him there, so that the journey was a joint one.

<sup>4</sup> Poland went through a long and terrible struggle for liberty and independence, but was at last swallowed up by the overmastering power of Russian despotism. For a time Poland had been a kingdom, nominally separate, but the Emperor of Russia was king. In January, 1831, the Polish Diet declared the throne vacant, and the Poles fought battle after battle during the year to make that declaration good, but all in vain. Before the year closed Poland became an integral part of the Russian Empire, and so has remained until this day, and seems likely to do so for years to come.

colder all day. Rode to Meriden. The sleighing not injured. Bad turning out.

5. Rode home against a very severe southwest wind. Have had a prosperous journey. No bare ground. Much fatigued. Wrote.

6. The coldest forenoon, I believe, that we have had. Thin meeting. Preached on 1 Tim. iv: 16. Meeting-house made comfortable. Had no conference. Visited.

7. The cold abates a little. Carried in wood. Read. Visited. Had an excellent Bible class on the dedication of the Temple. Congress have put down nullification very well.<sup>1</sup>

8. Wrote. Received newspapers from Hartford. Read. Wrote to Maj. Wolcott. Attended a funeral with Mr. Shepard. Walked and visited.

9. We have clear and pleasant days, but little diminution of the cold. Very good sleighing. Read. Walked and visited. The roads very slippery.

10. Wrote to Eli Drake, of Fredonia, N. Y. Considerably unwell, and kept my chamber the most of the day. Looked over old pamphlets and papers. Clear and still, but very cold. Received a letter from Mr. Calhoun,<sup>2</sup> of Coventry. At evening visited.

11. Rode to Oronoke and spent the day in visiting. The weather moderates and it thaws some. There is a good deal of sleighing on the river, down to the beach. The snow is nearly two feet deep in the woods and very solid. The ice on the river is nearly as thick. Got home late.

12. Read. There seems to be a commotion in France. A very clear day, by a kind Providence, and we had a fine opportunity to observe the eclipse.<sup>3</sup> There was a great diminution of light and a severe chill in the air. One star was very visible. Wrote. Quite cold. Paid for cutting a load of wood, sixty-seven cents. Called on Mr. Mitchell; too unwell to assist me tomorrow.

13. Pleasant but severe cold. Preached with notes on Esther iv: 13, and a sermon on 2 Cor. i: 12. Had no conference, but had our Bible class in the evening, which was well attended. Was up late and wrote to Mr. Hooker<sup>4</sup> and Mr. Comstock,<sup>5</sup> of Hartford. Sent Mr. Hooker four folios.

<sup>1</sup> In the putting down of nullification, Gen. Jackson, the President, is to be credited more than Congress.

<sup>2</sup> George A. Calhoun, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Several years before this eclipse, one of the almanacs published the following lines. The writer, then a boy, committed them to memory, and, as well as he can, he now quotes them from memory:

"In the year eighteen hundred and thirty-one  
There will be a very large eclipse of the sun,  
And, if our atmosphere should at that time be clear,  
The largest stars no doubt will then appear;  
Although this does not happen very soon,  
'Twill be on Saturday, in the afternoon.  
Spectators who behold it then will plainly see  
Eleven digits' obscuration, very certainly."

In the *New England Farmer's Almanack* for 1831, published by Carter & Hendee for Thomas G. Fessenden, of Boston, this eclipse is thus described as it would appear at Boston:

	H.	M.	S.
Beginning of the eclipse,	11	49	30.3
Greatest obscuration,	1	21	10.5
End of the eclipse,	2	46	55.4
Duration of the eclipse,	2	57	25.1

Digits eclipsed, 11 deg., 29m., 12s., on sun's south limb.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>5</sup> John L. Comstock, M. D., at that time a prominent man in Hartford, author of many school-books and other volumes.

14. Rode to New Haven. The morning very cold. Very fine sleighing. It is thought there has not been so much ice in the Sound for a long period, perhaps since 1780. Water can hardly be seen from the mouth of the New Haven harbor. Carried to New Haven several bundles of pamphlets. Did errands. Returned. It thawed a little. In the evening visited. My horse performs very well.

15. Wrote. Had company. Great distress in New York for wood and some other necessities. Read the Bible. Afternoon and evening visited.

16. It rained steadily the most of the day. Mr. Calhoun,<sup>1</sup> of Coventry, agent of the Home Missionary Society, came here. On account of the wet our appointed meeting was not holden. Read. Was up late. Received a letter from W. W. Ellsworth, at Congress.

17. Warm. The ground has a great deal of water upon it, but the most of the snow remains. Mr. Calhoun went to Huntington. Mr. Wolcott and Mr. Filley came here from East Windsor. Mr. Wolcott brought me some books and paper, for which I had sent. Rode with him to Esq. Wood's.<sup>2</sup> Afternoon they returned to New Haven. The sleighing is injured. Read. At evening visited. Wrote.

18. Wrote to Mr. Fessenden,<sup>3</sup> of Boston, and sent him \$1. Read the Bible. Walked and visited. Quite cold and the roads icy. My people are not in a good state.

19. Carried in wood. Read. In an anxious deliberation endeavored to seek divine guidance in the path of duty. At evening rode on horseback to Milford to exchange with Mr. Train. The sleighing has become poor, yet the cold continues and the harbor remains firm.

20. Mr. Train went to Stratford and returned at evening. Severe cold. Preached on Heb. xii: 16, and Heb. vii: 25. The congregation is not large. No stove in the meeting-house.<sup>4</sup> The house is old. No evening meeting.

21. The last night was very cold. Had an anxious night. Rode to New Haven. The road very hard. The thermometer here this morning was at 10°. Traded, \$3.50. Rode home. Mr. Whittlesey, of Danbury, called on me. Had a very full Bible class. Was out late with Mr. Whittlesey and his son from Ohio.

22. Walked out. Read. Mr. Train was well liked here. Had company.

23. It rained moderately the most of the day. The snow thaws, but it is very solid. Wrote to my brother Francis. Received this almanack from Boston. I have not been able to get one sooner. Wrote. Read the long, unworthy correspondence between the President and the Vice-President.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Calhoun had evidently obtained leave of absence from his people for a time to present this cause before the churches. We have already noted the large contribution taken by him in Tolland for this object.

<sup>2</sup> Elijah Wood, Esq.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Green Fessenden.

<sup>4</sup> Greatly behind the times.

<sup>5</sup> John C. Calhoun was then Vice-President, and his views on State rights and nullification were in direct antagonism to those of President Jackson. Dr. Robbins calls this correspondence unworthy, without any qualification. Yet he must have respected the views of Gen. Jackson on this point, though they may have been expressed with some heat.

24. Wrote, copying this diary. Cold again. Read. Things in Europe appear to be in a very unsettled state. I fear that a holy God is about to "give them blood to drink." Visited.

25. Wrote. Have something of a tremor in my hand. Pleasant, but winter weather. Paid a tailor, \$2.50: Visited.

26. Wrote a sermon on John iii: 36. I have too much neglected writing sermons. The snow thaws fast and the ground becomes very wet. Received pamphlets at the post office.

27. Pleasant, and very wet and bad walking. Full meeting. We have had seven successive Sabbaths of unfavorable getting to meeting. Preached with notes on Acts v: 20, and the sermon written yesterday. At evening had a serious conference. The work of divine grace in New York is great and prosperous. O that it might extend in proportion to the influence of that great city. Much fatigued.

28. Am feeble. Read. Europe is in a very unsettled state, and preparing, I fear, for the terrible judgments of heaven. At evening had a large and interesting Bible class. Patrick's *Commentary* is my principal guide, and highly valuable. I pray for a blessing of grace on the dear youth.

#### MARCH.

1. Wrote to Mr. Hooker, of Hartford. It looks like spring, but the snow departs slowly. Read. Wrote to Baldwin & Treadway, New Haven. Visited.

2. Troubled with a headache. Married a couple who came here from Milford. Warm. The traveling said to be very bad. At evening began to write a long letter. I pray to be under the entire guidance of heaven.

3. Rode to Oronoke. But little frost in the ground. Visited a sick man very low, and sundry families. Kindly received. At evening saw the sick man again, in a dying state. Many connections in.

4. Mr. John Curtiss died last night at my own age.<sup>2</sup> Rode home. Preached a preparatory lecture with notes on Deut. xxiii: 21. Well attended. Received a letter from my brother James, and one from T. T. Merwin,<sup>3</sup> of Norwalk. Visited at Mr. H. G. Ufford's.<sup>4</sup>

5. Rode again to Oronoke. Visited and attended the funeral of Mr. Curtiss. A large collection of people. The riding improves. Drank tea at Esq. Booth's.<sup>5</sup> Conversed a good deal with him. At evening wrote some. Much fatigued.

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Simon Patrick.

<sup>2</sup> That is, fifty-four.

<sup>3</sup> Timothy T. Merwin, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Hezekiah Gold Ufford, who has once or twice been mentioned, was the son of Samuel and Abigail (Gold) Ufford, and was born in Stratford, April 14, 1779. His father, Samuel, was the Esq. Ufford whose funeral Dr. Robbins attended a few months before in company with Rev. George C. Shepard, the Episcopal rector. The son studied

for the ministry, but became a fine classical teacher, pursuing this profession in New York city and then in Stratford. He was graduated at Yale, 1806, and died in Stratford, Jan. 23, 1863, aged eighty-four.

<sup>5</sup> Elijah Booth, Esq. There were at that time two other men in Stratford, justices of the peace, of the name Booth. These were Stephen and Isaac G. Booth. But the diary seems to point to Elijah, who probably had more to do in church matters.



6. Wet and rainy. Preached with notes on Luke xxii: 15, 16, and a sermon on Luke xix: 43, 44. Administered the sacrament. The church and congregation thin. Had no conference. At evening walked out.

7. Read. Rode to Bridgeport. Did errands and visited Mr. Blatchford.<sup>1</sup> The roads muddy, but not very deep. At evening had a good monthly concert.

8. Read. Wrote. The snow is now generally gone. Wrote on a letter. Read Patrick's *Commentary*, and had in the evening a larger Bible class than on any former occasion. Was out late.

9. Wrote, transcribing. Walked and visited. The walking has become pretty good. At evening attended a meeting in the church.

10. Visited a sick woman very low. Finished a long letter to ——. I think I have done what appeared to be my duty; the event is committed entirely to the divine disposal. Received pamphlets from Congress. Read. Was out late. Have many hindrances.

11. Visited the sick woman, who died in the afternoon. Walked a distance and visited. My people are in an unsettled state.

12. Received a letter from my brother Francis. Visited a school. Rode with company to New Haven. Some bad places on the road. Made calls. Rode to Fair Haven. Something showery.

13. Preached for Mr. Mitchell,<sup>3</sup> who supplies me, on Heb. xii: 16, and John vii: 37. This is a fine pleasant congregation and an excellent new meeting-house. Their prospects are very good. Attended the evening conference with a theological student. Towards night a hard snow-squall.

14. Looked at the village, which appears very well. All risen in a few years. Cold. Rode to New Haven. Procured Watts's<sup>4</sup> *Works*. Did errands. A great revival in the college and very encouraging appearances in the town. There is to be a public "four days' meeting"<sup>5</sup> here this week. I pray that it may have a divine blessing. Called ———<sup>6</sup> and borrowed Irving's<sup>7</sup> *Life of Columbus*. Rode home. Was quite cold. At evening had a larger Bible class than ever before.

15. Wrote. Mr. E. G. Welles<sup>8</sup> called on me and spent much time.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Blatchford.

<sup>2</sup> This dash represents silence.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. John Mitchell was settled in Fair Haven, a part of New Haven, in December, 1830, and remained here until 1836.

<sup>4</sup> Isaac Watts, D. D., 1674–1748. The most important works of Dr. Watts were his *Psalms and Hymns*, and *On the Mind*. As a sacred versifier and hymn-writer, he holds a foremost place in English literature.

<sup>5</sup> For a few years, about that time, these "four days' meetings," devoted to exhortation, preaching, and personal inquiry, were common in all parts of New England and beyond.

<sup>6</sup> By some oversight this place was not filled.

<sup>7</sup> Washington Irving's *Life of Columbus* was published in 1828. He was then in the full activity of authorship, and volumes from his pen were making their appearance very frequently. He did not awaken so wide an enthusiasm as did Sir Walter Scott at an earlier date, but he was a very popular author.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Elijah G. Welles, a graduate of Williams College, 1805. He had preached at Voluntown, Ct., and in Scotland parish (Windham). He was licensed to preach by the Hartford North Association, June 3, 1806. He died in 1855.

He goes about lecturing on history, etc. At evening attended at the academy and heard him. The boys made a noise.<sup>1</sup> Visited a sick man. Read in Irving's *Columbus*.

16. Wrote to Mr. Bacon, of New Haven. Walked out. Rode and visited. Read Irving. Very good. Wet.

17. Rode to the north part of the town and visited two schools. Cold and some snow. At evening attended a meeting at a private house; preached on John x: 10, and baptized two children. Our schools have done pretty well the present season.

18. Rode early to New Haven to attend the "four days' meeting."<sup>2</sup> At nine o'clock attended public worship, and Dr. Taylor<sup>3</sup> preached remarkably well. A great assembly and very solemn. At two o'clock Prof. Fitch<sup>4</sup> preached; the Center Church very full. More than five hundred staid after the service to be addressed as particularly anxious. About one hundred in college have hope. The work is great and increasing in the town. Rode home. Suffered with the cold.

19. We had snow and rain. Read Irving. Walked and visited. Received a letter from Gov. Peters.<sup>5</sup> Wrote. Read expositors.

20. Expounded on Matt. xi: 1-15, and preached on Hag. i: 5. Attended the evening conference. Cold. People from New York are much impressed with the religious attention there.

21. Walked out. Conversed with persons on society matters. Wrote and gave to the society committee a request that they would call a meeting to receive a communication from me. Visited a school well kept. At evening had a good Bible class.

22. Read a long account of one of the Morgan<sup>6</sup> trials. A miserable and wicked business. Afternoon visited a school. It grows warmer. Visited.

23. Wrote. Read. Walked a distance and visited. There is a good deal of electioneering in the State, but they are happily broke up into a great number of parties.

24. Warm and wet. Walked and visited. Visited a school. At evening visited. I am apt to be out late. Read Irving.

25. Our schools have done much better this season than the last. Last night considerable rain, but very moderate for the equinoctial storm.<sup>7</sup> Quite warm and vegetation commences. Walked and visited the most of the day.

At evening attended a meeting and preached on Matt. xx: 30. A good meeting. Received a letter from Dea. Reed, of East Windsor.

<sup>1</sup> Boys and noise have always rhymed in the English-speaking world.

<sup>2</sup> These occasions were then novel and excited a wide-spread interest.

<sup>3</sup> Nathaniel W. Taylor, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Eleazar T. Fitch, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> John S. Peters, Governor of Connecticut, 1831-1833.

<sup>6</sup> William Morgan, who, as is generally

believed, was murdered at Fort Niagara in 1826 for revealing the secrets of Freemasonry.

<sup>7</sup> Northeast storms are apt to come in March and September, not very far from the time when the sun crosses the equinoctial line, though that fact, taken alone, has probably very little to do with these storms. They belong rather to these seasons of the year.

26. Walked and visited. Had considerable conversation respecting society matters. Wrote. People begin to plow and garden.

27. Preached a double sermon on Ps. xiv: 2, 3. Warm. At evening had a good conference. After which rode out and performed a marriage.

28. Paid for a good pine chest, \$3. Rode to Oronoke and visited. There is much conversation about our approaching society meeting. Saw the society committee. Visited an aged woman quite poor. At evening had a good Bible class.<sup>1</sup>

29. Walked and visited. Worked at my books. Wrote. Afternoon rainy. Walked a distance in the evening in a hard rain. My deacons are a little awry.

30. Quite rainy all day. My people had a society meeting. I went in and spoke considerably. I believe it did good. The meeting was thin and they adjourned. Read Irving. Am pretty feeble.

31. Warm after the rain. Wrote letters to Dea. Reed, of East Windsor, Gov. Peters, and Baldwin & Treadway,<sup>1</sup> of New Haven. Read. Walked out. Received a letter from Mr. Ely, of Simsbury. Received of the society treasurer, \$75. Read. I believe my speaking yesterday in the society meeting did good.

#### APRIL.

1. Fast. Preached on Lev. xiii: 45, and Jer. v: 9. Afternoon meeting quite full. The day is very poorly observed here. At evening attended a meeting and preached on Ps. iv: 5. Much fatigued. Was out late.

2. Rode to Bridgeport. Unable to procure an exchange for tomorrow. Warm and spring weather. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Pinneo,<sup>2</sup> of Milford. Am quite languid.

3. Expounded on Matt. xi: 16 to xii: 14, and preached on Heb. xii: 24. Full meeting. At evening had a full conference. Spoke on John ix: 4. Very tired.

4. Wet. Visited an aged sick woman. Wrote. The electors' meeting.<sup>3</sup> Less interest appears to be excited in the State than usual. At evening the deacons and part of the society committee called on me. Had no concert meeting. Saw blossoms on the daffas. Wrote to Mr. Pinneo.

5. Last night we had a hard rain. Walked and visited. People are quite anxious about our society matters. I am much burdened. The Lord be my helper. Read. At evening had a large Bible class.

6. Rode to Oronoke and visited. The most of the people there act very badly. Visited the sick. We had our first shad.<sup>4</sup> A number have been taken yesterday and today.

<sup>1</sup> Baldwin & Treadway, a business firm in New Haven.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Bezaleel Pinneo.

<sup>3</sup> State election in Connecticut, the voting day, came in the month of April. But what was called technically "Election Day" in

Connecticut was when the Legislature came together in May.

<sup>4</sup> The shad in the spring went up all the rivers emptying into the Sound, but the largest and best were taken in the Connecticut River.

7. Walked and saw a number of people. We had a society meeting. I requested of the society that my connection with them might be dissolved, to take place at some time within six months. They acceded to the request. A few are violent<sup>1</sup> and others thought it best to acquiesce. The best people are very friendly. I submit to the divine disposal. I am glad that Jehovah reigns; I commit myself and my all to his disposal.

8. Mr. Southard's family removed about half a mile, and I go with them. It is very troublesome.<sup>2</sup> Got much fatigued. My things appear not to have been injured. Quite warm.

9. Last night we had a severe storm of wind and rain. The wind continued a severe gale through the day. Much damage is expected. Visited a family where an aged woman died last night. Wrote notes of an address for a Bible Society. Cold.

10. The wind high, but not equal to yesterday. Preached a double sermon on Isa. lv: 6. People well out. Attended a funeral. Rode to Milford and delivered an address to their Bible Society. That does well. Tarried at Mr. Pinneo's.

11. Cold. Rode to New Haven. Did errands. The work of grace continues here with great power. Towards evening the society committee called on me and talked rather poorly. Attended the Bible class. Preparing for my journey. An eventful day with me. I desire to rejoice that in all things Jehovah reigns.

12. Set out early on a journey for New York. Rode in a tedious cold wind to Norwalk. Had company. Attended the meeting of the County Temperance Society. Well attended. In the afternoon meeting Mr. Sanford<sup>3</sup> and Mr. Leavitt,<sup>4</sup> of New York, and Dr. Hewitt<sup>5</sup> made addresses. The cause advances well in the county. Made calls. Am kindly treated at Mr. Stiles Curtiss's.

13. In the morning took the steamboat with numerous passengers. Were much hindered in getting out of the harbor. The first time I have traveled in this manner.<sup>6</sup> Quite cold. The prospects on the Sound are pleasant. Arrived at New York in the afternoon. Very kindly received and accommodated at Mr. Bunker's.<sup>7</sup> Walked out. Saw some acquaintance. The city appears very different from what it did when I was here last, ten years ago.

14. Walked out. Saw my cousins, P. R. and C. Starr. Mr. Battell and two daughters are here. Walked a long distance and saw Dr. Gilman and other connections. Wrote. Drank tea at Mr. Thompson's,<sup>8</sup> from Enfield,

<sup>1</sup> The grounds of their violent opposition are not stated, and very likely were not well defined even to themselves.

<sup>2</sup> This smaller breaking up was the more disagreeable because the larger change was to come so soon.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Sanford was probably not a minister.

<sup>4</sup> Joshua Leavitt, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Nathaniel Hewitt, D. D., of Bridgeport.

<sup>6</sup> That is, his first ride on a steamboat.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. Bunker was a connection of Mr. Southard, where he boarded in Stratford.

<sup>8</sup> Orin Thompson, of Enfield, who carried on the carpet factory in Thompsonville. He gave the name to this village in Enfield. He resided part of the time in New York, usually passing his winters there.

with Rev. Mr. Rice.<sup>1</sup> Great news from Europe. Polish war, etc. Much warmer. I see many curiosities. Read the papers.

15. Walked up town with Mr. Bunker and called on Rev. Mr. Phillips.<sup>2</sup> The modern buildings, some of them, are very splendid. Called on Dr. Matthews.<sup>3</sup> Wrote and sent a piece to Norwalk for the newspaper. Afternoon rode a distance with Mr. and Mrs. Bunker and attended a funeral. It was very well conducted. At evening attended a meeting with Rev. Mr. Rice. Spoke considerably. Was out late. Wet.

16. A hard rainy day. Wrote. Walked out, made calls, and did errands. Dined with my cousin P. R. Starr.<sup>4</sup> At evening attended a small meeting in the rain with Dr. Matthews. Spoke on Matt. xv: 22, etc. Called on my cousins, S. and I. Battell.<sup>5</sup> Read.

17. Warm and pleasant. In the morning attended meeting with Mr. Bunker and heard Mr. Phillips. Afternoon preached for him on Eph. ii: 14. The church (Wall Street) is very large and elegant, and hard for speaking. The house not full. At evening attended a full meeting in Dr. Matthews's vestry-room, and preached on John vii: 37. The revival is pretty great in this congregation. Called on Mr. Battell, with his son and daughter.

18. Walked out and made calls. Mr. Battell purchased cloth for a coat for me at \$8.50 a yard, for which I paid \$15.94, said to be sold at a low rate.<sup>6</sup> Rode with Mr. Bunker in all the upper parts of the city, and witnessed its great progress and increase. Quite warm. Called on Dr. Matthews. He is much engaged with his university.<sup>7</sup> Mr. Johnson,<sup>8</sup> from Stratford, very kindly went with me to the Exchange and other public buildings. Saw Mr. Haskell,<sup>9</sup> from East Windsor. At evening attended the opening of the Presbytery of New York. Mr. Carroll,<sup>10</sup> of Brooklyn, preached very well.

19. Attended an early morning meeting with Dr. Matthews. Walked about town. Went with Mr. Bunker and saw some of the principal steamboats. We then crossed the river to Hoboken, an elegant retreat, and returned. There is a fine company of boarders and lodgers at Mr. Bunker's. Visited acquaintance. At evening went with cousin P. R. Starr and visited Mr. Snodgrass,<sup>11</sup> and preached in his church on John vii: 37. Much fatigued. Find much employment.

20. Took a long walk to Mr. Gilman's.<sup>12</sup> Quite warm. Made calls on

<sup>1</sup> Benjamin Holt Rice, D. D., a native of Virginia, pastor of Pearl Street (Presbyterian) Church, New York, 1829-1832.

<sup>2</sup> W. W. Phillips, D. D., of the Wall Street Church.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. James D. Matthews, of the Dutch Reformed Church.

<sup>4</sup> Now a prominent and successful lawyer.

<sup>5</sup> Samuel and Irene Battell.

<sup>6</sup> It would be extraordinary cloth now that should cost \$8.50 a yard.

<sup>7</sup> The University of the City of New York, which had then just come into existence, having been chartered in 1830.

<sup>8</sup> Judge William S. Johnson.

<sup>9</sup> Eli B. Haskell.

<sup>10</sup> Daniel L. Carroll, D. D., who succeeded Dr. Lyman Beecher in Litchfield, Ct., but after a three years' ministry resigned, and, 1829-1835, was pastor in Brooklyn. Then for three years he was President of Hampden Sydney College. Then for six years afterwards he was a pastor in Philadelphia, and afterwards Secretary of the New York Colonization Society.

<sup>11</sup> William D. Snodgrass, D. D., pastor of the Murray Street Presbyterian Church.

<sup>12</sup> Dr. Benjamin I. Gilman.

acquaintance. Looked at Mr. Bunker's house, with its many conveniences. Afternoon rode with Mrs. Bunker<sup>1</sup> and visited their friends. Read.

21. Mr. Battell and his daughters left town yesterday. Walked and made calls. My cousin Joseph Battell has some valuable ancient Bibles. Dined at Mr. Gilman's with P. R. Starr and Rev. Mr. Baldwin.<sup>2</sup> Had a pleasant visit. Mr. Hoffman gave me a valuable ancient Bible. Rainy.

22. Rose early. The servants of this house are very good. Have experienced great kindness from Mr. Bunker and family, and great mercies from God. Walked a distance to the steamboat, and came to Norwalk. Cold. Got acquainted with Rev. Mr. Schroeder.<sup>3</sup> Rode home in the stage. The society had a meeting last week and did poorly. Received a letter from Rev. J. H. Linsley, of Hartford, and one from my brother Francis. Visited a family that have lost a child in my absence and have one hard sick. Have had a prosperous journey and small expense.

23. Wrote to Mr. Bunker, of New York, and Mr. Linsley, of Hartford. Received a letter from P. B. Gleason & Co., of Hartford. Walked out. Am fatigued with my journey. We have news of the unprecedented fact that our four secretaries at Washington have resigned their offices.<sup>4</sup> Wrote. Visited a sick child. At evening attended awhile at a Methodist four days' meeting.

24. Preached with notes on Gal. ii: 16, 17, and a sermon on Jer. ix: 1. Afternoon meeting pretty full. The evening conference thin on account of the great Methodist meeting. This people are in a very bad state. Some of them appear to feel it. Spoke at the conference on Luke xviii: 13.

25. Walked and made calls. Did errands. The good people here are much grieved at the prospect of my leaving them. Warm. People are gardening. Peach blossoms are out. At evening had a good Bible class. Paid a tailor, \$2.25. Wrote. Wrote to my brother Francis, and to P. B. Gleason & Co., of Hartford.

26. Paid Mr. Josiah Booth, \$20. Set out on a journey. Rode to New Haven. Have had some copying of a long report to our Clerical Convention well done by my college beneficiaries. Paid for two pair of chest-handles, \$3. Rode to Humphreysville and Southbury. Tarried with Rev. Mr. Shipman.<sup>5</sup> A four days' meeting began today at Milford.

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Bunker, as we understand it, was daughter of the Mr. Southard with whom he boarded in Stratford.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Elihu W. Baldwin, pastor of the Seventh Presbyterian Church, New York.

<sup>3</sup> John Frederick Schroeder, D. D., born in Baltimore, 1800; graduated at College of New Jersey, 1819; for fourteen years assistant minister at Trinity Church, New York. He was a popular preacher and a somewhat extensive and well-known writer. He died in Brooklyn, N. Y., 1857.

<sup>4</sup> The four secretaries were Martin Van

Buren, of New York, Secretary of State; Samuel D. Ingham, of Pennsylvania, Secretary of the Treasury; John H. Eaton, of Tennessee, Secretary of War; and John Branch, of North Carolina, Secretary of the Navy. They were succeeded in the order above given by Edward Livingston, Louis McLane, Lewis Cass, and Levi Woodbury.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Thomas L. Shipman was pastor at Southbury, 1826-1836. He is still living, of great age, but well preserved, at Jewett City, Ct. He is the father of Judge Nathaniel Shipman, of Hartford.

27. Rode to Warren. Kindly received. The roads have become dry. Called with my cousin Starr on Mr. Talcott.<sup>1</sup> He remains feeble. Attended a stated prayer-meeting. Concluded unexpectedly to continue here till after the next Sabbath. Cold and rough east wind.

28. It rained and snowed all day. Kept almost entirely shut up. It was a very tedious day. Wrote on a set of rules of proceeding in church discipline, by desire of our Association. Read. The season is considerably more backward here than at Stratford.

29. Wrote on my church rules and finished them. Called on Mr. Talcott. The present period of revivals is unusually great and extensive. It is peculiar in the great towns and colleges. Rainy. Afternoon attended a preparatory lecture and preached on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. Well attended for a wet day. At evening walked out.

30. Expected to have rode today to Kent, but was prevented by wet. Copied my church rules. Yesterday drank tea at Mr. Lyman's; today at Mr. Talcott's. My cousin Starr has a good deal of company.<sup>2</sup>

#### MAY.

1. Cold and cloudy, but not wet. Mr. Talcott not able to attend meeting. Preached on Luke xxii: 15, and Isa. iii: 10, 11. Administered the sacrament. This is a good church. Full meeting. At evening attended a conference and spoke on Matt. xv: 22, etc. Conversed with my cousin Starr on their society matters. The Lord be my helper.

2. Left my kinsman's early, on my return. Dined at Brookfield with a military company and Mr. Brundage.<sup>3</sup> Rode home—about forty-eight miles. A four days' meeting is to begin tomorrow at New Milford. Very tired. An insane woman here has drowned herself in my absence. Mr. Southard is quite feeble.

3. Walked out and made calls. My people begin to have a little sense of their fearful danger. Received of the society treasurer, \$90. Had much to do in preparing for my journey. Quite warm. Afternoon left home and rode to New Haven and Meriden. My horse travels slow. Tarried at a tavern. Much fatigued.

4. Rode early to Hartford. The forenoon wet and rainy. Attended the election, such as it was. The first, I presume, in this State, without divine worship.<sup>4</sup> But few people present and very few ministers. A general dissatisfaction was felt and expressed. Attended the Ministers' Annuity Society. Saw many acquaintance. Rode to East Windsor. Am glad to have this home. Mr. and Mrs. Haskell<sup>5</sup> here and their two children.<sup>6</sup> Saw apple-tree blossoms.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Hart Talcott, pastor at Warren from 1825 to his death in 1836.

<sup>2</sup> His father's house had been a hospitable house during the long reach of his ministry—1772-1829—fifty-seven years.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Abner Brundage.

<sup>4</sup> This was the first year of Hon. John S.

Peters, of Hebron, as Governor. He succeeded Gov. Tomlinson.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. and Mrs. Harris Haskell, from Pine Meadow (Windsor).

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Robbins Haskell, now four years old, and Elizabeth Bissell Haskell, three months old.

5. Quite cold. Wrote. Looked over my library. Am feeble after my late fatigues: At evening rode out with Mr. Wolcott.

6. Rode to Enfield. My brother has sold his place and has a family living with him in his house. The season is forward. My brother is preparing to go to Philadelphia. Mr. Hazen,<sup>1</sup> of Agawam, came here and tarried.

7. My brother having engaged to supply at Norfolk tomorrow, I concluded to go in his stead. Crossed at Warehouse Point,<sup>2</sup> and rode through Simsbury to Colebrook. Sent word to Norfolk and tarried at brother Ammi's. Warm. Apple-trees are much in blossom on the road.

8. Rode early to Norfolk. It soon began to rain and was a rainy day. Found brother Samuel at Mr. Battell's. Preached on Luke xxii: 15, and John vii: 37. Administered the sacrament. The church well out for a wet day. The congregation rather thin. Had no evening meeting. We had some fine instrumental music. My brother Samuel is quite feeble, and has been long unwell.<sup>3</sup>

9. Wet. We had snow-squalls occasionally through the day. Wrote. Gave to my brother Samuel a paper, relinquishing to him as executor a legacy of my father, now due, amounting to about \$85.<sup>4</sup> Visited the aged Mr. Nathaniel Roys and his wife; he is nearly ninety-eight, she, ninety; married, November, 1760;<sup>5</sup> and he had lived four years with a former wife. Wrote to David Brooks, Esq., Stratford. Conversed considerable with Mr. Battell. Towards night rode to New Hartford. Cold and tedious wind. Tarried at a tavern.

10. In the morning the ground was mostly covered with snow. There was ice. Breakfasted at Mrs. Everest's,<sup>6</sup> at Canton. Rode to Hartford. Many of the apple-trees are in full bloom. Found Mr. Hazen<sup>7</sup> in Hartford, waiting for my brother Francis. He and his wife came about noon and went off in the steamboat<sup>8</sup> for New York and Philadelphia; Mr. Hazen for New York. Rode to East Windsor. Mr. Wolcott's three grandchildren<sup>9</sup> and their mothers are here. Tudor has repaired and much improved the old house.

11. Rode to Ellington and saw Mr. Brockway. He expects to supply

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Reuben S. Hazen, a native of West Springfield, and a graduate of Yale, 1818, and pastor at Agawam, 1821-1830.

<sup>2</sup> On the ferry-boat. After using a ferry at Warehouse Point from the beginning, it is stated now, in the year 1885, that arrangements are made for building a bridge at this point.

<sup>3</sup> He was alarmingly ill, it may be remembered, after his removal to Central New York, where was still his home.

<sup>4</sup> There was a very kindly feeling in this family one towards another.

<sup>5</sup> By this it appears that he and his wife had lived together seventy-one years, and she was a second wife. He died during 1832, in his one hundredth year.

<sup>6</sup> Widow of Mr. Solomon Everest, who died in 1822 and left the Everest fund. In all he left for benevolent purposes about \$16,000, which was a notable sum of money for that day.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Reuben S. Hazen, of Agawam (West Springfield).

<sup>8</sup> The first steamboat plying between Hartford and New York was the Oliver Ellsworth, which ran from 1824 to 1843. Before 1831 other boats, the McDonough, Commerce, and Victory, had been placed on this same line.

<sup>9</sup> The two children of Harris and Frances (Wolcott) Haskell (see May 4), and Tudor Bissell, infant son of Edgar and Evelina (Wolcott) Bissell.



some longer at Norfolk.<sup>1</sup> Rode to Enfield. Kindly entertained at Mr. Parsons's. In the afternoon attended the weekly prayer-meeting. After which rode to East Windsor. I had my brother's horse to go to Norfolk, and he now lets me have him to go to Stratford. Warm. Wrote to Mr. Battell.

12. Rode to Stratford. Did not leave Hartford till after ten o'clock. Received a letter from Mr. Ely, of Simsbury. Warm and something dusty. Vegetation advances rapidly. A full blowth on the apple-trees. Got home late. At the bridge<sup>2</sup> found that the elder Mrs. Lacey has died today. Visited a family in which a young child has just died.

13. Am fatigued with my late exertions. Did errands. Warm. Attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Lacey. She was buried at Bridgeport and I did not go there. Mr. Hewitt was with me. Wrote. I am, in the holy providence of God, without a home. I hope in him.

14. Received a large cherry chest made for me. It is a very good one. Worked at my books, putting them down and preparing for removal. Attended the funeral of a child. The society committee called to see me and did but little. Rode out with Mrs. Bunker. Her husband came from New York.

15. Preached on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4, and 1 Cor. i: 23. There was no church<sup>3</sup> and our meeting was full. An interesting day. Attended the evening conference; quite thin. A very fine season. Attended a funeral at the poor-house. There have been twenty deaths in the town the present year.<sup>4</sup>

16. Worked at my books and other things. Made calls. Visited an aged black man very sick. Got wet. The prospects of this people are poor and painful.

17. Walked and made calls. Paid a cabinet-maker for my chest, \$6.75. The whole cost is \$8.75. Warm. Rode to Fairfield and procured twenty volumes from Mr. Eliot's library, for which I paid \$11. Paid a tailor, \$5.50. Preparing for my journey. Friends here appear to be pained at the prospect of my leaving them.

18. Rode to East Windsor. Had a heavy load of baggage. Some of the way warm and very dusty. Rode late in the evening. Heard of Mr. and Mrs. Battell in Hartford, but did not see them.

19. Wet and rainy. A very fine season for vegetation. Worked at my books and other things. My library has become considerably disordered. Am fatigued with late labors.

20. Rode to Enfield to supply my brother during his absence at Philadelphia. The roads wet. Last night considerable thunder. Wrote. Read.

<sup>1</sup> It appears from this entry that Rev. Diodate Brockway, of Ellington, was empowered for a time to send preachers for the supply of the pulpit at Norfolk, made vacant in 1829 by the dismissal of Dr. Emerson, who went to Andover. Norfolk was out of the way, and ministers were less numerous there than along the river.

<sup>2</sup> The bridge across the Housatonic River, which separates Milford from Stratford.

<sup>3</sup> Another instance of awkward expression in the use of the word *church* (see July 4, 1830).

<sup>4</sup> The year before there were only twenty-two during the whole year, and now we are in the middle of the fifth month of 1831.

21. Spent much of the day reading Woodruff's *Tour to Greece*.<sup>1</sup> Walked out and made calls. This town is much improving. The canker-worms are beginning their spoliations on the apple-trees.<sup>2</sup> Read.

22. A pleasant day and a large assembly. Preached on Heb. xii: 16, and Luke xix: 43, 44. This meeting-house appears much better by the alterations. The galleries very full. Preached in the evening on Matt. xv: 21, etc. On the 18th paid to Mr. Southard, \$10. Left off my flannel.

23. Rode to Thompsonville and looked at the carpet manufactory.<sup>3</sup> It is very extensive and in the best order. Read Hitchcock's *Lectures on dyspepsia*.<sup>4</sup> We have favorable news for the Poles in their arduous struggle.<sup>5</sup> Wrote. My situation is full of anxieties.

24. Read Hitchcock's *Lectures*. They have some good things and some that are puerile. Wrote to Esq. Ely, of Simsbury. Wet and rainy. Was prevented from attending an evening meeting.

25. Rode to Somers. The roads very wet. Made several calls. They do not pay my claim on the society here, nor give encouragement of doing it for some time. Returned. Attended the weekly prayer-meeting. Read. Cool.

26. Finished Hitchcock's *Lectures*. Received a letter from Dr. Welch,<sup>6</sup> of Norfolk, requesting me to supply there for a time.<sup>7</sup> I thank God for this prospect of employment. Rode out and visited. At evening attended a temperance meeting. They have a good temperance society here. Was out late.

27. The forenoon quite rainy. Read Magee<sup>8</sup> on the atonement. A very valuable work. Afternoon rode to East Windsor. Saw various old friends. At evening attended at a meeting. Mr. Goodyear<sup>9</sup> spoke well. Sold my horse to Abiezer Porter, of whom I bought him two years ago. He gives me \$55 and the use of a good wagon for a journey. We call it \$60. I paid him for the horse, \$65. Wrote to Dr. Welch, of Norfolk.

<sup>1</sup> *Tour to Malta, Greece, Asia Minor, etc.* Hartford, 1831. 12mo. S. Woodruff.

<sup>2</sup> In that region they generally finished their work about the 10th or 15th of June.

<sup>3</sup> This manufactory had been then only a few years in existence.

<sup>4</sup> Edward Hitchcock, D. D., professor in Amherst College, 1825-1845, and president of the college, 1845-1854. *Lectures on Diet, Regimen, and Employment*, was the work which Dr. Robbins was reading.

<sup>5</sup> It was only a temporary advantage. The power of Russia was too overwhelming, and little Poland must fail in the unequal contest.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. Benjamin Welch.

<sup>7</sup> Since Dr. Emerson's dismissal in December, 1829, the church at Norfolk had given calls to three ministers: Rev. John A.

Albro, D. D., afterwards, 1835-1865, pastor of First Church, Cambridge, Mass.; Rev. John Mitchell, who had virtually accepted his call at Fair Haven, Ct., before the Norfolk call reached him; and Rev. Theophilus Smith, afterwards, 1831-1853, pastor at New Canaan. The latter declined his call to Norfolk because of the difficulty of finding such a house as he desired. They have a nice parsonage house there now.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. William Magee, a prominent divine of Ireland, 1765-1831. His work was, *Discourses on the Scriptural Doctrine of the Atonement and Sacrifice*.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. George Goodyear graduated at Yale, 1824, and at Yale Theological Seminary, 1827. He was a candidate seeking a settlement, and supplying at Dr. Robbins's old parish, but was not settled there.

28. Rode to Hartford. Did errands. The Senate have refused to restore the practice of a religious service at the election. An act of public hostility to the religion of Christ. Quite warm. I still have my trials. I commit all my ways to the keeping of God. Rode to Enfield. The Poles appear to be most unexpectedly successful in their conflict with the Russians.<sup>1</sup>

29. Preached on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4, and 1 Cor. i: 23. Very warm and the heat oppressive. After meeting rode to the east part of the town; had a good meeting and preached on John ix: 4. Rode to the north part of the town and attended the evening conference, and preached on Luke xviii: 13. Very much fatigued, but spoke in the evening easier than I expected. The church chose delegates to attend an installation and two public meetings of worship and prayer.

30. Rode out and looked at three horses, but made no purchase. The heat very severe. Received a letter from Mr. Brockway. Am able to do but very little. Wrote. Towards night left this worthy family and rode to East Windsor. Took a large number of pamphlets and papers from the post office, which had been long accumulating, and paid for them, \$1.13. The mercury rose today to 95°. People complain very much of the heat.

31. Assisted in trimming trees. Mr. Brockway<sup>2</sup> called on me on his return from Norfolk and informed me they wished me to be there on the next Sabbath. Wrote to D. Brooks, of Stratford. The thermometer rose again to 95°. On the Sabbath it was 93°. Rode to Hartford. Paid the Annuity Society two annual contributions, \$10.30. Paid for a very fine pair of shoes, \$2. People are much oppressed with the heat. Visited.

#### JUNE.

1. Rode out, did some errands, and made calls. The prospects of this society<sup>3</sup> are not encouraging. Have difficulty in collecting debts. Paid a tax of sixty-nine cents. Worked at my books and prepared for my journey. At evening set out on a journey to Norfolk. I am once more committed to the entire disposal of the God of my fathers. I rejoice to be in his hands. Thermometer 94°. Put up at the stage-house.<sup>4</sup>

2. Was called before one o'clock and rode in the stage to Norfolk. Had a comfortable time, though a full stage. The roads are getting dusty. Much fatigued. Stopped at Mr. Battell's. He is gone to the westward. Brother Samuel is here and much better than he has been. Went to board at Dr. Welch's.<sup>5</sup> The heat about the same as for several days. Walked out.

3. Rode out and visited two sick persons. Read a pamphlet on the project of a national railroad from the Hudson to the Mississippi. It is thought to be a warmer day than any other this week. Wrote to my cousin Starr, of Warren. Read.

<sup>1</sup> This good news will not bear the test of time.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Mr. Brockway, of Ellington, had supplied at Norfolk in person on that Sabbath.

<sup>3</sup> His old parish in East Windsor.

<sup>4</sup> He spent the night in Hartford, in order that he might be ready to take the stage for Norfolk early in the morning.

<sup>5</sup> Benjamin Welch, M. D.

4. Wrote. Last evening attended a small prayer-meeting; quite thin. Traded, \$1.08. Have to procure various necessary things. The heat not much diminished. Very dusty. Read the Bible.

5. Cloudy, but little or no rain. The heat abates some. Read the Bible. Preached on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4, and Luke xix: 43, 44. A pretty large congregation. Very good singing. Spent the evening and night with brother Samuel at Mr. Battell's. Much fatigued. The walk from my boarding-house, Dr. Welch's, is rather severe.

6. Read. The May anniversaries at New York and Boston<sup>1</sup> excite great attention. It is a time of great and very many revivals. Brother Samuel went off for home.<sup>2</sup> Gave him a Testament, for which I paid \$1.50. The committee wish me to continue to supply here for the present. Wrote to the committee of Stratford, and to Miss Southard. At evening attended the monthly concert. Traded, \$4.75.

7. Wrote to Mr. Hooker,<sup>3</sup> of Hartford, and Mr. Hotchkiss,<sup>4</sup> of Saybrook. Read. We have cooler weather, but no rain. Occupied with company. Our national administration is in a low state.

8. Rode to Winsted, with company, to attend a four days' meeting.<sup>5</sup> A number of ministers were present. Various exercises were attended. A large collection of people. I preached in the evening at the west village.

9. Quite warm and dusty. Kept at Mr. Higley's. Am much fatigued.

10. After two prayer-meetings I preached in the forenoon on John vii: 37. The meeting full and very solemn. Some addresses followed and the services were closed. The heat and dust very oppressive. Much fatigued. Some of Mr. Battell's family were down. Rode home with them.

11. Almost as warm as last week. Rode and visited the sick. Read. Can do but little. Wrote. Vegetation begins to suffer with the drought.

12. Preached on Heb. xii: 16, and Matt. xxv: 6. Attended the Sabbath-school; very large. Baptized a child, and did the same last Sabbath. People suffer a good deal with the heat. Attended a third meeting and spoke on 1 Kings xix. Much fatigued. Read the Bible.

<sup>1</sup> The New York anniversaries were held in the second week in May, and the Boston anniversaries in the last week in May, sometimes reaching into June.

<sup>2</sup> In Central New York.

<sup>3</sup> The name of Rev. Horace Hooker has very frequently come before us in this diary, and some fuller notice of him than we have yet given is his rightful due. He was born in Kensington parish, Berlin, in March, 1793, a direct descendant from Thomas Hooker, of Hartford. He was graduated in Yale College in 1815, was tutor there, 1817-1822, was pastor a short time in Watertown. He then became the editor of the *Connecticut Observer*, of Hartford. In 1826 he was made

Secretary of the Connecticut Missionary Society, and in 1831 Secretary of the Connecticut Home Missionary Society, which offices he held till his death. He was an extensive writer of books, and, with Dr. Ellsworth Daggett, he was especially employed in preparing the Connecticut hymn-book, entitled *Psalms and Hymns*. He was a man of choice culture and choice Christian spirit.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Frederick W. Hotchkiss, pastor at Old Saybrook, 1783-1844.

<sup>5</sup> The writer well remembers a four days' meeting held in the north parish of East Windsor during the winter of 1831 and 1832. It was just about this time that this religious agency was so common.

13. Rode to the south part of the town. Visited several places. Saw a man very low with a broken limb. Wrote. Trying to buy a horse; a very disagreeable business. Quite warm. There have been many changes in this town in thirty years.

14. Rode with Mr. Marsh,<sup>1</sup> of Winchester, to Salisbury, in heat and dust, and met with the Association. Nearly half of the members were absent. Almost every society has more or less of a revival. Norfolk, probably, the least. The Association had much business. Mr. Powers,<sup>2</sup> of Goshen, preached. Afternoon and evening wet and rainy. Very grateful.

15. The Association licensed Eleazar Holt,<sup>3</sup> of Norfolk, and ordained as an evangelist a Mr. Loring,<sup>4</sup> of New York State. I preached at the ordination service on 1 Cor. i: 23. The other services were well performed. The ministers are in a very good state. Wet. Afternoon a long shower. The dry ground is greatly refreshed. Rode home with Mr. Marsh. He tarried with me. Got considerable wet.

16. Wrote on the records of the Clerical Convention. Afternoon attended a church prayer-meeting. It was serious and interesting. A very solemn fact that this town should be passed over, while the grace of God descends all around us. Looked at two horses. Wrote late.

17. Wrote the annual report of the Everest fund for General Association. Afternoon walked and visited. At evening attended a meeting in the west district and preached on John ix: 4. Read late.

18. Visited. Wrote to James Skinner, of Winsted. Rode out with my sister and visited a sick man. We had a thunder-shower. Sultry hot. I lose too much time from want of mental application. Wrote.

19. Preached in the morning on John iii: 3. Attended the Sabbath-school. Afternoon Mr. Holt preached. His first sermon and a good performance. Spoke at the third meeting on Acts xxiv: 25. Warm and languid. Baptized two children. Prepared for my journey.

20. Set out early on my journey. Mrs. Battell went with me to Winsted and gave me a conveyance. Rode in a public conveyance to Hartford. Very hot, and we were obliged to travel slow. The steamboat had been gone half an hour.<sup>5</sup> Rode with Mr. Filley<sup>6</sup> to East Windsor. Paid Hudson & Co. a charge, \$1.50. Attended to my things.

21. Dea. Reed paid me \$30, and I paid the same to Maria Burnham.<sup>7</sup> Rode in a wagon, with much dust, to Hartford. Took the steamboat for

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Frederick Marsh.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Grant Powers, pastor at Goshen from 1829 to his death—1841. He was graduated at Dartmouth College, 1810.

<sup>3</sup> Eleazar Holt was graduated at Yale, 1823, but his ministerial life was short. He died in 1835.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Joseph B. Loring, who was licensed by the same Association (Litchfield North), June 9, 1829.

<sup>5</sup> He was on his way to the General Association at Saybrook, and lost his connection.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Horace Filley, who seems to have made frequent journeys from East Windsor to Hartford.

<sup>7</sup> Maria Burnham was the daughter of William and Emeline (Parsons) Burnham, of East Windsor, but how this money belonged to her we do not know, though probably it was money she had loaned.

Saybrook at two o'clock. About one hundred and forty passengers. Landed at Saybrook near nine o'clock. Almost two hours later than was promised. Walked to the meeting-house and went into a meeting. The Convention met in the evening and adjourned on account of my absence.<sup>1</sup> In the afternoon we had a shower on the river.

22. Kindly entertained at Mr. Sanford's. The General Association is very thin of members and visiting ministers, because they cannot leave home. I think there is at this time a greater revival of religion in this State and this country than was ever before.<sup>2</sup> Not less than one hundred congregations in this State, and nine hundred in the United States, have been mercifully visited the year past. Presented to the General Association the annual report of the Everest fund, which was approved. In the afternoon Mr. Absalom Peters<sup>3</sup> preached, and the sacrament was administered. A solemn season and a large collection of people. It is said the General Association has never sat in this society before.<sup>4</sup> At evening had a meeting of the Convention. But little was done. Attended awhile on a sermon by Pres. Day.

23. Rode in a small stage with Pres. Day to New Haven. In the afternoon we had a hard rain. Made some calls. Paid a book-binder, \$5.94. Rode late in the evening in the stage to Stratford. Much fatigued by labor and want of rest. Quite cool.

24. Paid Mr. Southard, \$20. Made some calls. This society have done nothing towards effecting my dismission. Took the stage after four o'clock and rode to New Haven, and thence to Hartford. It was quite a cool night.

25. Stayed at Hartford about an hour and took the stage and rode to Norfolk. Left Hartford about two o'clock. Had no sleep except in the stage. Have had, by divine favor, a prosperous journey. The committee of the church and society here have received from Mr. Smith<sup>5</sup> a negative answer to their late call. Received a letter from my cousin G. Starr, of Warren. Very tired. Put up my things in part.

26. Have had a good rest. Preached on Isa. v: 4, and 1 Thess. v: 3. A full and solemn meeting. Gave some account of the state of religion in the State and the country. Read, by request, Mr. Smith's letter to the committee. It is not very well received.<sup>6</sup> Spoke at the third meeting on Ps. xxiii: 3. At evening walked out.

<sup>1</sup> He was the scribe, and had the records of the Association and the schedule of business.

<sup>2</sup> Elderly people, who were born and brought up in New England, retain very vivid recollections of the scenes that were then passing.

<sup>3</sup> Absalom Peters, D. D., son of Gen. Absalom and Mary (Rogers) Peters, was born in Wentworth, N. H., though his ancestry belonged to Connecticut. He was a distinguished Presbyterian minister, and, 1825-1837, was Secretary of the American Home

Missionary Society. He was a graduate of Dartmouth (as was his father before him) in 1816, and of Princeton Seminary in 1819. He died in New York in 1869.

<sup>4</sup> Saybrook was the place where the General Association of Connecticut was born, in 1708.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Theophilus Smith, who has already been mentioned in connection with his call to Norfolk.

<sup>6</sup> He had had his call under consideration for some months, and the delay had been tiresome, as well as inconvenient.

27. Read. Wrote the eight preceding days of my diary. Afternoon rode and visited the sick and others. Am kindly treated by old acquaintance. The tillage of this town is much neglected for grazing.

28. Read. Rode to the north part of the town. Visited. Preached a lecture on Acts xxiv: 25. Wet and rainy. The meeting rather thin. Rode to the northwest neighborhood and preached in the evening in the Baptist meeting-house on Matt. xv: 22, etc. A Baptist preacher, Mr. Ellis, resides here. There is considerable religious attention in this neighborhood. Tarried at Esq. Knapp's.

29. Visited a man hard sick. Rode home. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture with notes on John xv: 29. Full and solemn meeting. Visited a distressed paralytic man. Showery.

30. Rode early to Goshen to attend the four days' meeting. Mr. Andrews<sup>1</sup> preached in the forenoon; I, in the afternoon, on Isa. iii: 10, 11. And in the evening without notes on Luke xviii: 13. The attention of the people appears to be increasing. We have frequent prayer-meetings. Kindly entertained at Esq. Lyman's.<sup>2</sup>

#### JULY.

1. Attended the morning and other prayer-meetings. Mr. Andrews preached in the forenoon. Mr. Norton,<sup>3</sup> from Illinois, in the afternoon, and Mr. Carrington<sup>4</sup> in the evening. An anxious meeting was prevented by a shower. Mr. Lyman is deeply impressed and solemn.

2. Preached in the forenoon on John vii: 37. Attended an anxious meeting. About thirty were present. The feeling has been evidently increasing through the meeting, and now there are manifest tokens of the divine presence. The meeting is to be continued through tomorrow. Rode home. Quite warm. Much fatigued. Mr. Battell returned from his western journey.

3. A warm day. Preached on Matt. v: 16, and Ps. x: 31. Administered the sacrament. The church appears very large. The season was impressive. For our third meeting we attended at David Roys's,<sup>5</sup> long confined, and had the Lord's Supper. He is very helpless. A good number were present. At evening visited a family about to remove. Quite tired.

4. Read. The proceedings of the members of the Government at Washington are very disgraceful.<sup>6</sup> Wrote. The heat is very oppressive. I have to do something in instructing a young man in Latin. At evening attended the monthly concert. The people come late.

5. Wrote. Rode to South End and preached a lecture on John ix: 4. Well attended. I think there are evidences of increasing thoughtfulness.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. William Andrews, pastor in Cornwall, 1827-1838. The latter was the year of his death. He had been previously, 1813-1826, pastor at Danbury.

<sup>2</sup> Erastus Lyman, Esq.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Augustus T. Norton, who received the degree of D. D. from Wabash College in 1863. He was a native of Goshen.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. George Carrington, pastor at North Goshen, 1829-1833, a native of Huntington, Ct., and a graduate of Yale, 1822.

<sup>5</sup> David W. Roys died in 1832, at the age of fifty-seven.

<sup>6</sup> It was a critical time in our national affairs, but we emerged from it safely. There have been disgraceful proceedings since.

Visited sick persons. Very warm. Towards night we had a violent thunder-shower. Find inconvenience in being destitute of a horse.

6. Very little has been done in this vicinity in reference to Independence. In the morning we had a hard shower. Read. Rode with company to the north part of the town, visited a sick man, and rode to North Canaan and attended at the four days' meeting. A number of ministers were present. Mr. Bradford<sup>1</sup> preached. Returned.

7. Rode to Canaan. The meeting becomes more numerous and solemn. I preached in the forenoon on Isa. iii: 10, 11. There was very little intermission in the meeting. Mr. Fletcher<sup>2</sup> preached in the afternoon, and a large number took the anxious seats. A number of Norfolk people were there. Returned. Heard of the death of President Monroe,<sup>3</sup> like two of his predecessors, on the Fourth of July.

8. Read. Wrote. Began a sermon on Ps. lxxviii: 31, on the subject of African colonization. Looked over documents on that subject. Afternoon rode to Winchester and preached a lecture for Mr. Marsh on Matt. xxv: 6. Well attended. Saw old acquaintance. Drank tea at Mr. Hurlburt's. Quite wet and rainy. Addressed the church on the subject of their unhappy difficulties. At evening preached again in the meeting-house without notes on Matt. xv: 21, etc. There is some religious attention here. The ground very wet.

9. Visited. Rode home. Showery. Considerably fatigued. Wrote on the sermon begun yesterday.

10. Finished and preached in the morning my sermon on Ps. lxxviii: 31. Afternoon preached on 2 Kings ix: 3. Spoke at the third meeting on Mark x: 51. We had a contribution for the Colonization Society and collected \$34. My lungs are fatigued with so much preaching. Quite cool. Baptized a child.

11. Almost a frost this morning. Read. Wrote. People are beginning haying, with a great crop of grass. Afternoon attended a church conference, and the church resolved to have a four days' meeting, to commence on the 16th of August.<sup>4</sup> Gave a poor man, \$1. Walked and visited. Find my feet tender for walking.

12. Wrote. Occupied with company. Afternoon rode to the north part of the town, visited, and preached in the Baptist meeting-house on Luke xviii: 31. The awakening in that quarter evidently increases. The Lord be our helper. Got home late. Quite cool. Some people are beginning harvest.

13. Read. Wrote to my brother Francis. Walked and visited. Went

<sup>1</sup> Rev. James Bradford, of Sheffield, Mass., son of Rev. Moses Bradford, of Francetown, N. H.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Thomas Fletcher, a native of New Ipswich, N. H., a graduate of Middlebury College, 1825, afterwards settled in Southwick, Hampshire County, Mass.

<sup>3</sup> James Monroe, President of the United States, 1817-1825, was born in Westmoreland County, Va., April 28, 1759, and died in New York city, July 4, 1831.

<sup>4</sup> A very large number of the parishes of Connecticut had four days' meetings during the years 1831 and 1832.



into the burying-ground. Some wheat is raised here. I am in much want of a horse. Wrote.

14. Find it very inconvenient to be up so late at night. Rode and visited the most of the day. I think the prospects here for a work of divine grace are encouraging. Received a letter from Mr. Beach, of Winsted, and wrote him in return. Quite cool for the season.

15. Wrote to Prof. Fitch, of New Haven. Walked out. Afternoon attended a Bible class for the first time. It was well attended and the members appeared quite intelligent. At evening attended a small prayer-meeting.

16. Read. Showery. Afternoon rode to South Canaan to preach for Mr. Prentice,<sup>1</sup> in behalf of Mr. Holt,<sup>2</sup> who is to be here tomorrow. Called on Mr. Holt at his father's. A very good road to South Canaan. People are generally harvesting. An unusual quantity of wheat. Mr. Prentice is pleasantly situated.

17. Preached on 2 Kings vii: 3, Matt. xxv: 6, and at a third meeting on Matt. xv: 21, etc. This is a pretty good society; much improved in a few years. There is a good work of divine grace here. Mr. Prentice has a worthy family.

18. Rode by Meekertown<sup>3</sup> home. Got a little wet. Called at Dea. Minor's.<sup>4</sup> Am still laboring to purchase a horse. Read. Visited.

19. Wrote. Read. Walked out and visited. People here are evidently expecting a work of divine grace.

20. Quite warm. Read the Bible. Our four days' meetings have some resemblance to the Jewish fasts. Afternoon rode to North End and preached on John xv: 22. Showery; much hay wet. The general seriousness in the town evidently increases. Tarried out.

21. Rode and visited. Afternoon had a full and solemn church conference. A very busy season. At evening preached at the south (Minor) school-house on John xv: 22. Well attended. Was out late. Much fatigued.

22. Rode a number of miles, with my cousin W. Lawrence,<sup>5</sup> in pursuit of a horse. Attended the Bible class. Was sent for to visit a man in the northwest part of the town in great distress of mind. A number of persons were in. A solemn evening. Tarried out.

23. There is a powerful work in the northwest quarter. Rainy and wet. Wrote. Am much employed. The season for hay and harvest has not been good. Under the pressure of fatigue began a sermon on the subject of the Jewish fasts, on 2 Chron. xxx: 26, 27. Had to talk about buying a horse.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Charles Prentice, pastor at Canaan (commonly called South Canaan, in distinction from North Canaan), 1804-1838.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Eleazar Holt.

<sup>3</sup> A portion of Norfolk was known as Meekertown. There was also a district in the town of Goshen with the same name.

<sup>4</sup> Dea. Noah Minor, holding the office from 1817 to 1843, when he resigned through age and infirmity.

<sup>5</sup> William Lawrence, then associated with Mr. Joseph Battell in his extensive business. He was brother of Mrs. Eliza Olmsted, so often mentioned in this diary.

24- Finished and preached my sermon on 2 Chron. xxx: 26, 27, and in the afternoon on Ps. li: 17. Meeting a little diminished by a number of the north people gone to the Baptists to attend a baptizing. Attended the third meeting and had a sermon read. At evening attended a conference in the Phelps district, with a number of distressed souls, and preached on Heb. x: 26. Very tired. The man I was called to see on Friday has hope.

25- Am quite languid. Walked out. Wrote. Read. Warm. Yesterday baptized a child. Got a horse for present use. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Hickok,<sup>1</sup> of Litchfield, and to Mr. Josiah Booth and Miss Eliza Southard, of Stratford. Visited.

26. Wrote to my brother Francis. The forenoon quite rainy. Afternoon rode to North End. Visited several families. Find increasing evidence of divine influences. Called on Mr. Ellis,<sup>2</sup> the Baptist preacher. At evening preached in his meeting-house on Acts viii: 21, 22. Had a full and attentive meeting. The work of grace in this neighborhood is very great; scarcely a house is passed over. Tarried out.

27. Rode and visited serious and awakened families entirely. Saw some much distressed. Afternoon attended a conference. Much fatigued. Read.

28. My pupil occupies considerable of my time. Received a letter from brother Francis, one from Prof. Fitch, and one from Mr. Hickok, of Litchfield. Afternoon attended the church conference. Full and quite interesting.

29. At evening attended a prayer-meeting. We certainly have a revival. May God carry on his work and have all the praise.

30. Walked out. Wrote the most of a sermon on Zeph. i: 12. Find it difficult to get sufficient rest. Am too much fatigued for study. Quite warm.

31. Finished and preached my sermon on Zeph. i: 12. Preached on Ps. l: 5. At evening preached in the Phelps district on Matt. xviii: 11. Tarried out in a family in a very serious state. Sultry hot. Much fatigued.

#### AUGUST.

1. Rode and visited. Sultry warm. Am quite languid. Read. We have a full exposure of the late proceedings at Washington, which have been very disgraceful.<sup>3</sup> My cousin Arthur Gilman<sup>4</sup> is here. Visited a sick child.

2. Rode to Canaan Mountain and attended a funeral. A large number of people were present. Preached on the occasion on Matt. xviii: 11. Afternoon visited a young ladies' school. They performed very well. Read. Oppressed with the heat.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Laurens P. Hickok, D. D., LL. D., pastor at Litchfield, 1829-1836. Afterwards he was Professor of Theology in Western Reserve College, professor in Auburn Theological Seminary, and professor and president in Union College. He was a native of Danbury, Ct., 1798; was graduated at Union Col-

lege, 1820. He was an eminent thinker and scholar.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Hermon Ellis.

<sup>3</sup> There was apt to be a disgraceful state of things at Washington whenever there was a Democratic President there.

<sup>4</sup> Son of Judge Benjamin I. Gilman.

3. Last night we had a hard rain. Wrote. The society committee informed me, very unexpectedly, that they expected another preacher here soon. I commit my way all to God and his infinite grace. Afternoon attended the funeral of a young child. Rode to the east part of the town and preached in the evening on Acts viii: 21, 22. People are much embarrassed with bad hay weather. Had a full meeting.

4. Visited. Last night tarried at Loon Meadow.<sup>1</sup> Afternoon attended the church conference. At evening preached in the west district on Acts vii: 51. Much oppressed with want of sleep.

5. Walked out. Traded, \$3.17. Paid the post office, twenty-six cents. Attended my Bible class. Rode to South End and preached in the evening at a full meeting on Acts vii: 26. Quite cool. Tarried out.

6. Visited. Saw a youth in deep distress of mind. Rode home. My new horse (contracted for) has a bad sore back, which requires constant attention. Paid a tailor, \$1. Began a sermon late in the afternoon and wrote six pages. Not up very late. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Clark,<sup>2</sup> of Colebrook.

7. Finished and preached in the afternoon the sermon begun yesterday on Matt. xvii: 4-17. Preached in the morning on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. My cousin, Mrs. Gilman,<sup>3</sup> came to Mr. Battell's last evening from New York. Had a full evening meeting and preached on Ps. cxli: 8. At the close of the afternoon service gave a full statement of the manner in which we wish to have the four days' meeting observed. Baptized a child.

8. Quite cool. Attended to my horse. My sister and Mrs. Gilman went to Warren. Received a box by stage from Stratford, which I sent for, with various articles, for which I paid \$1. Received a letter from Miss E. Southworth, and one from Mr. Josiah Booth, of Stratford. Mr. Cowles, of Canaan, came and performed a marriage in this neighborhood; I attended with him. We have an account of the sudden death of the Russian general, Marshal Diebitsch.<sup>4</sup> Wrote to Mr. Lathrop,<sup>5</sup> of Salisbury.

9. We had a hard rain. Looked over my accounts. On the 16th received a letter from Mr. Goodman,<sup>6</sup> of Tarringford. Walked out and visited.

10. Something wet and showery. Rode to the north part of the town and visited at a number of places. Am very affectionately received. At evening had a meeting on Goshen road and preached on John v: 40. A very good meeting. Tarried out.

<sup>1</sup> One of the local designations for a part of Norfolk.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Azariah Clark, pastor at Colebrook, 1830-1832. He was a graduate of Williams College, 1805.

<sup>3</sup> Wife of Dr. Benjamin I. Gilman, Jr.

<sup>4</sup> Marshal Diebitsch Zabalkanski, a Russian general in great favor with the Czar Alexander, and the commander of the Russian army in its victories over the Poles in 1830.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Leonard E. Lathrop, pastor in Salis-

bury, Ct., 1825-1836. He was graduated at Middlebury College, 1815.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Epaphras Goodman, pastor at Tarringford, 1822-1836. He was settled as colleague with Father Mills, and continued in office three years after Mr. Mills's death, which took place in 1833, at the age of ninety. Mr. Goodman was graduated at Dartmouth College, 1816. He was a native of West Hartford, and studied theology with Dr. Nathan Perkins and Dr. Eleazar T. Fitch.

11. Rode to my brother Ammi's and made them a short visit. His daughter is hopefully a subject of the work of grace here. In the afternoon attended my Bible class. Rode to Loon Meadow and preached in the evening on John v: 40. People are much driven with their work. Got home late and very tired. My birthday finds me in a state of much anxiety and solicitude. Am so much occupied that I cannot attend to the usual appropriate duties of the day. Endeavored to take a brief view of my most important interest, and to commit all to the infinite mercy and faithfulness of God. I am without a home, but have never been forsaken.

12. Am unhappily occupied with my horse. He has a very bad back, and I think I must return him. We had a season of fasting and prayer preparatory to our public meeting. Well attended. Mr. Cowles,<sup>1</sup> of Canaan, and Mr. Pettibone,<sup>2</sup> a candidate, preached and spoke in the forenoon. Mr. Cowles preached and Mr. Clark,<sup>3</sup> of Colebrook, spoke in the afternoon.

A serious meeting. Visited a sick child. At evening preached in the west district on Rom. ix: 20. Many people are very thoughtful.

13. Wrote. Walked out. There is a considerable dissatisfaction here with regard to a change of ministers.<sup>4</sup> Afternoon rode to Salisbury to exchange with Mr. Lathrop.<sup>5</sup> Met him on the way. Quite warm and sultry. People get in hay very fast. Traded, \$1.83.

14. Very warm. Preached on Matt. xxv: 1, 2, and Zeph. i: 12. Addressed the Sabbath school. I think this congregation is not quite as large as the one at Norfolk. At evening preached on Matt. xv: 21, etc. Suffered considerably with the heat. Mr. Lathrop returned. Mr. Mitchell,<sup>6</sup> late of Newtown, came to Norfolk last evening to supply there. Mr. Lathrop is an intelligent man.

15. Rode to Norfolk. The heat very oppressive. Found Mr. Mitchell here. He and Mr. Lathrop both preached yesterday. Had my horse returned to the owner at Tarringford on account of his diseased state. At evening attended a prayer-meeting.

16. Our four days' meeting commenced. Attended the morning prayer-meeting at sunrise. Wrote. In the forenoon Mr. Mitchell and I, with a good number of the church and others, attended a public meeting for prayer. Afternoon Mr. Bradford<sup>7</sup> preached. At evening Mr. Powers<sup>8</sup> preached. I preached in the evening at the east school-house on 2 Cor. vi: 2. Very warm. Received a letter from my brother Francis. Several ministers came here.

17. Mr. Linsley<sup>9</sup> preached forenoon and afternoon. Mr. Lathrop in the

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Pitkin Cowles, pastor at North Canaan, 1805-1833. He was a native of Southington and a graduate of Yale, 1800.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Roswell Pettibone, probably a graduate of Middlebury College, 1820.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Azariah Clark.

<sup>4</sup> That is, letting Mr. Robbins go and inviting some other man to fill the pulpit.

<sup>5</sup> Leonard E. Lathrop, D. D.

<sup>6</sup> This was Rev. William Mitchell, who had been dismissed at Newtown the previous May. He was a graduate of Yale, 1818.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. James Bradford, of Sheffield, Mass.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Grant Powers, of Goshen.

<sup>9</sup> Joel H. Linsley, D. D., of the South Church, Hartford.

evening. The house very full and crowded. We have constant prayer-meetings whenever there is opportunity. Afternoon a moderate grateful shower. At evening Mr. Clark<sup>1</sup> went and preached at South End, and Mr. Mitchell at North End. The congregations very solemn.

18. Not quite as hot as yesterday. The house overflowing. Mr. John Mitchell<sup>2</sup> preached in the forenoon and evening, and Mr. Bradford in the afternoon. A great many people from out of town. After the afternoon sermon the anxious ones took their seats and the members of the church retired for a season of prayer. The anxious, about two hundred and fifty, were addressed by several ministers. Perhaps thirty of the number were from out of town. At evening I preached at the lower school-house on Goshen road.

19. Rode home. Quite feeble. Still warm and sultry. Mr. Lathrop preached in the forenoon. Spent the intermission in a prayer-meeting. Afternoon Mr. Mitchell delivered an address; then the anxious ones took their seats, about three hundred, and were addressed by Mr. Bradford, while the members of the church retired for prayer. Then all were re-seated, and I made an address, recapitulating the instructions and scenes<sup>3</sup> of the meeting, and concluded the whole indescribable solemnity.<sup>4</sup> At evening we had a full prayer-meeting. Most of the ministers left town.

20. Am much fatigued. Wrote some. Have no time for myself. Afternoon rode out and visited distressed and rejoicing souls. We had an anxious meeting in the evening in the meeting-house, which Mr. Mitchell and I addressed, while a prayer-meeting was held in the school-house—divided in two on account of the number. Tarried at Mr. Battell's.

21. Preached in the morning on Isa. iii: 10, 11. Mr. Mitchell preached in the afternoon and evening. The committee chose that I should not preach in an out part of the town. They do rather poorly.

22. The committee paid me for ten Sabbaths, \$80. As they have paid Mr. Mitchell for the two last Sabbaths, I made no charge for them. It appears that a few persons wish me to leave the town, while a large majority wish me to stay. Wrote. Made calls. Afternoon rode, by desire, to Canaan Mountain, and preached in the evening to a good number on 2 Cor. vi: 2. One person here got a hope at our public meeting last week. Sultry and showery. Got something wet.

23. Rode home. Quite showery all day. Conversd with several anxious persons. Afternoon rode, by request, to the South End, visited a school, and preached in the evening to a full meeting, suddenly collected, on Ps. li: 16, 17. After sermon made an address to the anxious ones. Tarried out.

24. Visited and conversd with distressed and serious persons all day. The people generally are very desirous to have me continue here in this

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Azariah Clark, of Colebrook.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. John Mitchell, of Fair Haven. He had been recently invited to settle at Norfolk, but was pre-engaged at Fair Haven.

<sup>3</sup> The arrangements made beforehand and

the scenes which had been witnessed during the meeting.

<sup>4</sup> The feeling, as was not uncommon in these four days' meetings, had risen to a great hight before the close.

critical time. Rode in the evening to Mr. Battell's, where I now stay. My Brother's wife, of Enfield, and her eldest son have been here today. I am at a loss what course to take. The Lord be my helper.

25. Made calls. Wrote to my brother Francis. Heard of the afflictive death of my cousin William Le Baron.<sup>1</sup> A camp-meeting at Canaan excites much attention. Wrote. Have had very little time for myself for a good while. Showery. At evening attended a meeting and preached on Ps. li: 16, 17. My cousins, P. R. and G. Starr,<sup>2</sup> came here. Left with W. Lawrence, \$5. to pay for horse-hire, etc., that I have had.

26. Sultry hot. Made calls. Put up my things. Afternoon took the stage late and rode to Hartford. Donations, etc., ninety-six cents. Arrived at Hartford at midnight. Showery and wet. Walked to East Windsor.<sup>3</sup> Got considerably wet.

27. Slept this morning till after ten o'clock. My things were brought in the stage considerably wet and injured. A number of papers are wet. Attended to my things. Towards evening rode to Enfield. My brother is gone to Turkey Hills and Mr. Crosby<sup>4</sup> is here. My cousin F. Alden and wife, and their two little children are here.

28. Preached in the forenoon on Zeph. i: 12. Mr. Crosby preached in the afternoon and the evening at the north school-house. In the evening I preached at the meeting-house on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. There has been a public meeting here and there is some religious attention, but not great. Quite cool. Have taken a cold and am considerably hoarse.<sup>5</sup>

29. Am oppressed with my cold. My brother returned. He has a house building. The situation is very good. Had much conversation with him. Towards evening rode to East Windsor. Received the payment of a note, \$90, with interest, amounting to \$102.15.

30. The payment of my note last evening was from Henry Hills. Wrote. Worked at my things. Rode out and engaged a horse for a few weeks. Am kindly treated here. I find my pecuniary circumstances better than I supposed.<sup>6</sup> All of the rich mercy of God. At evening walked out. Read. Fine weather. Summer crops very forward.

31. Received the payment of a note from Capt. Bissell, made to Mr. Wolcott in May, \$30. Received from Levi Rockwell, for one half of my grass the present season, \$12.34. Have a little difficulty with Dea. Reed about his debt. Procured a horse on hire for a few weeks. Paid towards the hire, \$5. Afternoon rode to Simsbury. At Hartford received a dividend of \$15 from the Hartford Bank. Yesterday received some pamphlets from the post office. Postage, thirty-nine cents. Tarried at Mr. McLean's.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Capt. William Le Baron, of Rochester, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> Peter R. and George Starr.

<sup>3</sup> Five good miles, for a lonely, wet, midnight walk, by an overworked man of fifty-four years, made a tough journey, and was not a wise one to make.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Stephen Crosby, pastor at East Granby, Turkey Hills.

<sup>5</sup> Probably from that midnight walk in the rain.

<sup>6</sup> With all his changes from place to place he had hardly lost a Sabbath for many years.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Allen McLean.

## SEPTEMBER.

1. Looked at the new meeting-house.<sup>1</sup> A very fine one. Attended the annual meeting of the Committee of the Everest Fund. Paid them a debt of \$139.76, including interest. The fund is something in arrear. Rode home.<sup>2</sup> Quite warm. Wrote.

2. Hindered in the morning. Rode to New Haven. Sultry hot and dusty. My horse does not travel well. Got in rather late. In the evening walked out. In the morning Col. Olmsted<sup>3</sup> requested me to attend his regimental review on the 6th of October.

3. Paid Gen. Howe a charge for books, \$23.75. Rode to Stratford. Very hot and sultry. Much fatigued. Towards evening we had a refreshing thunder-shower. Made calls. Called on Mr. Bushnell,<sup>4</sup> a candidate. He is not willing to have me preach a part of the day tomorrow, as I proposed. There has been a public meeting here and a considerable revival. Some extravagances in the work.

4. Rode early to Huntington and spent the Sabbath with Mr. Punderson.<sup>5</sup> He had an appropriate sermon in the morning; afternoon we had the sacrament, and thirty persons were received into the church, the first fruits of the present revival. The greatest addition this church has ever had. Nine (two blacks) were baptized. I assisted in the services and preached in the evening on John vii: 37. Quite cool.

5. Returned to Stratford. Afternoon attended a church meeting, which I had warned yesterday, and communicated a request that they would consent to a dissolution of my pastoral relation, and would unite with me in calling the Consociation for that purpose. They voted to consent to the first request, but chose not to act on the second. I have, therefore, to call the Consociation myself. Wrote to Mr. Rood,<sup>6</sup> of Danbury, for the purpose. Settled with the society committee and received from them, \$277.80. Paid a merchant, \$5.15; the post office, \$2.49; a shoe-maker's bill, \$3.80. Am treated kindly. I consented to close my claims on the society at the third of May last. Called at Mrs. Hoffman's. Received a letter from my cousin, Mrs. Gilman. On the 3d received one from Rev. Mr. Cole,<sup>7</sup> of Bethel.

6. Worked, putting up my things. Painful is the thought of removing. I rejoice that I may put my trust in the Lord. Made a number of calls. People much regret the necessity of my leaving them. They are in a very divided state. Wrote to Mr. Olmsted, of Wilton.<sup>8</sup> Got quite fatigued. Paid

<sup>1</sup> The new meeting-house in Simsbury.

<sup>2</sup> This, as we understand, was his East Windsor, and not his Norfolk, home.

<sup>3</sup> Col. Solomon Olmsted, of East Hartford.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William Bushnell, a native of Westbrook, Ct., a graduate of Yale, 1828, and of Yale Seminary, 1832. He was afterwards settled in North Killingly (now East Putnam), and was for many years agent of the Seamen's

Friend Society. He died in East Boston in 1879, and the writer of this note officiated at his funeral.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Thomas Punderson.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Anson Rood.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Erastus Cole, pastor at Bethel, 1830-1837.

<sup>8</sup> Harvey Olmsted, LL. D., before noticed, afterwards at the head of the Hopkins Grammar School at New Haven.

Mr. Southard, \$5, and \$2.50 in wood, which I left there. I have boarded with them about fifty weeks, and have paid them, \$108.50. They are well satisfied. Low for this town. Tarried at Mr. J. Booth's.

7. Rode early. A comfortable day. Have a pretty heavy load in my wagon. Traveled diligently and got to East Windsor in the evening. The crops are unusually forward. My horse does pretty well. My things came very safely.

8. Occupied with attention to my books and other things. Wrote. Preparing for my journey. I know not when a holy God will give me a home.

9. Rode to Norfolk. Deposited in Hartford Bank, \$400, to be loaned to Mr. E. W. Bull<sup>1</sup> if he shall call for it. Paid for a very good pair of boots and pair of shoes, \$9. Had a good visit at brother Ammi's. Got to Mr. Battell's rather late. The work of grace continues here. Saw Mr. Mitchell. My horse performed rather poorly.

10. In the morning showery. Received of Edmund Akins,<sup>2</sup> for instruction, \$2. Paid for an umbrella, \$2.75. Rode to Warren. Very hot and sultry. Found a young Mr. Griswold,<sup>3</sup> from South Hadley, at Mr. Talcott's. Got to Mr. Starr's in the evening.

11. Mr. Griswold preached in the forenoon, and I preached in the afternoon and evening on Zeph. i: 12, and John vii: 37. Mr. Talcott's health is much improved. Oppressed with the heat.<sup>4</sup>

12. Cool. Rode, in company with Mr. Griswold and wife, to New Haven—about forty-three miles. Some of the road pretty bad. Arrived in the evening.

13. Conversed with some of the tutors respecting the admission of Akins into the college. Met with the Phi Beta Kappa Society. They voted to abolish their secrets. We had a most excellent oration from Judge Kent.<sup>5</sup> The society dined together. Saw Mr. Ed. Everett,<sup>6</sup> Pres. Wayland,<sup>7</sup> and others. Afternoon and evening there were two interesting meetings of the alumni. An uncommon number of them in town.

14. In the morning attended a meeting of the Convention of Ministers. We had a good exhibition. The speaking was better than usual. The *Concio's* preacher failed and Dr. Fisher,<sup>8</sup> of New Jersey, preached. The Ministers' Convention appointed a committee to make new arrangements. Am much fatigued.

<sup>1</sup> Eben W. Bull.

<sup>2</sup> This was the young man that Dr. Robbins assisted in his Latin. He never graduated at college, but was an attorney in Norfolk in after years.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Flavel Griswold, a graduate of Yale, 1821; settled over the Second Church in South Hadley in 1828.

<sup>4</sup> The hot weather of early September had come again.

<sup>5</sup> Judge James Kent, eminent in jurispru-

dence. Born in Phillips, Putnam County, N. Y., a graduate of Yale, 1781.

<sup>6</sup> Hon. Edward Everett, 1825-1835 Member of Congress, afterwards United States Senator, Minister to England, Secretary of State, and President of Harvard College.

<sup>7</sup> Francis Wayland, D. D., LL. D., from 1827 to 1855 the eminent and honored President of Brown University.

<sup>8</sup> Dr. Samuel Fisher, a graduate of Williams College, 1799.



15. Paid for keeping a horse, \$3.25. Rode early to Stratford. The Consociation met here about noon. But four ministers and one delegate. I was dismissed from my pastoral charge. We had a hard rain. I expected to have preached in the evening, but was prevented by the rain. Many of this people appear to regret the event of my removal deeply. Mr. Jones,<sup>1</sup> of Monroe, and delegate tarried with me. I now commit my all to him who has long been my God and God of my fathers.

16. Have several things to attend to. Wrote the eight preceding days of diary. Paid Mr. Judson a merchant's bill, \$15. Had clothes repaired. Made calls. I experience much kindness.

17. The morning rainy. Wrote to my cousin Philip Battell. I hope he will go to reside at Danbury. Settled with Mr. Josiah Booth. He had kept my horse from Jan. 1, 1830, to May 3, 1831—seventy weeks. Fifty-one at hay, deducting four=forty-seven, at .875 is \$41.13. Nineteen at pasture, deducting two=seventeen, at .50 is \$8.50. Oats, about forty bushels, at \$13. Total, \$62.63. I paid him \$12.63, having paid \$50 before. I paid him for a box, which he procured and sent to Norfolk for me, \$1; and stage fare, .25, which he paid to New Haven, \$1.25. He was quite liberal in the settlement. Left Stratford without regret in regard to my own comforts, for I have had many trials here, and set out on my journey under the guidance of heaven. Rode to Branford.<sup>2</sup> Visited the burying-ground and saw various persons.

18. Kept at Mr. Gillett's.<sup>3</sup> Very kindly entertained. A Mr. Moody,<sup>4</sup> of Granby, Mass., came here last evening, staying a few days in this town for health. Preached in the morning on Zeph. i: 1, 2. Addressed the Sabbath school. Mr. Moody preached in the afternoon. I preached in the evening on John vii: 37, and afterwards delivered an extempore address to the Temperance Society. A full meeting. Find many old friends of my father's. Cool.

19. An aged Mr. John Whitney gave me an ancient chair, in which my grandfather died, brought from England and kept by the Howe family. His first wife was of that family. The man is poor, and I gave him \$1. Last evening found three aged persons who said my grandfather married them severally. He died in August, 1781. Made calls. Looked at the house of Rev. Mr. Russell,<sup>5</sup> in which Yale College was founded in 1700. Engaged a man to re-erect my grandfather's tombstone, and others of the family. Dined at Gen. Fowler's, in the east part of the town. Rode to Westbrook. Tarried at Mr. Selden's.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Daniel Jones, pastor at Monroe, 1828-1835.

<sup>2</sup> Where his grandfather, Rev. Philemon Robbins, preached for a life-time.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Timothy Phelps Gillett, who had been settled at Branford since 1808, and remained there till his death in 1866, fifty-eight years.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Eli Moody, a native of Granby and

pastor of the West Church in Granby, 1830-1836.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Samuel Russell, pastor at Branford, 1687-1731. Mr. Russell was a graduate of Harvard College, 1681. At his house the ten Connecticut ministers, in the year 1700, came with their books to found a college.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Sylvester Selden, pastor at Westbrook, 1812-1834.

20. Yesterday drank tea at Gen. Elliott's, at Killingsworth. Find old acquaintance whom I knew when I preached here in 1803. Rode on, crossed the river at Essexborough, to Norwich, and to Jewett City; about thirty-three miles. Yesterday about twenty-one, and Saturday twenty-two. Tarried at a tavern. Came through a pretty rough country. Warm.

21. Rode early to Plainfield. Was applied to by the society committee to supply them immediately. Engaged to do it after two Sabbaths. Rode on to Pawtucket; forty-one miles. A good road. My horse travels heavily. Tarried at a tavern. Have great reason to bless God that so soon after my dismissal I am called to employment.

22. Rode early. Cold. My horse goes slow and heavy. Rode to Taunton and Mattapoisett; forty-three miles. Found my good Uncle Le Baron<sup>1</sup> and other friends well. Arrived in the evening. Put up with the family of my cousin William,<sup>2</sup> lately deceased. A very afflictive death. Am much fatigued.

23. Looked at a fine ship on the stocks. This village has increased very much since I was here in 1824. My uncle has left his own house and resides with his daughter Mayhew.<sup>3</sup> Spent the most of the day with him. Wrote some. There is a noisy three days' meeting here of Free-will Baptists. At evening we had a refreshing shower.

24. Wrote. Have had little time for myself since I left Norfolk. Uncle Le Baron was taken unwell last night and is quite ill. Walked out. Visited a sick man. Wrote to my brother Francis. In the evening attended a small prayer-meeting. Was called late to visit again the sick man; apparently near his end.

25. The man whom I visited last evening died in the night. Preached on Heb. vii: 25, and Isa. iii: 10, 11. This congregation is rather small, but appears well. At evening, at a private house, preached on Matt. xv: 22, etc. My uncle is somewhat better, but is unable to be out. Warm and very pleasant. Have a number of cousins here.

26. Spent considerable time with my uncle. Wrote to my cousin Chandler Robbins,<sup>4</sup> of Boston. Read. Had company. A large ship is building here.

27. We have a hard equinoctial storm. Wrote to Mr. Eaton, of Plainfield. Attended a funeral. Quite wet. Read. But little to be heard from Europe.

28. Rode to Fairhaven and saw my friends there. That town is much improving. Returned. At evening preached a preparatory lecture on Luke xxii: 15. The society committee here requested me to supply them for some time. Conclude to think of it.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, then fifty-nine years pastor at Mattapoisett (Rochester, Mass.).

<sup>2</sup> Capt. William Le Baron, whose death has already been mentioned.

<sup>3</sup> Lucy Le Baron, born, 1778, married Thomas Mayo (or Mayhew).

<sup>4</sup> He may mean his own cousin, Judge Chandler Robbins, son of Dr. Chandler Rob-

bins, minister of Plymouth, and who died in Boston in 1834; or he may mean his second cousin, Chandler, son of Dr. Peter Gilman Robbins. This Chandler was graduated at Harvard, 1829, and was the Dr. Chandler Robbins of pleasant memories, pastor of the Second (Unitarian) Church, Boston, who died in 1882, after passing some of his later years in blindness.

29. My uncle gets better. Cool. I believe we have a little frost, but it is light. Had company. Dined with my cousin Lazarus<sup>1</sup> and looked at his extensive salt works. Toward evening rode to Fairhaven.

30. Walked to New Bedford. My cousin Francis Alden<sup>2</sup> walked with me to view the town. It is large and very flourishing. In this town and Fairhaven there are owned one hundred and sixty ships; nearly all in the whaling business. My cousin brought me back in a boat. Spent the afternoon with Mr. Gould. Walked and visited. At evening preached for him on John vii: 37. The meeting-house here has been much altered and improved. Gov. Bradford's Bible said to be in the family of Waters, in Sharon, Norfolk Co., Mass.

## OCTOBER.

1. Rode to Mattapoisett. Wrote. At evening attended a prayer-meeting. There seems to be some special seriousness here among professors.

2. Preached on Matt. v: 16. Administered the sacrament. My uncle was with me and made the concluding prayer. This church is small, but appears well. Gave my cousin Polly, \$1. Rode to Fairhaven.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Gould<sup>4</sup> went to Mattapoisett. Preached on 2 Chron. xxx: 26, 27. This is a handsome house and good congregation. Preached on the subject of the four days' meetings, by Mr. Gould's desire.<sup>5</sup> At evening rode to New Bedford and preached on Eph. ii: 14. Mr. Holmes<sup>6</sup> is absent. The meeting-house is large and hard for speaking. The congregation is large. Kindly attended by my cousin Francis Alden. Tarried at Mr. Coggeshall's.

3. Rode to Fairhaven and put up my things for my journey. Warm. Left my friends and rode through New Bedford and Fall River to Providence. Arrived in the evening. There have been some fatal riots here of late. At Fall River called on Rev. Mr. Fowler.<sup>7</sup>

4. Last night was quite unwell. Am pretty feeble. Rode to Plainfield. Was informed by a committee man that they have received a letter, unexpectedly, from Samuel Rockwell,<sup>8</sup> that he will be here this week, and that he had written to me to that effect. I am, therefore, not wanted, as they feel bound to receive Mr. Rockwell. Cool.<sup>9</sup> Rode to West Canterbury. Got along better than I feared.

<sup>1</sup> Lazarus Le Baron, son of Rev. Lemuel, was born in 1789.

<sup>2</sup> Priscilla Le Baron, born 1781, married Gideon S. Alden, of New Bedford. This Francis was a son of this marriage.

<sup>3</sup> Fairhaven was in Bristol County, Mass., and Mattapoisett in Plymouth County, but they both touched the county line and were near together.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William Gould had been pastor at Fairhaven since 1822. He was a native of Salem, Mass.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Robbins had had much experience of late in these meetings, and Mr. Gould

wanted his people to hear and know about them.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Sylvester Holmes, pastor at North Church, New Bedford, from 1811, and afterwards of the Pacific Church. He was a native of Plymouth, Mass.

<sup>7</sup> Orin Fowler, Yale, 1815; afterwards a Member of Congress from Massachusetts.

<sup>8</sup> Samuel Rockwell was a native of Winsted, a graduate of Yale, 1825, and was pastor at Plainfield, 1832-1841.

<sup>9</sup> Whether this word at this point refers to the weather, or the doings of the church at Plainfield, does not clearly appear.

5. Last night and the morning rainy and wet. Called at Scotland on Mr. Devotion. Rode to East Windsor. My horse has traveled slow. Have been much prospered in my long journey since Sept. 9th. May God be praised. Mr. Wolcott and two hired persons are sick with a fever.

6. My brother came down early in the morning to go to the training in my stead. He returned. Rode to Wethersfield and attended the review of the regiment of artillery. They performed remarkably well. Was received very gratefully.<sup>1</sup> Returned. Quite cool.

7. Wrote to my uncle Le Baron. Rode out with Mr. Wolcott for the first time in his sickness. Eveline has a second son.<sup>2</sup> Born on the 5th. Paid Maria Burnham, \$10.<sup>3</sup> There is a great crop of corn here. Wrote. Received pamphlets from the post office.

8. Looked over my things. I conclude I have lost some valuable articles in my unsettled state. Am quite poor with a cold. Afternoon rode to Simsbury to assist Mr. McLean tomorrow.

9. Mrs. McLean is sick with a fever. A hard rain last night and through the forenoon. Preached on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4, and Zeph. i: 12. There is a great work of grace here. Meetings large for so stormy a day. Am considerably hoarse and feeble. Mr. McLean has a young candidate to assist him in the revival—Mr. Humphrey.<sup>4</sup> At evening rode to Avon and tarried at a tavern. The ground very wet. Read.

10. Was called early, and rode to Norfolk in the stage to get some articles for my journey eastward. A hard rainy day. The stage full, and leaky, and slow. The work of grace continues here, and is great. Mr. Mitchell is still here, but expected to leave soon. Mr. Battell's family all at home but Joseph. Designed to return in the stage, but it was full. Let W. Lawrence have \$5 for a concern<sup>5</sup> in horses. Read.

11. Wet and rainy all day. Attended the morning prayer-meeting very early. Read. The waters are high. The western stage did not come on. They have much company at Mr. Battell's.

12. Attended the morning prayer-meeting; soon after which took the stage and rode to Avon. I hope Mr. Battell, and two daughters, and a servant girl have become subjects of grace. Yesterday a man near my own age, with a recent hope, called to see me. A reformed intemperate. Great is the grace of God. Cold. The roads very wet. Rode to East Windsor. Paid

<sup>1</sup> It had been now some time since he had seen the regiment of which he was chaplain.

<sup>2</sup> Her first son was Tudor, and this one was Henry Bissell.

<sup>3</sup> This is a second payment of money to Maria Burnham. It is not unlikely that Dr. Robbins had borrowed money of her, or the payment may be by him for some one else.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Chester Humphrey, settled at Vernon, 1832-1843, the latter the year of his death. Mr. Humphrey was a native of Can-

ton, and was graduated at Amherst, 1828. The fact that he assisted Rev. Mr. McLean probably led to his settlement in Vernon, as Vernon was the native place of Mr. McLean.

<sup>5</sup> This is about as definite a use of the word *concern* as that of the witness in a liquor case, who, being asked whether he saw any ardent spirit drank on the premises, could not tell. He simply saw something liquid poured into a glass from a *concern*, but as to what it was he knew nothing.

at Hartford for a trunk, \$3; for gloves, \$1. Took a note of E. W. Bull<sup>1</sup> for \$400; lent money, dated September 21. The waters are over the meadows and yet rising. Mrs. Wolcott is hard sick. She has had another bad turn of raising blood. Mr. Wolcott is getting better. Wrote. Received of Phoenix Bank a dividend of \$45.

13. Mrs. Wolcott had another turn of raising blood last night and is very feeble. Concluded to defer my eastern journey for this week, and wrote to my Uncle Le Baron to that effect. Paid \$5 more for the use of my poor old horse on my late journey. Abiezer Porter paid me \$56.23, and took up his note. Gave my order on the society of Somers to Esq. Dixon,<sup>2</sup> of Enfield, to collect; \$72 and interest.<sup>3</sup> There was a light frost this morning. At evening rode to Hartford and back. The water has fallen a little; it has been over the most of the causeway. Worked at my things.

14. Rode to Pine Meadow and back. Mr. Haskell and his family are prosperous. Eveline is quite feeble. Traded, \$1.13. Received a very valuable large pamphlet, public document, from Ed. Everett, M. C.,<sup>4</sup> of Boston. Read.

15. Looked over past diaries. Wrote. Had company. At evening rode to Manchester. Tarried at Mr. Northrop's.<sup>5</sup>

16. Preached for Mr. Northrop on Zeph. i: 12, and Matt. iv: 17. This is a good congregation and larger than it was a few years ago. There has been a good work of grace here through the summer, and they are to have a public meeting this week. At evening preached on Matt. xv: 21, etc.

17. Last evening was requested and urged to continue here to attend the public meeting. I think I cannot. Mr. Northrop appears to be a worthy man, but his health is very poor and he preaches but little. Made some calls. Rode to East Hartford and home. Very warm. Thermometer at 80°. Mrs. Wolcott appears to be some better. The water has fallen. At evening walked out and visited. Wrote.

18. Employed in preparing for my journey. Mr. and Mrs. Haskell were here. Read. My way is once more committed to the merciful guidance and keeping of heaven. At evening Mr. Wolcott rode with me to Hartford. Did some errands.

19. Took the stage about four o'clock and rode seventy miles, to Providence. Warm and pleasant. Stage not full. Paid fare, \$4. The Ashford road, I think, not so good or so pleasant as the Windham.<sup>6</sup> Much fatigued. Read.

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<sup>1</sup> Eben W. Bull.

<sup>2</sup> Judge William Dixon, and father of United States Senator James Dixon.

<sup>3</sup> That money had been due between two and three years.

<sup>4</sup> This would be gratifying not only for its own value, but for the source from which it came.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Bennett F. Northrop, pastor at

Manchester, 1829-1850. Mr. Northrop was a native of Brookfield, Ct., and was graduated at Yale, 1824. After leaving Manchester he was settled in Griswold, 1853-1870. He died in 1875. He was a good and faithful minister.

<sup>6</sup> Whichever way he went he would pass through the Bolton notch, through which the New York & New England Railroad now runs.

20. Last night rested very well. Rode rapidly by Attleborough to Taunton and Fairhaven, at least fifty miles. Fare but \$2. Cool and dusty. Kindly received. Capt. Gibbs<sup>1</sup> is part owner of a whale-ship, lately arrived from a good voyage. Fatigued with my journey.

21. Walked about the town with Mr. Gould.<sup>2</sup> One wharf is almost covered with casks of oil. Was carried to Mattapoisett. Found friends well. The people here have been anxiously expecting me. Walked out. Read.

22. A large fine ship was launched here this morning. It did not go off well. Wrote. I should have written on the 18th that Mrs. Wolcott, though quite low, appears, I think, likely to recover. Read Stackhouse's<sup>3</sup> *History of the Bible*. At evening attended a prayer-meeting.

23. Preached on Ps. li: 17, and Zeph. i: 12. At the evening meeting, well attended, preached on Acts xxiv: 25. Considerably fatigued. Yesterday Capt. Freeman<sup>4</sup> informed me that the committee would wish me to supply them for some time, and invited me to board with him.

24. Went to board with Capt. Freeman. Unpacked my things. They came well. Wrote to Mr. Battell. At evening rainy. Looked over old accounts. Read.

25. Rode in the stage to Wareham and met with the Old Colony Association at Mr. Nott's.<sup>5</sup> They got in rather late in the afternoon. The body is small, but appears well. Mr. Holmes<sup>6</sup> preached in the evening. An elegant new meeting-house.

26. This town is greatly improved and increased by hardware manufactures. The Association finished their session. Wrote to Capt. Freeman. Afternoon the auxiliary Domestic Missionary Society for this Association district had their annual meeting. Mr. Storrs,<sup>7</sup> secretary of the State society, preached. I made an address, by desire. Preached to a good evening meeting a sermon on Heb. vii: 25. Called on Mrs. Everett<sup>8</sup> and her family. Contribution, \$1.

27. Capt. Freeman sent a wagon for me yesterday afternoon. Rode home. Spent considerable time with Mr. Storrs. Rode out and attended a funeral of a child. Another was attended yesterday from the same house. Both of canker-rash. Read. Rainy.

28. Read the Bible. For a number of months past have had very little

<sup>1</sup> Capt. Anselm Gibbs, in the year 1800, married Lucy Le Baron.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William Gould, of Fairhaven.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Stackhouse, 1680-1752, was a learned English divine and extensive writer, the author of several large works. But his most important work was the *History of the Bible*, in two volumes, folio.

<sup>4</sup> Capt. Seth Freeman.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott, Jr., son of Dr. Samuel Nott, of Franklin, Ct., a graduate of Union College, where his uncle, Dr. Elihalet Nott,

was president. Mr. Nott was settled in Wareham in 1829.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Sylvester Holmes, of New Bedford.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Richard S. Storrs, D. D., of Braintree, who, without his being unsettled at Braintree, served the Home Missionary Society in this way for several years.

<sup>8</sup> Widow of Rev. Noble Everett, a native of Woodbury, Ct., who was pastor at Wareham, 1782-1819, when he died. He was a graduate of Yale College 1775.

time to do this. Walked out. Called on my uncle. Wrote. Wrote to Dr. Swift, of Hartford. Received a letter for the church from North Rochester. At evening walked out.

29. Quite cold. Walked a distance and visited sick persons. Read. There are many sectarians here. Read the Bible. At evening attended the prayer-meeting.

30. High and chilly winds. The Sabbath-school was closed.<sup>1</sup> It has done very well the present season. Preached on 1 Tim. iii: 16. At the evening meeting spoke on Mark x: 51. Well attended. Quite fatigued. Rode to meeting.

31. Read. Rode to Fairhaven and returned. Mr. Freeman purchased a fine horse. Had company. Read the Bible. Wrote.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Read the Bible. Walked and visited. Had company. Took cold and am something unwell.

2. Wrote a large addition to my sermon on 1 Cor. i: 23, for ordination. Afternoon rode to North Rochester and met with the ordaining council.<sup>2</sup> Attended to the usual business. The examination rather desultory. Kindly treated for the sake of parents and friends.<sup>3</sup> Am burdened with my cold.

3. Mr. Utley<sup>4</sup> was ordained an evangelist, with reference to present labors with this people. I preached on 1 Cor. i: 23. The church and congregation are small. Rode home. This town is extensive. Roads pretty good. Wrote. Warm for the season.

4. Walked out and made calls. Wrote to Mr. Holmes,<sup>5</sup> of New Bedford. Afternoon rode out with Mr. Freeman<sup>6</sup> and visited. Read. Am still oppressed with my cold.

5. Read the Bible. We have a painful account of the capture of Warsaw by storm by the Russian army, and the probable subjugation of the Poles.<sup>7</sup> Wrote to Rev. Mr. Bartlett,<sup>8</sup> of East Windsor. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Well attended. Yesterday morning we had our first hard frost.

6. Preached on 1 Kings vii: 3, and Matt. xxv: 1, 2. At evening spoke on Ps. iv: 5. Very pleasant and full meetings. Uncle Le Baron attends in the day-time, but not at evenings.

<sup>1</sup> For the winter. It was the common practice among the country churches of New England at that time to suspend the school during the cold months of the year.

<sup>2</sup> We are out of Connecticut now, and during the remainder of Dr. Robbins's public ministry we shall hear of councils and not of consociations.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins's kindred, both on his father's and his mother's side, abounded in Southeastern Massachusetts.

<sup>4</sup> Samuel Utley, a native of Dalton, Mass., a graduate of Union College, 1823. He was

afterwards for many years in New Hampshire, preaching a short time at Epping, and then resident at Concord.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Sylvester Holmes.

<sup>6</sup> Capt. Seth Freeman, with whom he boarded.

<sup>7</sup> This, as has been intimated, was to be the final outcome of all the good news which Dr. Robbins had been hearing. This battle of Warsaw was fought Sept. 6-8, 1831. The Poles fought heroically, but they were few against a great host.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Shubael Bartlett.



7. Read *History of Greek Revolution*.<sup>1</sup> Walked and visited the most of the day. Kindly received. At evening attended the monthly concert. It has not had great attention here.

8. Wrote. Read. Rode out and visited. Looked at the new ship lately built here, now nearly completed. It is a very fine one — three hundred and sixty tons. This family has friends come from the Cape.

9. Read past diary. Hindered by company. At evening we had a good prayer-meeting. The success of the Russians is confirmed, but Warsaw made an honorable capitulation.

10. Walked and visited. Read. Something unwell. Do not find as much time for study as I could wish.

11. In the forenoon we had a hard rain. Looked over geographical facts. Afternoon rode in the stage to New Bedford. Found Mr. Holmes absent from home. Traded, \$1.58. Paid for a book, seventy-five cents. Tarried with my cousin Alden.<sup>2</sup> Looked at an extensive spermaceti works.<sup>3</sup>

12. Walked about town. It is rich, but not greatly improved in the arts. Went into the Supreme Court. Read in the public reading-room. Afternoon rode home with a friend. Yesterday got a bad addition to my cold. Am much oppressed with it.

13. Cold. Am quite hoarse. Spoke with difficulty. Preached on Heb. xii: 16, and John vii: 37. At evening spoke poorly on Matt. ix: 9. I think there is an increasing attention to our meetings. Very tired.

14. Read Hoyt's *Antiquarian Researches*.<sup>4</sup> Yesterday put on my flannel. Wrote. At evening attended a Bible class, now commenced. Mr. Cobb<sup>5</sup> had one during his ministry here. A good number were present. The annual State election was held. This people seem to take but little interest in it.

15. Rode to New Bedford. Cold and windy. Met with the church conference of this vicinity, and an ecclesiastical council for the purpose of organizing a new church. They put me in the chair. In the afternoon I preached on Zeph. i: 12. In the evening the new church was formed<sup>6</sup> — sixty-one members dismissed from Mr. Holmes's church, leaving over two hundred in the parent church. The sacrament was administered to the two churches in union. There was a large assembly and the occasion was very solemn. Much oppressed with my cold.

16. Closed the business of the ecclesiastical council. Attended to the

<sup>1</sup> There was a *History of the Greek Revolution*, 1829, prepared by Dr. John L. Comstock, of Hartford, and published in New York. There was a *Historical Sketch of the Greek Revolution*, 1828, prepared by Dr. Samuel G. Howe, of South Boston, published also in New York. It was probably the first named which Dr. Robbins was reading.

<sup>2</sup> Francis Alden.

<sup>3</sup> The wealth of New Bedford at that time was chiefly connected with whaling and oil business.

<sup>4</sup> *Antiquarian Researches*, by Gen. Ephras Hoyt, born in Deerfield, Mass., 1765, and dying there, 1850. He was known also as a writer on military tactics and discipline.

<sup>5</sup> Oliver Cobb, D. D., who was settled in Rochester in 1799. He died in 1849. He was a graduate of Brown University, 1796, and was a well-known minister.

<sup>6</sup> The church thus formed is known as the Trinitarian Church of New Bedford, of which Rev. Matthew C. Julien is now, for several years, pastor.



church conference. Mr. Davis<sup>1</sup> preached in the afternoon, and in the evening. The semi-annual conference was closed. A number of missionaries were expected here early this week. At evening a party arrived. Attended a little while at a capital trial before the Supreme Court.

17. Rode home early in the stage. Much fatigued. Read *Hoyt's Researches*. A good work, with some prejudice against the Puritans. More time for study than I hoped for.

18. Read Hoyt's account of Philip's War. I think he was no more to the early Grecian heroes.<sup>2</sup> Afternoon rode to New Bedford. Bought candles and candlestick, \$1.33. At evening the missionary family arrived. Preachers and wives, one doctor and wife, and one printer, received public instructions from the Prudential Committee for the Sandwich Islands. An impressive and solemn scene.<sup>3</sup>

19. Rode home early. Paid stage fare, \$1. Wrote. Read *Hoyt's Researches*. At evening attended the prayer-meeting.

20. Cold. Preached with notes on Ps. li: 10, and a sermon on Num. x: 29. Had a full evening meeting and spoke on Num. x: 29. Some hoarseness and cough. Our assemblies seem to increase.

21. Read Hoyt's *Researches*. Walked out. Went into the stage. Afternoon rode with a delegate to New Bedford and attended the ordination of Ephraim Spaulding,<sup>4</sup> one of the missionaries. I presided and consecrated prayer. The service was in the evening and very solemn. Dr. Fay gave the charge, and gave them all an affectionate farewell. Received over some valuable articles for the missionaries, donations from the friends here. We were disappointed in not having one of them with us yesterday as I expected. Rode home late.

22. Last night and this morning a severe storm. There was hard frost. Wrote. Read. Wet and rainy. The Bible class in the evening was prevented by the weather. Walked out.

23. Read Hoyt. Cold and blustering. Afternoon rode to New Bedford. Had a meeting there in the evening, of a few people, and preached on Mark i: 40. Tarried there.

24. Visited. Read. Paid for one and one fourth cords of wood. I believe that wood is dearer here than at Stratford. At evening attended the Bible class, which was large and performed well.

25. Read. I lament that I can do no more. The tide here on

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Timothy Davis, probably, who was settled in Wellfleet, on the Cape, in 1804, and had recently (1830) been dismissed.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott, Jr., of Wareham.

<sup>3</sup> It may not be generally known that the General Court at Plymouth, out of kind regard to Massasoit, gave to his two sons the names of Philip and Alexander, after the old Macedonian warriors. Alexander died early, but Philip, having such a mighty name, seemed

to think he ought to do something and justify it.

<sup>4</sup> This company sailed in a New England vessel, bound out probably on a voyage.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Ephraim Spaulding, native of Lowell, Vt., a graduate of Middlebury College, 1828, and of Andover Seminary, labored at the Sandwich Islands, and died in Westborough, Mass.

morning was higher than at any time since the "September gale,"<sup>1</sup> in 1815. Rode out and visited.

26. There appears to be great disappointment in England on the failure of the Reform Bill in the House of Lords. Poland seems to be subdued. Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven, called in the afternoon, and attended the evening meeting with me. He is soliciting aid for the poor church of Westport.<sup>2</sup> Gave him \$1. Paid for cutting wood, forty-two cents.

27. Wet and rainy all day. Afternoon it was quite hard. Preached on Acts xiii: 2. Afternoon meeting very thin. Had no evening meeting. Read. The missionary ship sailed yesterday.

28. Read Hoyt's *Researches*. This morning there was snow. Walked and visited. Read the Bible. At evening had thirty at the Bible class, besides spectators. Find myself much occupied.

29. Took some cold last night and am quite unwell. Walked out. Wrote. It is a winter day. Had a new great coat sent from Bedford, made for me. It sets poorly. Read.

30. Wrote an addition to a Thanksgiving sermon. My chamber is very comfortable, with a fine prospect. Finished Hoyt's *Researches*. A very valuable collection of facts. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Cold.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Thanksgiving. Cold and tedious. Preached on Rev. xi: 16, 17. But few at meeting. It snowed the most of the day. I have not been out of Connecticut, Thanksgiving, before now, since 1805.<sup>3</sup> Am pretty gloomy. Read. There was a contribution for the poor. A usual practice here.

• 2. Rode with Mr. Freeman to New Bedford. The cold is severe. Carried my new great coat to be altered. Paid for the *American Almanack*,<sup>4</sup> ninety-two cents; for India-rubber overshoes, \$1.33. Traded, \$1.98. The ground hard frozen. Read. Wrote. I do but little.

3. Read my new *Almanack*. It contains much valuable matter. Was called to see young Mr. Southworth, very sick. Visited. Attended the evening meeting; quite thin. It snowed considerably. The doctor's case appears very critical.

4. It snowed and rained all through the day. Preached with notes on Rom. viii: 14, and a sermon on Acts iv: 12. Thin meeting. Dr. Southworth is some better. Read. Had company.

5. Severe cold and blustering. Did not go into the street. Sleighs move some. Winter commences uncommonly early and severe. Read my

<sup>1</sup> The September gale was a notable event in New England history.

<sup>2</sup> Westport is in Bristol County. No minister was ever settled there till some years after this entry, and it remains a very feeble church to this day.

<sup>3</sup> That was the last year of his missionary service out on the Connecticut Reserve.

<sup>4</sup> This was not the *New England Farmer's Almanack*, by Thomas G. Fessenden, which he used for his diary, but the larger *American Almanack*, full of various information. This last named work, continued through a long range of years, has gathered up and preserved an immense amount of valuable statistics.

*Almanack.* Looked over the new census. Had no monthly concert on account of the weather.

6. Walked and visited the sick. I think the mercury this morning must have been almost zero. Read. Last evening wrote to S. T. Wolcott. At evening had a full Bible class. Very good sleighing.

7. There appears to be no abatement of the cold. Read. Wrote a piece for the newspaper. Wrote to F. L. Alden,<sup>1</sup> of New Bedford. At evening attended the prayer-meeting.

8. Read the Bible. Wrote. Began a sermon on the subject of the Sabbath. One of the deacons requested me to preach on this subject, in consequence of the loose sentiments of some of the Baptists here respecting it. Capt. Freeman was requested to take the command of a good ship at New York for Europe. At evening had company.

9. Wrote some on my sermon. Have no books to assist me. Wrote slow. Capt. Freeman concludes, on account of ill health, not to go to sea.<sup>2</sup> The cold abates very little. Good sleighing. At evening walked out.

10. Wrote diligently on my sermon on Isa. lviii: 13, 14. It is like to extend much further than I expected. Very clear, and it thaws a little.

11. Pleasant and a little mild. Preached on Isa. lviii: 13, 14. Did not finish the subject. I think there will be two more sermons. Meeting full. At the evening meeting spoke on Luke xiii: 6, etc. Quite tired.

12. The cold seems to return. The shipwrights here work steadily in their yards. Read the President's Message.<sup>3</sup> Written better and very differently from any preceding one.<sup>4</sup> He is determined to abandon the Indians. Visited. Attended the Bible class.

13. Wrote. Severe cold and rough. The good sleighing appears to be very extensive. Read the Bible. Walked out and visited. Read.

14. Little abatement of the cold. It scarcely thaws at all. Read the Bible. Wrote to my brother Francis. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

15. Last night we had considerable addition to our snow. Wrote on my sermon on Isa. lviii: 13, 14. Rode out in a sleigh and visited. Severe cold. The committee informed me that it is the wish of the people here that I would continue with them for a length of time, with the right of separation reserved to either party. They advised me to send for my books. Have good accommodations in the cold season.

16. Wrote on my sermon. Wrote to Mr. Thacher, of Bridgeport, Ct. At evening walked out. I write slow.<sup>5</sup> Paid \$2 for a Columbia gold coin for preservation.

17. It snowed considerably. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Bartlett, of East Windsor. Finished my long discourse on the Sabbath; it contains four sermons. Fatigued with writing.

<sup>1</sup> Francis L. Alden.

<sup>2</sup> He was then forty-seven years old.

<sup>3</sup> This Message was given at the first session of the Twenty-Second Congress, Dec. 5, 1831.

<sup>4</sup> He is beginning to like President Jackson better than he did at first.

<sup>5</sup> The reader has had occasion to notice how Dr. Robbins, after the old style, leaves his adverbs in the adjective form.

18. Extreme cold. Preached with notes on Gal. i: 8. Few at meeting, and the weather so tedious that we concluded to dismiss at noon. Had no other meeting. I think the mercury must have been but little above zero through the day. Read the Bible.

19. Wrote to Mr. Battell. The weather moderates a little. Studied my Bible lesson, and had a good class in the evening. Rode out. The snow quite drifted. Visited.

20. Rode in a poor stage-sleigh to Plymouth. Clear and very cold. We went some of the way in fields, on account of drifts in the highway. Kindly received at Mr. Russell's.<sup>1</sup> Looked at the new meeting-house. Not as large as the former one, but very elegant. I regret that it is of wood. Mr. Russell went with me and called on Mr. Kendall,<sup>2</sup> and other friends. The harbor here is hard frozen.

21. Looked at the fine new court-house, and at the Pilgrim Hall<sup>3</sup> and its collections. These are not very extensive, but valuable. The building is very good. My cousin Russell has a fine family. Read. There are some riotous proceedings in England. Drank tea at Dr. Thacher's.<sup>4</sup> He is engaged in writing a history of this town. I fear a little how he will succeed. Find many friends and former acquaintance. This town improves moderately.

22. Anniversary.<sup>5</sup> The cold returns with all its severity. Attended the exercises in Mr. Kendall's meeting-house. Mr. Brazer,<sup>6</sup> of Salem, had a very good sermon, excepting its Unitarianism. The Saviour was almost overlooked in the sermon and the prayers. Six ministers were present. I alone in the faith of the fathers. The house was very cold. Dined at Mr. Kendall's. Went to Mr. Freeman's<sup>7</sup> and sat awhile with the Pilgrim Association. Dr. Codman<sup>8</sup> preached today in his meeting-house. A new society has been lately formed here by the division of Mr. Freeman's. At evening attended the County Temperance Society. Mr. Russell presided. The cause has been much prospered in this county, but they fear it is not now advancing. Suffered much by the cold.

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<sup>1</sup> Nathaniel Russell, in the year 1800, married Martha Le Baron, daughter of Isaac Le Baron, and therefore own cousin of Dr. Robbins.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. James Kendall, D. D., it will be remembered, was the successor of Rev. Chandler Robbins, D. D., who died in 1799. Dr. Kendall was settled, Jan. 1, 1800, and was now nearly thirty-two years in the ministry here, but was to remain twenty-seven years more, till his death, 1859, making a ministry of fifty-nine years.

<sup>3</sup> This Pilgrim Hall has, within a few years, been renovated and improved, at the expense of J. H. Stickney, Esq., of Baltimore, a native of Brookfield, Mass.

<sup>4</sup> James Thacher, M. D., a native of Barn-

stable. In 1824 he published his *Military Journal of the Revolution*, which is regarded as important historical authority in Revolutionary matters. He published several other volumes. His *History of Plymouth* appeared in 1832.

<sup>5</sup> Forefathers' Day.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. John Brazer, native of Worcester, graduate of Harvard, 1813. Settled in Salem over the North Unitarian Church, 1820.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Frederick Freeman was pastor of the Third Church, Plymouth, 1824-1833.

<sup>8</sup> Dr. John Codman, pastor at Dorchester from 1808 to his death, 1847. He was a graduate of Harvard, 1802, and a native of Boston. He inherited large wealth from his father's estate.

23. Last night the thermometer was 01; this morning, zero. Rode home in an open stage-sleigh. I think I have not taken cold, though I have been repeatedly much chilled. Read. Had company. This harbor is frozen, and to appearance across the bay.

24. Wet and a cold rain the most of the day. Read. Mr. Russell and his family gave me some old books, and some small new works which are valuable. Wrote. A great change in the atmosphere.

25. Colder. Preached the remainder of my long discourse on the Sabbath, on Isa. lviii: 13, 14. Meeting pretty full. The stove in the meeting-house smoked very bad. At evening preached with notes the remainder of my sermon of last Sabbath, which was not then finished, on Gal. i: 8. Visited a young child very sick.

26. Cold. A small addition to the snow, so that the sleighing continues. Read. I find I have had considerable expense since I have been here. The sick child died last night. Visited the afflicted family and others. Read the Bible. Attended the Bible class. Have some additional cold, with cough.

27. Severe cold again. Wrote. Read the Bible. Wrote to Miss Southworth, of Stratford. Visited my uncle; considerably affected with the influenza. This is very prevalent. At evening went into a singing-school.

28. Read in Dr. Thacher's MS. *History of the Church of Plymouth*.<sup>1</sup> Received a letter from my brother Francis. Read Sullivan's<sup>2</sup> *Discourse at Plymouth* in 1829. Afternoon and evening a hard snow-storm. Capt. Freeman gave me a Prussian ducat, of the value of \$2, for my collection of coins.

29. On the 27th attended the funeral of a child. The new snow is ten or twelve inches deep. Read. Looked over pecuniary accounts. Attended the funeral of an infant. Preached a preparatory lecture on Deut. xxiii: 21. Wrote. The cold abates.

30. Very cold and blustering. Set out to ride to New Bedford with Mr. Freeman. Found the weather so tedious and the drifts so deep that we returned. Wrote. I find my pecuniary accounts with Mr. Wolcott, which have not been settled since I left East Windsor, in a better state than I had supposed. Read. Occupied with company. Walked out and visited sick persons.

31. Last night, I conclude, was as cold as any one of this winter we have yet had. Wrote the most of the day on pecuniary accounts. It ought to have been done some time ago. Looked over manuscripts. Read the Bible. People are mostly shut up with the cold and snow. The bay appears to be wholly frozen over. A year of severe anxieties and trials, and of great mercies, is closed. I bless God that he reigns and will reign forever.

<sup>1</sup> Contained, doubtless, in his *History of Plymouth*, just noticed.

<sup>2</sup> William Sullivan, LL. D., an eminent lawyer of Boston. He was born in Saco,

Me., 1774; graduated at Harvard College, 1792; died in Boston, 1839. An elegant scholar and finished orator. He was one in the long line of Pilgrim orators at Plymouth.

1882.

JANUARY.

1. Pleasant, and some abatement of the cold. Last night we had some addition to our snow. There is a heavy body. Endeavored early to commit my **all** to God for the coming year, and to renew my engagements for his **service**. Preached with notes on Col. ii: 6, and a sermon on Eph. v: 14. At **evening** preached on Luke xviii: 13. Meetings well attended and solemn. There are a good many sleighs here. Administered the sacrament. Uncle Le Baron was not able to attend.

2. The morning extreme cold. Read. Prepared this partial diary.<sup>1</sup> Wrote. Visited the sick. There is a good deal of influenza and canker-rash. At evening attended the monthly concert of prayer. Well attended. We contribute with it.

3. It snowed and rained a little. The weather more moderate. Walked and visited. Wrote on my preaching account. It has been long neglected.

4. Rode with company to New Bedford. Extreme cold. Paid a merchant tailor for my new great coat, \$33. Quite too much. I believe it is the most costly garment I have ever had. Paid for other things, \$2. Very fine sleighing. At evening attended our meeting. Pretty full. Spoke on Eph. ii: 4, etc.

5. Yesterday called at Capt. Gibbs's,<sup>2</sup> at Fairhaven, and found his little grandchild hard sick. At their request rode over this forenoon to see them. Their child, an only child and grandchild, is very sick with a bad canker-rash. Concluded to stay till tomorrow. It thawed considerably. Read. The little son appears to be in a very critical state. Called on Mr. Gould.<sup>3</sup> Yesterday left with F. L. Alden, New Bedford, \$1, to pay for postage, etc., for me.

6. It rained moderately and thawed all day. Did not go out. The child very low. In the evening he appeared to be dying, but revived. Occupied with company. Read. The cholera spreads extensively in Europe and produces great mortality. It seems to have proceeded, regularly, westward from India.<sup>4</sup>

7. In the forenoon rode to Mattapoisett, and returned to Fairhaven. At the request of my friends here, and Mr. Gould, concluded to return and be here tomorrow. The snow is considerably gone from the fields, but the

<sup>1</sup> That was a temporary arrangement until the almanack could be interleaved and made ready.

<sup>2</sup> Capt. Anselm Gibbs.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William Gould.

<sup>4</sup> This year, 1832, was the year when the

cholera first reached this country, coming in by way of Montreal. The laws of its movement and action have always been mysterious, but they are better understood now than they used to be. The cholera has threatened us this year (1885), but has not prevailed.

roads are very icy. Wrote. The harbors remain closed. The little child lives, but Mr. Jenney<sup>1</sup> appears to be getting sick himself. Read the Bible. Was up late.

8. Rainy and wet the most of the day. Mr. Gibbs has a sick horse. Many people there are sick. Mr. Gould rode to Mattapoissett.<sup>2</sup> Preached on Luke xxii: 15, and Matt. xxv: 12. Administered the sacrament. This church is pretty large. A number were absent. At evening preached on Eph. ii: 4, etc. Quite rainy and but few present.

9. This morning, about daylight, a new barn near Mr. Gibbs's was burnt. Other buildings were providentially preserved. Visited the family. Mr. Jenney is hard sick, and the child, I think, is a little better. Rode home. It thaws and the ground is mostly bare. At evening had a large Bible class. Fatigued for want of sleep.

10. Read. Wrote. Looked at pecuniary matters. Have now on hand, \$61. At evening walked out and visited.

11. Began to write a sermon on Isa. lviii: 13, 14, an abridgment of my long discourse on the Sabbath, by request. An unpleasant business. Visited a large school. The schools here have been generally neglected. At evening attended our meeting and preached on Acts viii: 5-8. It was at Dr. N. Southard's, and very full. We had some snow. Paid for sawing wood, thirty-eight cents. Last evening heard of the death of Mr. Jenney's child at Fairhaven.

12. Most severe cold. Wrote on my sermon. In the morning visited Esq. Meigs,<sup>3</sup> quite sick. This family had company.

13. Wrote. The weather moderates. Wrote laboriously on my sermon. Visited the sick. A number of children and some grown people are hard sick with the canker-rash. Wrote late.

14. Set out to ride to Fairhaven and New Bedford. Received two letters from Mr. Holmes,<sup>4</sup> desiring to have our exchange deferred for a week. Wrote to him. Received a very good letter from sister Battell. Read. There is much alarm in England and in Europe respecting the cholera.

15. Mild weather and very pleasant. Preached with notes on 1 Cor. i: 17, and a sermon on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4. Meetings quite full. At evening spoke to a full meeting on Mark x: 51, 52. The surface of the ground quite wet.

16. Visited the sick. Dined at my cousin John's.<sup>5</sup> Spent the afternoon with my good uncle. He has been quite feeble during the cold weather. At evening attended the Bible class. Quite tired. The frost gets out of the ground.

17. Wrote. Pleasant and warm for the season. Rode with Dr. Southard and visited sick families. Bad riding. At evening attended the annual

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Levi Jenney was the father of the child, having married one of Capt. Gibbs's daughters.

<sup>2</sup> For exchange Dr. Robbins stayed and preached in Fairhaven.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Meigs, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Sylvester Holmes.

<sup>5</sup> John Allen Le Baron, son of Rev. Lemuel. This cousin John was born in 1782, and was now fifty years old.



meeting of the Temperance Society here. I think it has done much good. Wrote to Mr. Goodwin,<sup>1</sup> of Hartford, to send me the *Courant*<sup>2</sup> newspaper.

18. Wrote a long letter to Mrs. Battell. Wet and rainy. Rode to the Neck. At evening had a meeting and preached on Matt. xv: 21, etc. But few attended. Tarried out.

19. Visited. Rode home. The frost is getting out of the ground. Read. I fear I am neglecting necessary exercise.

20. Wrote to D. Brooks,<sup>3</sup> Esq., Stratford. The last of a very heavy body of ice went out of our harbor. Visited the sick. Very bad going.

21. Yesterday finished my abridged sermon on Isa. lviii: 13, 14. In the morning we had considerable snow. Read. Attended the funeral of an aged woman, member of the church, aged ninety-two. Rode to Fairhaven. Quite cold. Much chilled with the cold. They are quite sick yet at Capt. Gibbs's. Their little child was buried today. Rode to New Bedford. Tarried at Mr. Holmes's. Mrs. Holmes is hard sick.

22. Mr. Holmes rode to Mattapoisett, and returned early in the evening. Cold but pleasant. Went to my cousin Alden's. Preached on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4, and my abridged sermon in the afternoon, and the latter part of the long one in the evening on Isa. lix: 13, 14. Preached on this subject of the Sabbath by request of Mr. Holmes. Full meetings. The house is hard for speaking.

23. Walked to Fairhaven. It thaws some. Got a ride home in the afternoon. At the urgent request of Mr. Holmes, engaged to return to assist him in religious services this week. In the morning did errands and traded, \$3-63. At evening had a large Bible class. Much fatigued.

24. Mr. N. Crosby<sup>4</sup> let me have his horse and chaise to ride. Rode to Bedford. Warm and wet, and the ground thaws fast. Walked with Dea. Kempton<sup>5</sup> and made short visits to a good many families. We were very kindly received. At evening Mr. Mason,<sup>6</sup> of Nantucket, preached in the vestry. Well entertained at Mr. Coggeshall's.<sup>7</sup> Was up late. Read.

25. Attended the early prayer-meeting. Walked and visited families the most of the day. Warm. The snow is gone and the ground apparently wholly thawed. Towards night rode to Mattapoisett. The mud very deep. It became very dark before I stopped. Had no accident, though with a wild colt. Attended the evening meeting and preached on 2 Cor. iv: 3. Few present. Baptized a child.<sup>8</sup> Tarried out.

26. Last evening it began to snow, and became very tedious. Considerable snow. Blustering and severe cold. Visited a sick woman. Walking home, froze one of my ears. Read. Towards evening a messenger came

<sup>1</sup> George Goodwin.

<sup>2</sup> Connecticut *Courant*. Dr. Robbins could not get along without a Hartford paper.

<sup>3</sup> David Brooks, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> Dea. Nathaniel A. Crosby.

<sup>5</sup> Dea. William W. Kempton.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Stephen Mason, pastor in Nan-

tucket, 1830-1835. He was a graduate of Williams College in 1812. He died in Marshall, Mich., in 1870, aged eighty-two.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. Charles Coggeshall, New Bedford.

<sup>8</sup> Daughter of Dea. Nathaniel A. Crosby, at home sick. It was then deemed of great importance that children should be baptized.



for me from Mr. Holmes. Rode with him to New Bedford. The cold very severe. My nose, I think, was partly frozen. Last evening Mr. Holmes had four deacons ordained.<sup>1</sup> Six ministers were present. The most of them have left today. In the evening Mr. Seabury<sup>2</sup> preached. Tarried at Mr. Alden's. After the evening meeting attended a little while at a musical concert.

27. Attended a prayer-meeting at nine o'clock. Walked with Dea. Kempton and visited families. In the morning the thermometer was at zero; late last evening at 02°. There is a great population in this town. Afternoon we had a meeting and I preached on Ps. 1: 5. Visited again. The most of the families in this great congregation have been visited this week. At evening I preached on Ps. cvi: 15. This concluded, mostly, the appropriate services of the week. The public meetings have been thin, but I think the visiting has been useful. I do not perceive much evidence of special divine influences. The conclusion of the meeting was quite solemn. Much fatigued.

28. Thermometer this morning at 02°. The two past nights are thought to have been the coldest we have yet had this winter. Rode home in the stage. The fare was paid at New Bedford. The harbors are firmly frozen again. An elderly woman died here, night before last, very suddenly. Visited the family. Read. Have received this week from Hartford four numbers of the Connecticut *Courant*, from the beginning of the year, which I have ordered to be sent. Wrote.

29. Preached on 1 Tim. i: 15. Attended the funeral of the woman lately deceased. Weather moderates. At evening had a full meeting and preached on Acts xi: 21. Tired.

30. Wet and rainy all day. Read. The Legislature of Virginia are in an ardent debate on the subject of slavery. The massacre of Southampton<sup>3</sup> may be the means of great good. Wrote to my cousin W. Lawrence, of Norfolk. Had no Bible class.

31. Read the Bible. Wrote to Gen. Howe,<sup>4</sup> of New Haven. At evening attended a temperance meeting. They did not do very well. Walked and visited.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Wrote on my preaching account. Visited the sick and others. Attended the evening meeting. Uncle Le Baron assisted and is quite well. Read.

2. Wrote. Visited a large Woman's School; not in the best state. Visited families. It thaws. The walking bad. My visiting appears to be kindly received.

<sup>1</sup> It appears by the general records of this church in New Bedford that, strictly speaking, there were but three ordained. Joshua Barker had been deacon for some years. The new deacons were, William W. Kempton, just mentioned, William Little, and John F. Emerson.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Pardon G. Seabury, pastor in New

Bedford, 1830-1835, was a native of Tiverton, R. I.

<sup>3</sup> The Southampton massacre, frightful in itself, was more frightful in what it might have been. It revealed a widely extended plot for the murder of the white people.

<sup>4</sup> Gen. Hezekiah Howe, who has been very often mentioned.

3. Wrote on my preaching account. Received a very kind letter from D. Brooks,<sup>1</sup> Esq., of Stratford. Read. At evening attended a singing-school. Wet and very muddy.

4. Read. Wrote. Last night the ice went out of this harbor again. Two or three vessels sailed today. Received a Connecticut *Register*<sup>2</sup> by mail. Wet and rainy. Read the Bible.

5. Last evening it began to snow, and continued about twenty-four hours. Cold and tedious. Few people at meeting. Preached with notes both parts of the day on Gal. ii: 16, 17, and Matt. viii: 2. Rode in a sleigh. The longest snow, I think, of this season. Had no evening meeting. Read. Am much in want of books.

6. Cold and good sleighing. Read the Bible. Wrote. Visited. Had a Bible class. Find it fatiguing.

7. Visited a sick woman very low. Wrote on my preaching account. Received a good letter from my sister. Had company.

8. Read. The cholera seems to be spreading in England. Wrote. Afternoon rode in a sleigh to New Bedford and back. Saw my brother Francis's wife at her son's.<sup>3</sup> Very good sleighing. Our meeting was observed as the monthly prayer-meeting.

9. It snowed steadily all day. Cold. Wrote on my preaching account. Did not leave the house. Read.

10. Severe cold. There is a heavy body of snow on the ground. The rejection of Mr. Van Buren is a noble act of the American Senate.<sup>4</sup> Walked and visited. Mrs. Dexter is very low. Spent some time with Uncle Le Baron. He is very well. Wrote. Read.

11. Wrote on my preaching account. It had got far in arrear. Visited Mrs. Dexter. I think she cannot live. Very good sleighing. Read the Bible. Have a fire in my own chamber but a small part of the time.<sup>5</sup>

12. Warm and wet and rainy through the day. The going very bad. The meeting very thin. Preached with notes twice on 1 John v: 9, and Luke xiv: 18. At evening we had considerable thunder. Read.

13. The heavy body of snow is nearly gone. Wrote. Read my Bible.

<sup>1</sup> David Brooks.

<sup>2</sup> The Connecticut *State Register* was published in New London by the Green family.

<sup>3</sup> Francis L. Alden. His mother, Priscilla Le Baron, was married in 1803 to Gideon S. Alden. After his death she married Rev. Francis Le Baron Robbins, of Enfield. Her son, Francis L. Alden, was married in 1828 to Eudora, daughter of Zabdiel Sampson.

<sup>4</sup> Such is the nature of mere party prejudice that almost all the leading statesmen of the earlier years in this country have now an honorable record, however bitter was the prejudice against them in their day. President Jackson nominated Mr. Van Buren, then

Secretary of State, as Minister to England, and the Senate would not confirm the appointment; and Dr. Robbins thought it was a noble act, and the old Federalists perhaps generally thought so. But when the presidential election came round, in the fall of this same year (1832), Gen. Jackson was re-elected President, and Martin Van Buren was chosen Vice-President by 189 of the 286 electoral votes. Four years later he was elected President. And now his reputation, if not the highest, is at least fair and good.

<sup>5</sup> Along the south shores of New England the winter breaks much earlier than in the middle and northern parts.

I am in much want of expositors. Visited the sick. Had a full Bible class. The service is laborious.

14. Wrote on my preaching account. Read. Revised the ecclesiastical part of Dr. Thacher's *History of the Town of Plymouth*.<sup>1</sup> Made a number of alterations. It is pretty well written.

15. Wrote. Walked and visited. Warm and the roads muddy. Mrs. Dexter continues, though very low. Attended the evening meeting. Well attended.

16. Read. The cholera seems to be spreading in England. Wrote to Judge Daggett,<sup>2</sup> of New Haven, and to Gov. Tomlinson,<sup>3</sup> at Congress. Cold and the ground again frozen. At evening walked out and visited. I do not do as much as I ought.

17. Wrote on my preaching account. The forenoon very cold; about equal to any we have had. Walked and visited the sick and others. Read. Was up late.

18. Wrote. Received a letter from my cousin W. Lawrence, of Norfolk. Read the Bible. Preparing for my journey. Mrs. Dexter is very low.

19. Rainy and wet. Preached on 1 Tim. iv: 8. Bad going. Thin meeting. Towards night rode to Fairhaven. Preached in the evening for Mr. Gould, to a good audience, on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4. Mrs. Robbins, brother F.'s wife, is here, and paid me \$60,<sup>4</sup> received from the society in Somers.

20. Was called early by the stage; rode to Boston. Came by Taunton, a road I was little acquainted with. Kindly entertained by my kinsman, Dr. Chandler Robbins.<sup>5</sup> The traveling not bad. Had good company in the stage. Went with my cousin in the evening and attended a good literary lecture.

21. Walked out. Called on my cousin Chandler.<sup>6</sup> The city is much improved since I was here in 1824. The Legislature are in session. Made some calls. Purchased this sharp metallic pen. Last night it snowed some and is cold. Good sleighing in and about the city. Walked to South Boston

<sup>1</sup> This work, mentioned before, was now drawing near publication.

<sup>2</sup> David Daggett, LL. D. He was a native of Attleborough, Mass.

<sup>3</sup> Gov. Gideon Tomlinson, of Fairfield. Having finished his four years, 1827-1831, as Governor of Connecticut, he was, 1831-1837, in the United States Senate.

<sup>4</sup> That bill, it will be remembered, was put into the hands of Esq. Dixon, of Enfield, for collection, and Mrs. Robbins, coming from Enfield, brought the money.

<sup>5</sup> This is Chandler Robbins, M. D., a second cousin, graduated at Bowdoin College, 1815, son of Judge Chandler Robbins, living in Maine, who was graduated at Harvard, 1782; grandson of Chandler Robbins, D. D.,

the life-long minister of Plymouth, who was graduated at Yale College in 1756. This Dr. Chandler, whom Dr. Thomas Robbins was visiting, received his degree of M. D. from Harvard in 1818.

<sup>6</sup> A second cousin, Chandler Robbins, D. D., son of Dr. Peter Gilman Robbins, of Roxbury. This Chandler was graduated at Harvard College, 1829, and was pastor of the Second Church, Boston (Unitarian), 1833-1875. He died in 1882. In the last few years of his life he was blind. His father lived in Lynn before moving to Roxbury, and there his son Chandler was born, Feb. 14, 1810. As a man and as a minister he was greatly beloved during his whole ministry of more than forty years.

and visited Rev. Mr. Fairchild.<sup>1</sup> Preached in the evening in his vestry without notes on Matt. xv: 21, etc. He has lately had a public meeting and there is some attention among his people.

22. Centennial celebration.\* Great firing and bells in the morning. Returned to the city. At the State House was introduced to various ministers and other gentlemen. Heard a good oration of one hundred and fifteen minutes. The prayers were poor.<sup>3</sup> Attended a splendid dinner at Faneuil Hall, given by the city to about six hundred guests. It was mostly in the evening. The day was pleasant and the occasion much favored by a good Providence. Had many friendly invitations.

23. Wet. Went into the House of Representatives. Treated politely. The House is respectable, but quite too numerous. Became unwell and had to leave the House. Dined with my cousin Chandler. Towards night rode in a passage sleigh<sup>4</sup> to Dr. P. G. Robbins's, at Roxbury. Am quite feeble.

24. Had a pleasant visit at my cousin Peter's. His two sons<sup>5</sup> are in the theological institution at Cambridge. Afternoon returned to the city. Severe cold. Did errands. Paid for books, \$7. At evening called on Dr. Wisner.

25. Slept at the stage-house and rode early. The forenoon very cold. Suffered much from it. Rode to Fairhaven. Rode home at dark in the rain. Mrs. Dexter has died in my absence. Mr. Gould attended her funeral. My cousin Eliza's<sup>6</sup> youngest son is hard sick. Have had, by divine favor, a prosperous journey.

26. The ground very wet, but not thawed through. Preached with notes on Ps. li: 10, and a sermon on Heb. x: 26. At evening spoke at the conference on Mark xvi: 14. Meetings well attended for such bad walking. We have not had a pleasant Sabbath this month. My sister, Mrs. Robbins, is here. Much fatigued.

27. Read. Looked over books. Am fatigued by my journey. Received a letter from D. Brooks, Esq., of Stratford, informing me that my things left there had been sent to New York. My cousin F. L. Alden, of New Bedford, called and informed me that a box of books, etc., sent me from Norfolk by stage, has arrived at his store. Walked and visited. I fear Mrs. Le Baron's<sup>7</sup> little son will not live. Attended the Bible class.

28. It snowed and rained some. Wrote ten days of diary. Read. Had company.

29. Rode to New Bedford with Mr. Freeman and brought my box lately

<sup>1</sup> His old neighbor and friend in Connecticut, settled in East Hartford while he himself was in East Windsor.

<sup>2</sup> Washington's Birthday.

<sup>3</sup> When Dr. Robbins came into the vicinity of Boston he was apt to find fault with the public prayers.

<sup>4</sup> A public sleigh, as we understand it. Twenty years later there used to be an omnibus running to Dorchester once an hour. A lady, a stranger, asked a gentleman in Boston

how she should get to Dorchester. His reply was, "Take the owly, mum," which sentence she turned over in her mind and studied in vain, but which, being interpreted, meant, "Take the hourly, madam."

<sup>5</sup> Chandler, already mentioned, and Samuel Dowse Robbins.

<sup>6</sup> This cousin Eliza, daughter of his Uncle William, married her cousin William, son of Rev. Lemuel, 1810.

<sup>7</sup> His cousin Eliza, just noticed.

sent from Norfolk. The roads very muddy. Received a letter from Dr. Robbins, and one from Mrs. Adams, both of Boston. My things have come very well. Received with them a letter from my sister Battell. Read. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. God in mercy has brought me through a very cold winter.

MARCH.

1. Wrote a long letter to my sister Battell. Received a letter from Gen. Howe, of New Haven. Capt. Freeman got badly hurt by a kick from his horse. Hindered by company. Wrote late.

2. Walked and visited the sick and others. Cold. Mrs. Robbins<sup>1</sup> and other friends were here. At evening attended a singing-school. Read.

3. Visited sick persons. One of our best women is very sick. Read. Wet and very bad going. Read the Bible.

4. Very pleasant, though bad going. Preached on Rom. ii: 6-11. At evening had our monthly concert of prayer, and preached without notes on Ps. lxxiv: 20. Mrs. Le Baron's little son is very low. Full meetings. Visited the sick. Much fatigued.

5. Wrote. Read the *Life of Sir Isaac Newton*.<sup>2</sup> Rainy all day. Afternoon and evening very hard. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott.<sup>3</sup> The annual town-meeting was held. Some effort was made against the temperance cause, but it failed.

6. Visited the sick. They appear a little better. Read Newton.

7. Wrote to Mrs. Adams, of Boston. Quite cold. Visited. At evening preached a lecture at a distance on Luke xiv: 16-18. Walked home late.

8. Wrote diligently on my preaching account. At evening walked out.

9. Walked and visited the sick and others all day. Afternoon visited a school, and in the evening attended the singing-school. The ground begins to settle.

10. Went early and visited Mrs. Barstow, very low. Mr. Freeman has procured a new horse, which appears to be a very good one. Read. We have highly gratifying intelligence that, in the case of the imprisoned missionaries, the Supreme Court have declared the law of Georgia unconstitutional and void.<sup>4</sup> In the evening my cousin Chandler Robbins,<sup>5</sup> of Boston, came

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Francis Robbins, of Enfield, Ct.

<sup>2</sup> *Life of Sir Isaac Newton*, by Sir David Brewster. London, 1831.

<sup>3</sup> His old friend, whose name has so often occurred, Samuel Tudor Wolcott, still living in East Windsor at this writing (1885), eighty-six years old.

<sup>4</sup> The case of the missionaries, Rev. S. A. Worcester, Rev. John Thompson, Elizur Butler, M. D., and some others, who were arrested and thrown into prison in Georgia in the year 1831, excited great feeling throughout the whole land. Georgia wished to get the Cherokee Indians removed from her territo-

ries, and the missionaries were a hindrance. Georgia therefore framed a law forbidding white men to reside among the Indians without license from the State. The missionaries, seeing the wicked intent of this law, would not retire, but allowed themselves to be arrested and thrown into the Georgia penitentiary. It was this law that the Supreme Court of the United States pronounced unconstitutional and void.

<sup>5</sup> There were two men of the name Chandler Robbins in Boston whom he calls cousins, and which it was that was visiting him we do not know.

here and tarried. Wrote on my preaching account. Yesterday an aged woman died. Visited the family before and after her decease.

11. Preached with notes on Heb. iv: 11, and a funeral sermon on 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57. Attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Meigs. Meetings very full. My cousin Robbins went off at noon to Fairhaven. Preached at the evening meeting on John xxi: 17. Much fatigued.

12. Wet and rainy. Wrote on my preaching account. Visited the sick. At evening had a full Bible class. The ground settles.

13. Read the Bible. Began a letter to Dr. Taylor, of New Haven.

14. Received a good letter from my sister Battell. Rode and walked to the Neck. Tedious cold and some snow. At evening preached to a good number on Luke xiv: 16-18. Tarried out.

15. Walked and visited all day on the two necks.<sup>1</sup> Had a long walk.

16. Read. The decision of the Supreme Court in favor of the Indians gives great satisfaction. Wrote the remainder of my long letter to Dr. Taylor. Last evening saw Mrs. Robbins. Visited. Attended in the evening a public singing.

17. Wrote the most of a sermon on Rom. ii: 4. Read. Had a long walk.

18. Very cold and tedious, with some snow. Meeting quite thin. Preached a sermon on John viii: 24. Had no evening meeting. Read the most of Mr. Clay's long and very able speech on the American System.<sup>2</sup>

19. Severe cold. It thawed very little in a clear sun. Wrote on my preaching account. Read. Read Guise's<sup>3</sup> *Paraphrase*. At evening had a full Bible class. I need a good deal of exercise.

20. Rode with Mr. Freeman to New Bedford. The wharves there are almost covered with great casks of oil. Saw sister Priscilla.<sup>4</sup> Paid for a book, sixty-three cents. Called on Mr. Holmes. Read. At evening walked and visited a sick person.

21. Quite stormy, rain and snow. Wrote on my preaching account. Walked out. Evening meeting prevented by the weather. Read the *Court of Buonaparte*.<sup>5</sup>

22. Read the Bible. Wrote on my preaching account, and finished it, so far as I could with the materials I have with me. It has taken much time. Cold, and I did not go into the street. Read late the *Court of Buonaparte*.

23. Walked and visited the most of the day. The society had their

<sup>1</sup> The two necks are the peninsulas on each side of Mattapoisett harbor, running out as protectors of the harbor.

<sup>2</sup> Henry Clay, who had before been a member of the House, was chosen Senator in 1831, and was re-elected, so that he had a continued connection with the Senate, 1831-1842. The American system here spoken of was the system of protection to American industries.

<sup>3</sup> William Guise, a learned English divine, 1653-1684.

<sup>4</sup> She was cousin Priscilla until she married Rev. Francis Le Baron Robbins, of Enfield, Ct., and then, by marriage, she became sister.

<sup>5</sup> *Court and Camp of Buonaparte*, one of the volumes of Harper's Family Library. This series of valuable books, extending to many volumes, was then very popular.

annual meeting. Am informed that there is considerable solicitude manifested to give me a call. Read.

24. Took no food or drink for near ten hours. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott. He informs me that one of his neighbors wishes to buy my land. Wrote and finished my sermon begun last Saturday.

25. Preached with notes on John v: 40, and on Rom. ii: 4. At evening spoke on Matt. xi: 30. Meetings unusually full. Much fatigued.

26. Wrote a long letter to S. T. Wolcott, and sent for a trunk with clothes and books. Wet and rainy. Bible class prevented. Read *Bony's Court*.<sup>1</sup> The seat of corruption.

27. Read. Read Guise's *Paraphrase*. Wrote. Paid a donation of \$2 for the singing-school here. Had at evening a serious and full Bible class. Quite cold and severe wind.

28. Wrote to my cousin W. Lawrence. Walked and visited. Attended the evening meeting with my Uncle Le Baron. Had a long walk.

29. Read. Looked over papers. My papers are in different places. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture on Rom. viii: 35. Thin meeting. Wet. A reformed intemperate man was restored to good standing in the church. Visited. Read.

30. Wrote diligently on my former pecuniary accounts. At evening walked out.

31. Received a letter from Gen. Howe, of New Haven. Wrote to him, to my brother Francis, and to Rev. Mr. Cobb, of Sippican.<sup>2</sup> Sent little books to Mr. Wolcott's two grandsons. Took some cold last evening, had a poor night, and have not felt able to write a sermon today, as I had designed. Read the Bible. We have had a cold and uncomfortable month.

#### APRIL.

1. Am rather feeble, but better than yesterday. Preached with notes on John i: 11, and a sermon on Ps. cvi: 15. Attended the sacrament. Uncle Le Baron assisted in an interesting manner. Spoke at the evening meeting on Isa. lix: 1, 2. Meetings full and attentive. Much fatigued.

2. Received from Stratford, by New York, the various articles of furniture and books which I had there. They came without injury. Rode with Mrs. Le Baron to Bedford.<sup>3</sup> Saw Mrs. Robbins. She expects to go tomorrow for home.<sup>4</sup> Eliza Le Baron<sup>5</sup> goes with her. Saw Mr. Holmes. The new

<sup>1</sup> The book just mentioned.

<sup>2</sup> Sippican is the Indian name of a portion of the town of Rochester, embracing one of the chief harbors of Rochester, while Mattapoissett is the name of the other. Sippican River empties into Sippican Bay. This Sippican Bay, or harbor, is four or five miles northeast of Mattapoissett, and these are the chief harbors of the town of Rochester.

<sup>3</sup> It seems to have been the custom in

Mattapoissett, fifty years ago, to speak of New Bedford, for short, as Bedford. We have in several instances added the word "New." But as Dr. Robbins continues to call it Bedford, we will indulge him in so doing, only the reader will understand that he means New Bedford.

<sup>4</sup> Enfield, Ct.

<sup>5</sup> Daughter of William and Eliza (Le Baron) Le Baron, then sixteen years old. Her parents were own cousins.

society here do very little.<sup>1</sup> At evening attended the monthly concert. Well attended. Gave my cousin Eliza,<sup>2</sup> \$2.

3. A cold snow and rain storm. Worked laboriously, putting up my things. Some of the books and cabinet work are a little chafed, but they have been well preserved. Read.

4. Took some cold yesterday and am considerably unwell. Worked at my books and other things. Am not able to write a sermon for Fast. Quite cold. Kept house the most of the day. Read the Bible.

5. Fast.<sup>3</sup> A severe and tedious wind. Preached with notes on Isa. i: 2. and a sermon on Dan. x: 12. People suffered much with the cold. Meetings well attended. Attended the evening meeting and preached on 2 Cor. v: 18. Am something hoarse. Bore the fatigues better than I expected.

6. Walked out. Paid for the freight of my things, \$3.75. Went into the ship-yards. Pleasant, but cold. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. The committee of the society called on me and informed me that the society, at their late annual meeting, expressed their desire by a unanimous vote that I would become their minister. I think it best that the matter should rest for the present. Made this almanack. Having waited for this paper,<sup>4</sup> it has been deferred.

7. In the morning there was a good deal of ice in the harbor. Wrote. Received a letter from my cousin Chandler Robbins. Rode to Sippican to exchange with Mr. Cobb.<sup>5</sup> The population of this town is considerably in detached parts.

8. Still cold and a tedious wind. Mr. Cobb rode to Mattapoisett, and returned towards evening. Preached on Heb. xii: 16, and Rom. ii: 4. And at evening on Matt. xv: 21, etc. Rode home late with company. Much oppressed with fatigue and cold.

9. Can do but little. Read. Worked at my books. Have about two hundred and thirty volumes here.<sup>6</sup> Read expositors. Attended the Bible class.

10. Wrote. This morning water was hard frozen. Walked out and visited. Some families here have measles.

11. Wrote, transcribing the former<sup>\*</sup> parts of this diary. Read geography. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. The population of the village here much increases. Read late.

12. Wrote on my transcribing. Wrote to Rev. Wm. Ely, of Mansfield, Ct., respecting our Ministers' Annuity Society. I have had almost the sole care of that institution since its commencement in 1811. Walked and visited.

<sup>1</sup> The Trinitarian church and society of New Bedford, then recently formed.

<sup>2</sup> His second cousin.

<sup>3</sup> He was in Massachusetts now, where Fast Days were on Thursdays, with no regard to Good Fridays, as in Connecticut.

<sup>4</sup> The writing-paper with which he interleaved his almanack—the identical paper,

of course, from which we are now copying this very entry. It is very choice paper of the olden style.

<sup>5</sup> Oliver Cobb, D. D., pastor of South Church, Rochester (Sippican Village), 1799-1849.

<sup>6</sup> Only a very small portion of his library had as yet been moved from East Windsor.



Have procured a good new bonnet for my cousin Polly Le Baron.<sup>1</sup> Sister Battell will pay one half of the cost. One of our new ships was launched. It went off well; a fine one of three hundred and eighty tons. A pleasant spring day. Almost the first we have had.

13. Wrote. Quite warm. Walked and visited. People are sowing their early grains. Visited families which I have not before. Worked at my books.

14. Wrote on my library catalogue. Wrote on a sermon on Ps. cxxxvii: 1. Was not able to finish it. Read the Bible. Had to walk considerably for exercise.

15. We had a rough east wind, but no rain. Preached a sermon on John vi: 39, 40. Quite cold. At the evening meeting spoke on Ps. xvi: 8. Mr. Freeman<sup>2</sup> is considerably unwell.

16. Worked at my library, looking over and writing. I conclude I have lost some books. Visited. Cold and a little wet. At evening attended the Bible class. Rather thin.

17. Visited the sick; there are several. Dea. Crosby<sup>3</sup> and his family are quite sick. Wet and rainy; afternoon and evening hard. Wrote on my catalogue of books.

18. Last night and for the most of the day the storm was violent. Wrote on my library catalogue, and copying a part of this diary. Was very busy in my chamber. Read the Bible and *Bony's Court*.<sup>4</sup> The evening meeting was prevented.

19. Still wet and dark. Visited. Did some errands. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott. Mr. Freeman's son has lately sailed mate of a ship for Marilla. Sent \$10 by him for a venture.<sup>5</sup> Wrote on my library catalogue. I have not been able to attend to it for a long time.

20. Wet and dark and cold weather. It snowed some. Attended the funeral of a child; the fifth lost by the family in about sixteen months. They have one remaining. Visited. Wrote on my preaching account. Wrote late.

21. Am considerably unwell. Partly, I believe, from want of exercise. Read. Afternoon and evening wrote and finished a sermon begun on the 14th. Not as good as I hoped for. Wrote late.

22. Preached with notes on Ex. xvii: 11, and the sermon finished last evening on Ps. cxxxvii: 1. A pleasant day, but still cold. Yesterday it became clear weather, after seven days of east wind, cold, dark, and wet. At evening spoke on Luke xix: 10. Much fatigued. Was up late.

23. Received a trunk from East Windsor, with books, clothes, etc., by way of New York. Paid fifty cents, a charge upon it, but the packet-master gave

<sup>1</sup> Polly was Mary Le Baron, daughter of his Uncle William. She was born 1778, and was then fifty-four years old. She seems not to have married.

<sup>2</sup> Capt. Seth Freeman, with whom he boarded.

<sup>3</sup> Dea. Nathaniel L. Crosby.

<sup>4</sup> *Court and Camp of Buonaparte*.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Robbins in his earlier days used to buy lottery tickets, as other good people did. But this matter here referred to was a fair and regular business venture.

me the freight. He had a long passage. Visited the sick and afflicted. A promising son of three years, an only child, died this afternoon. Several children are sick. Attended the Bible class. Received of the society, \$92.

24. Mr. Cobb,<sup>1</sup> the late minister here, now of Sandwich, came here last evening. He appears to be a worthy man. Walked out. People are sowing a little, but the season is very late. Attended the funeral of the child that died yesterday. Rode to the Head-of-the-River<sup>2</sup> and met with the Association<sup>3</sup> at Mr. Seabury's.<sup>4</sup> I became a member of the body. Quite cold.

25. This morning there was a very hard frost. The Association had considerable business. In the afternoon the auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society had their annual meeting. An agent of the Board, Mr. Bardwell,<sup>5</sup> was present. Returned home. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>6</sup> The persons came here. Could not give wine.<sup>7</sup>

26. Wrote. Wrote a short piece for the newspaper. Paid \$3.92, for my cousin Polly Le Baron's bonnet. Walked a distance and visited. Warmer, and the grass begins to grow. Got home late.

27. Read. Found a letter from S. T. Wolcott, which came the other day with my books. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. Attended the funeral of an infant child. At evening walked out.

28. Wet and cold again. Wrote to Samuel Terry, of Plymouth, Ct. Read. The cholera seems to increase in England. Wrote to E. W. Bull,<sup>8</sup> of Hartford. Rode out and visited an aged woman, quite low. Am troubled with a stiff neck. Omitted going to Rochester, as I intended, on account of the weather. Wrote. Read the Bible. In my trunk, lately brought, received

a good new hat, made for me at Hartford. On Tuesday of this week a number of the brethren of the church here, with the pastor, requested that I would act as co-pastor of the church. They consider this as giving me the legal authority to celebrate marriages.<sup>9</sup> On Monday morning the ground was hard frozen, and ice continued in some places the most of the day.

29. In the morning Mr. Bigelow<sup>10</sup> came here in the rain, and I went

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Asahel Cobb, a native of Abington, Mass., and a graduate of Hamilton College, N. Y., 1823, was pastor of the Trinitarian church, Sandwich, 1831-1842. He was never settled in Rochester, but had probably preached there for a time as assistant to Rev. Mr. Le Baron.

<sup>2</sup> This seems to have been a mode of designation for the upper end of the long New Bedford harbor.

<sup>3</sup> The Old Colony Association.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Pardon G. Seabury.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Horatio Bardwell, D. D., who had been a missionary of the American Board at Bombay for several years, but was then serving the Board as a traveling agent. He was afterwards settled at Oxford, Mass., in 1836, where he remained till 1863. He died in

1866. He was a man of noble mind and heart.

<sup>6</sup> The parties united were Weston Robinson, of Fairhaven, and Mary Loring, of Mattapoisett.

<sup>7</sup> As he used to do, because the temperance reform was well under way.

<sup>8</sup> Eben W. Bull.

<sup>9</sup> As he had performed one marriage, it was well to make his authority sure.

<sup>10</sup> There were three churches in the town of Rochester, as it then was. Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, a native of Boylston, Mass., and a graduate of Brown University, 1817, was the pastor of the oldest church. Mattapoisett, which was then a part of Rochester, is now a separate town, and has been so about thirty years.

to Rôchester. There was not much rain after eight o'clock. Cold. Preached on Ps. l: 5, and Heb. xii: 16. I conclude this congregation is about as large as the one at Mattapoisett. Returned after meeting, as did Mr. B. Attended the evening meeting and spoke on Luke xvi: 8.

30. Wet and rainy. Wrote. Read. Attended to my things. Attended at evening the Bible class. We have a good many sick.

#### MAY.

1. Walked and visited the sick and others through the day. Walked a distance. A number of people are hard sick. Quite tired.

2. Pleasant, but still cold. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Strong,<sup>1</sup> of Redding, Ct. Looked over temperance papers and began an address on the subject. At evening we had a good meeting.

3. Wrote and finished my address, and delivered it in the evening before the Mattapoisett Temperance Society. We had a full meeting. Received a letter from Gen. Howe, of New Haven. Visited a woman that has hopefully got religion since I have been here.

4. In the morning was called to see a sick woman very low. It grows warmer and the season advances slowly. Looked over old newspapers at Capt. Le Baron's.<sup>2</sup> Wrote. Rode a distance and visited a sick family. Read.

5. Rainy and dark during the forenoon, which prevented any opportunity to see the transit of Mercury across the sun.<sup>3</sup> Read the Bible. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott relative to my library. Read. Did not feel able to write a sermon. Yesterday Mr. Le Baron attended the funeral of an infant child in my stead.

6. Wrote notes and preached in the forenoon on 1 Cor. vii: 23. Afternoon a sermon on Ps. l: 5. Quite pleasant. The fullest meeting, I think, that I have seen here. After meeting performed a marriage. Preached at the evening meeting. Preached on Luke xix: 13. A good woman died this morning. Our Sabbath-school began. We had a good collection for the library.

7. Rode and visited the sick. One very low. Read. Walked out. Attended the monthly concert. Warmer.

8. Received a box of books from New Haven. It includes the *Universal Magazine*, of London, from 1747 to 1783, seventy-one volumes,<sup>4</sup> at the cost

<sup>1</sup> Rev. William L. Strong, formerly pastor at Somers, Ct., 1805-1829. He was pastor at Redding, 1830-1835.

<sup>2</sup> Capt. William Le Baron.

<sup>3</sup> This transit is thus described in the almanack for the year 1832, from which this diary is copied: "The transit of Mercury will happen on Saturday, May 5th. Nearly the whole of the transit will be visible in New England. . . . Viewed through a telescope (the eye being carefully protected from the

sun's light), Mercury will appear as a round dark body passing across the sun's disk." The time occupied in the transit was from sunrise till after eleven o'clock.

<sup>4</sup> The work made two volumes a year, and he received the volumes for thirty-five and one half years. It started in 1747, and continued at least until ninety-one volumes were published. Its real title was *The Universal Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure*. It was quite largely illustrated.

of \$50. It is a very valuable work. Some bundles of pamphlets which I had lent at New Haven were sent most shamefully injured and abused. Walked and visited. At evening had a good Bible class. The season begins to advance.

9. Wrote to Gen. Howe, of New Haven, and sent him a bill of \$50. Attended a funeral; the third in Capt. Dexter's<sup>1</sup> house in less than two months. Attended the evening meeting. Quite full. Warmer. Traded, ninety-three cents.

10. Wrote. We now have spring weather. On Monday morning there was a hard frost and ice. Read. Great excitement in England respecting the Reform Bill.<sup>2</sup> Walked and visited the most of the day. Am pretty languid.

11. In the morning considerable frost. Walked and visited sick persons and others. Wrote to B. Ely,<sup>3</sup> Esq., of Simsbury, to resign my place on the Committee of the Everest Fund. Visited a number of families.

12. Wrote. Have many parochial calls. Afternoon rode to the Neck and attended the funeral of a promising boy of ten years old. Warm. Am quite languid. Visited a sick person quite low.

13. Quite warm and pleasant. Meetings very full. Preached with notes on Matt. iii: 8, and a sermon on Luke xix: 43, 44. At the evening meeting found myself very hoarse and my head severely oppressed. Spoke a little with much difficulty on Heb. xii: 2. My voice seemed to be gone. Received a letter from F. L. Alden, of New Bedford, informing me that I shall be desired to dedicate their new meeting-house this week. Very unexpected.

14. Last night was very poor. Am quite ill. I see not that I can avoid the Bedford labor, and have no sermon with me that will answer. Wrote to Alden. Began to write a sermon for the dedication on Hag. ii: 9. Wrote slow and poorly. My sole help is in the God of helpless ministers. Toward evening Dr. Mayhew, of Bedford, called on me with a letter from Simeon Bayley, in behalf of the committee, wishing me to dedicate their house on Thursday. The peach-blossoms begin to appear. My cold affects my eyes.

15. Wrote pretty diligently, as far as I was able, on my sermon. I regret that it must be so imbecile. At evening, though something wet, was obliged to walk out for exercise. Am quite anxious about Dea. Crosby. My eyes are so affected that I cannot study in the evening. Received a letter from Dr. Mayhew.

16. Warm and very fine weather for vegetation. Wrote as well as I could and finished my long sermon for the dedication. My influenza seems not to abate much. Applications appear to have but little effect. Walked out.

<sup>1</sup> Dexter was a common name in Rochester, and captain there meant, ordinarily, not a military man, but the commander of a vessel, larger or smaller.

<sup>2</sup> The Reform Bill, which had been under consideration for some years, was rejected by

the House of Lords, Oct. 7, 1831. This led on to the terrible Bristol riots, and the excitement was kept up until, at length, the Reform Bill was passed, June 7, 1832.

<sup>3</sup> Benjamin Ely, Esq., treasurer of the Everest fund.

Am much fatigued by my writing. It is all I have done in three days. Wrote to Alden.

17. Mr. Freeman carried me to New Bedford. Warm and very pleasant. Kept at Dr. Mayhew's. Am quite hoarse and feeble. Saw Mr. Holmes. On account of some unpleasant occurrences he declined taking any public part in the services, and chose that no other one should assist.<sup>1</sup> In the afternoon we attended the dedication. I preached on Hag. ii: 9. I was alone in the pulpit. A large assembly of the people and a fine house. A good many ministers were present of our denomination and others. Spoke with difficulty and feebly. At evening was at a meeting in Mr. Holmes's vestry.<sup>2</sup>

18. Made a number of calls. Very kindly treated. I believe I am no worse for speaking yesterday. Dr. Mayhew brought me home. Am quite languid. Received a letter from Mr. Barnes,<sup>3</sup> of Middletown, and wrote to him. Walked out. Saw a very sick child. There has been another disgraceful assault at Congress.<sup>4</sup>

19. Rode in the stage to Wareham to exchange with Mr. Nott. He walked in the afternoon to Mattapoisett.<sup>5</sup> At evening rainy. Read.

20. A steady rainy day. Preached on 2 Kings vii: 3, and Ps. cxxxvii: 1. Thin meeting. An elegant but not a commodious house. Some of the time it has rained hard. Spoke with much difficulty. Am hoarse and my voice is feeble. Read some.

21. The ground was quite dry and is greatly refreshed by the abundant rain. The apple-tree blossoms began to appear about Thursday and Friday of last week. Very late. Called on Mrs. Everett.<sup>6</sup> Rode home in the stage. Quite cool. Mr. Nott was here in the afternoon and went home. Read expositors and attended the Bible class. The evenings are short for us. Received a letter from Dea. Kempton,<sup>7</sup> of New Bedford. I fear there will be some unpleasant things between those two societies. There was preaching yesterday in their new house. Was out late.

22. Wrote the preceding ten days of the diary. Am feeble and my eyes are weak, so that I can do but little. Read. Kept in on account of the cold. Read in the English *History*.

23. Walked and visited. Quite cold. This morning there was some frost. Wrote. At evening we had our meeting at this house. Well attended. Read the Bible.

<sup>1</sup> "Tantæne animis celestibus iræ?"

<sup>2</sup> Returning good for evil.

<sup>3</sup> Jonathan Barnes, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> This encounter was between the famous Samuel Houston, of Texas, and William Stanberry, of Ohio. Mr. Stanberry accused Houston of taking bribes, which was untrue; for Houston, though strong and rough, was honorable. The two men met on Pennsylvania Avenue, and Mr. Houston punished his adversary severely. He was brought before

the bar of the House and reprimanded by the Speaker. He was also fined \$500 in the District Court, but Gen. Jackson remitted the fine.

<sup>5</sup> About seven miles from Mattapoisett to Wareham.

<sup>6</sup> Widow of Rev. Noble Everett, who had been pastor at Wareham from 1782 till his death, 1819. He was a native of Woodbury, Ct., and a graduate of Yale, 1775.

<sup>7</sup> Dea. William W. Kempton.

24. Walked and visited the sick and others. Wet and very cold for the season. Afternoon rode a distance and attended a splendid wedding of blacks.<sup>1</sup> Got considerably wet. Read. The cold of the season is alarming.

25. Yesterday received a letter from Gen. Howe. Wrote. Walked and visited. Have a good deal of call for visiting. Vegetation advances very little. Wet.

26. Wrote on my preaching account. Read. Wrote a "relation"<sup>2</sup> for a woman, to be read before the church. Read the Bible. Visited the sick. Pleasant but cold.

27. Rainy and cold through the day. Thin meeting. Expounded on Matt. i and ii to verse 19. The first time I have done it here. Preached a sermon on Eph. vi: 12. Had no evening meeting. Read. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Bacon and Gen. Howe,<sup>3</sup> of New Haven. Was up late.

28. It appears some like favorable weather. Read the Bible. Received a box with valuable articles from East Windsor and Hartford. They came well. The captain here charged no freight. Read expositors. Wrote. Yesterday propounded a woman to the church.<sup>4</sup> At evening had a full Bible class. Was out late.

29. Capt. Freeman rode with me early to Bedford. Took the stage and rode to Boston.<sup>5</sup> Stage very full. Warm and pleasant through the day. Apple-trees at Mattapoisett are coming out; in Middleborough and Bridgewater in full blowth. Stopped with Mr. Fairchild at South Boston. Carried the Wyllys papers, received yesterday from Connecticut, for several years in my possession, to Mrs. Adams, of South Boston.<sup>6</sup> Hope she will give me some of them. In the evening walked with Mr. Fairchild and attended the Unitarian Association. Kindly entertained.

30. In the morning attended the Pastoral Association. Saw Prof. Emerson<sup>7</sup> and a number of friends. Attended the annual meeting of the American Temperance Society. Dr. Hewitt<sup>8</sup> spoke very well. A steady cold rain all day. Dined at Mr. Edwards's<sup>9</sup> in Fayette Street. Attended the meeting of the Convention of Ministers.<sup>10</sup> About one hundred and fifty present. They appeared well. Did errands. At evening returned to Mr. Fairchild's. Very wet and bad walking.

31. Rainy and wet and cold all day. Made calls. Paid for second-hand books, \$5.95. Was fortunate in the procurement. Attended the public meet-

<sup>1</sup> He united in marriage Richard J. Matthews and Mary Smith, colored people.

<sup>2</sup> A statement of her religious experiences.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Leonard Bacon and Gen. Hezekiah Howe.

<sup>4</sup> The one, doubtless, whose "relation" he had written out.

<sup>5</sup> This was anniversary week in Boston.

<sup>6</sup> The only Mrs. Adams mentioned in the Boston *Directory* of that year (1832) as living in South Boston was "Susan Adams, widow." She was probably the person referred to, and

was most likely a Wyllys, or at least a descendant of George Wyllys, of Hartford (1640), who had married an Adams and was heir to these Wyllys papers.

<sup>7</sup> Prof. Ralph Emerson, D. D., of Andover, formerly settled in Norfolk, Ct.

<sup>8</sup> Nathaniel Hewitt, D. D., of Bridgeport, Ct.

<sup>9</sup> Thomas Edwards, Esq., portrait painter.

<sup>10</sup> This Convention embraced both the Trinitarian and Unitarian Congregational ministers of Massachusetts.

ing of the Convention. Dr. Jenks preached.<sup>1</sup> Dined at Dr. Robbins's.<sup>2</sup> Made calls. Visited at Mr. Hastings's. Saw Mr. Shepard,<sup>3</sup> of Stratford. In the morning rode into the city. Paid for a pamphlet, twenty-five cents. Contributions, \$1.25. Have some cold.

## JUNE.

1. Slept last night at Dr. Robbins's. The morning very cold. Most people have on out-coats. Called to see Mrs. Gilman,<sup>4</sup> but failed of seeing her. Walked to Dr. Robbins's,<sup>5</sup> of Roxbury. He rode with me in the afternoon to Cambridge. His two sons are theological students,<sup>6</sup> and I fear will be Unitarians. Did errands. Drank tea with cousin Chandler. Paid for letter-paper, \$1. Repairing my watch, \$1.25. Marking the key, seventy-five cents. New glasses to my spectacles, fifty cents. Tarried at the stage-house.

2. Took the stage early and rode by Taunton to Fairhaven. Mr. Barstow brought me home. Have had a prosperous journey, through God's great blessing. Received a letter from Samuel Terry, of Bristol, Ct. Am much fatigued. Read. Our sick are generally getting better.

3. We had steady cold east wind through last week, excepting Tuesday. Preached with notes on Esther iv: 13, 14, and on Jer. xvii: 5, 6. Good weather and full meeting. Quite cool. At the evening meeting spoke on Phil. iv: 5. My hoarseness and cough still continue in a degree.

4. Am quite feeble. Wrote. I need a steady fire. Read. Visited sick persons. Attended the monthly concert. Vegetation advances very little.

5. Rode and walked to the end of the Neck<sup>7</sup> to visit a sick family. Can bear but little labor. Received a letter from Mr. Gould,<sup>8</sup> of Fairhaven. At evening attended the Bible class.

6. Wrote to Mr. Gould. The apple-trees at this late period are in full bloom,<sup>9</sup> and the blowth is great. Walked out. Have a constant fire. Wrote on my preaching account. Our evening meeting was thin on account of the wet. Spoke on Luke xviii: 13. Have some cough.

7. Read in Smollett's *History of England*.<sup>10</sup> Wrote. Am quite languid. I much doubt whether the passing of the Reform Bill will be a benefit

<sup>1</sup> William Jenks, D. D., author of *Comprehensive Commentary*.

<sup>2</sup> Chandler Robbins, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. George C. Shepard.

<sup>4</sup> Mrs. Hannah (Robbins) Gilman, probably of New Haven.

<sup>5</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D., of Roxbury.

<sup>6</sup> Chandler and Samuel Dowse Robbins, whose names have been before mentioned. Chandler was the well-known and beloved pastor of the Second (Bedford Street) Church, Boston. Samuel Dowse Robbins was pastor of the Unitarian church, Chelsea, Mass., and of the Unitarian church, Framingham, Mass., and spent his last years in

Concord, Mass. Chandler died in 1882, aged seventy-two, and Samuel Dowse in 1884, very nearly of the same age.

<sup>7</sup> The extreme point of land on one side of the harbor.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. William Gould.

<sup>9</sup> This indicates a very late season, for even about Boston the full week for apple-blossoms is usually the third week in May.

<sup>10</sup> Published often as a sequel or continuation to Hume's *History*. Tobias Smollett, 1721-1771, was known more as a writer of questionable novels. His contribution to English history reached from the Revolution, 1688, when James II was driven from the throne, to the death of George II, 1760.

to Great Britain. The cholera is very bad in Paris. At Boston last week I visited two aged women, daughters of Dr. Byles.<sup>1</sup> They and their house are a great curiosity. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture on John xv: 9. Had a new study table brought me.

8. Worked at my books and pamphlets. Paid for my study table, \$3. The painter, who has given it a fine green, charged me nothing. Visited.

9. Wrote and nearly completed a sermon on Ps. i: 4. Do not write very easy. Read. Congress are in strong parties. Have a steady fire. Vegetation suffers from the cold and the constant dark, cloudy weather.

10. Finished and preached in the afternoon my sermon on Ps. i: 4. In the morning preached with notes on Zech. xiii: 7. Administered the sacrament. Uncle Le Baron assisted. Cold and something wet. The church pretty full. Am still afflicted with my cough. Had a full evening meeting. I had a sermon read.

11. Rode with Mr. Freeman to Bedford. Called on Mr. Roberts,<sup>2</sup> the new minister. He appears much like a foreigner. The apple-blossoms are yet full on the trees. Paid for a book, \$1.50. Am quite languid. Read. Visited. Attended the Bible class. Was out late.

12. Worked at my books. Have about three hundred and thirty volumes here. A very warm day, and the first that we have had. Kept very steady in my chamber. Wrote. Read Cox's *Adventures on Columbia River*.<sup>3</sup> At evening walked out.

13. Wrote a short piece for the newspaper. Wrote on my preaching account and completed the arrears. Attended the evening meeting.

14. Not so warm as the 12th, but summer weather, to our great joy. Walked and rode and visited through the day. Was at Tripp's Mills<sup>4</sup> for the first time. Quite tired. Read.

15. Wrote to Gen. Howe, of New Haven, in answer to a letter received from him yesterday. Yesterday purchased some books from the aged widow Hammond, for which I paid \$3.13. Traded, \$1.13. Afternoon attended the funeral of a young child. Quite warm. Took off my flannel. Visited with Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, from Plymouth.<sup>5</sup> The warm weather is very grateful.

16. Not quite as warm as yesterday. Wrote the most of a sermon on Luke xix: 41, 42. I make many inaccuracies in writing. Read. Our national union and peace seem to be truly threatened.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Mather Byles, pastor of Hollis Street Church, a preacher, poet, and wit, but a strong Tory in the Revolutionary period. A son of his, an Episcopal minister, died in 1814. The two daughters here mentioned were Mary and Catharine Byles, and their home was at Nassau Green, Tremont Street. So the entry stood in the Boston *Directory* for 1832. In the next year's *Directory* Mary had dropped out, and the name Catharine stood alone, with the same residence.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. James A. Roberts, a native of

Trowbridge, Eng. He was then preaching at the Trinitarian church, New Bedford, but not actually settled there until the month of November following.

<sup>3</sup> Ross Cox's *Adventures on Columbia River*. 8vo. New York, 1832.

<sup>4</sup> A manufacturing village in the town of Rochester.

<sup>5</sup> Thomas Jackson, of Plymouth, married Sarah Le Baron in 1805. Sarah, born in 1776, daughter of William Le Baron, of Fairhaven, was Mr. Jackson's second wife.



17. Preached with notes on Luke xix: 41, 42. Rode to the neighborhood of Tripp's Mills and preached at five o'clock on Matt. xv: 21, etc. Had a good meeting. Warm, and much fatigued.

18. Rode out. Read in my books lately procured. Visited a sick family. Visited a school. Attended the Bible class. We had a shower. Tarried out.

19. Rode to the Neck and visited an aged woman. Rode to Fairhaven, to attend and assist at the four days' prayer-meeting.<sup>1</sup> Afternoon preached on John iii: 3. Meeting pretty thin. At evening Mr. Utley<sup>2</sup> preached. Kept at Capt. Gibbs's.<sup>3</sup> We have the fearful intelligence that the cholera has commenced with violence at Quebec and Montreal.<sup>4</sup> Brought by emigrants from Europe. Read.

20. Attended the early prayer-meeting. Prayer-meetings precede the regular exercises. Towards night rode home. At our evening meeting (quite full), read the Narrative of the State of Religion of the General Assembly.<sup>5</sup> Highly valuable. At Fairhaven Mr. Seabury<sup>6</sup> preached in the forenoon and evening, and Mr. Roberts<sup>7</sup> in the afternoon. He appears very well. Was out late.

21. Returned to Fairhaven. Quite warm. Mr. Utley preached in the forenoon, and Mr. Holmes<sup>8</sup> in the afternoon, and I in the evening on Matt. iv: 17. A good number of people were here from Mattapoisett. The meetings increase in number and seriousness. May God add his blessing. Am much fatigued with labor and care.

22. Did not feel able to attend the early prayer-meeting. Mr. Roberts preached in the forenoon, and I in the afternoon on Isa. iii: 10, 11. The meetings were full and solemn. I trust the Spirit of God was present with us. At evening we had the sacrament, with a large number of communicants. It was a solemn season. I pray God to grant his blessing. The meeting was concluded. Rode home late. Much fatigued.

23. The newspapers are much occupied with accounts of the cholera. There is great and extensive alarm. Rode in the stage to Plymouth. Warm and very dusty. Kindly entertained by my friends. Passed Mr. Freeman<sup>9</sup> on the way, going to exchange. Found at Plymouth a notice in the newspaper that I am expected to deliver a public temperance address here

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<sup>1</sup> These four days' meetings had not, apparently, been common in Eastern Massachusetts. It may be remembered that Rev. Mr. Gould, some months before, asked Dr. Robbins to give an account of them to his people, and this meeting at Fairhaven very likely grew out of that fact.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Samuel Utley, of the Third Church, Rochester.

<sup>3</sup> Capt. Anselm Gibbs, who married Dr. Robbins's cousin, Lucy Le Baron.

<sup>4</sup> The writer of this note remembers well

the fear and alarm attendant upon that report. It was a vague and mysterious sensation of something dreadful.

<sup>5</sup> Presbyterian General Assembly.

<sup>6</sup> Pardon G. Seabury, of New Bedford.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. James A. Roberts, of New Bedford, from England, just before noticed.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Sylvester Holmes, of New Bedford.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. Frederick Freeman, a native of Sandwich, pastor of the Third Church in Plymouth, 1824-1833.

tomorrow evening. The first information I have had about it. Called on Mr. Thacher<sup>1</sup> and others.

24. Preached to Mr. Freeman's congregation on Ps. cvi: 15, and Rom.

ii: 4. The congregation, I think, is rather larger than mine at Mattapoissett. Warm. Some of my cousins went with me. In the course of the day wrote some notes and in the evening delivered a temperance address. A great collection of people. Mr. Kendall<sup>2</sup> was present. Much fatigued. There is a good deal of excitement here about the cholera.

25. Rode home. Had good company in the stage. Met Mr. Freeman. He was well liked here yesterday. Received a letter from him respecting the temperance address, which came last week and lay some days in our post office. Very tired. Attended the Bible class. Was poorly prepared. Read.

26. Wrote. Have not been able to write diary since the 16th. Rode to Fairhaven. At evening attended the wedding of William and Adeline Gibbs. Mr. Gould performed the service. A large and splendid wedding. Married at my cousin Gibbs's.<sup>3</sup>

27. In the forenoon wet. Was expecting some person from Mattapoissett all day to call for me. No one did. Read. The cholera is the leading subject of the newspapers. Read a volume of the *Dutchman's Fireside*.<sup>4</sup> At evening attended a meeting with Mr. Gould. The public meeting here last week appears to have had a blessing.

28. Rode home in the morning in the stage. Read. Towards evening two fine ships were launched here, and a third was attempted and failed.<sup>5</sup> Visited. We have no hot weather.

29. Rode to the Neck and visited an aged sick woman. Finished the other volume of the *Dutchman's Fireside*. Capt. Freeman is quite unwell with the complaint in his head. Wrote to my sister Battell, and to Dr. Thacher, of Plymouth. At evening the other large ship was launched. Walked out.

30. Consulted with several persons about the Sabbath-school, etc. It appears to be doing well. Had a tooth extracted that has given me considerable trouble. The first taken from my under jaw. Wrote on a small catechism designed for the Sabbath-school. Read. Did not feel able to write a sermon.

JULY.

1. Am quite languid. In the morning expounded on the latter part of the second and third chapters of Matthew. Afternoon preached on John iii: 3. Attended a third meeting at six o'clock in the meeting-house,

<sup>1</sup> James Thacher, M. D., before noticed, author of a *History of Plymouth*.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. James Kendall, D. D., of the First Church, Plymouth.

<sup>3</sup> Capt. Anselm Gibbs.

<sup>4</sup> The *Dutchman's Fireside* was one of the popular works of James K. Paulding, 1779-1860. He was a voluminous as well as de-

lightful writer. This work, first published in 1831, in two volumes, by J. & J. Harper, went through several editions, and was republished in England, 1852.

<sup>5</sup> In these active seaport towns the launching of ships was one of the entertainments for the people. Large crowds were often gathered on such occasions.

and preached on Ps. cxxx: 5, 6. In the evening performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup> A warm summer day. Much fatigued. Had a pleasant wedding.

2. Rode early with Mr. Freeman to Bedford. Saw Mr. Barber,<sup>2</sup> from Hartford. Walked about the town with him. Very warm. The accounts respecting the cholera are more favorable. The ground is become dry and dusty. Rain is much wanted. Attended at evening the monthly concert.

3. Visited. The heat is oppressive. Read. Mr. Freeman's son, who lives in New York, came home, and brings the painful intelligence that cholera has just commenced in that city, and produces great alarm.

4. Wrote some addition to an Independence address which I have, and delivered it in the afternoon to a good audience. The mechanics generally laid aside their labor. The Sabbath-school was well out. We had a collection for the Colonization Society.<sup>3</sup> Attended the evening meeting. Collected \$13.

5. Went out with a small sailing and fishing party. Pleasant but cool. Was landed in the afternoon at the lower end of the Neck. Attended a meeting at the aged Capt. Haskell's,<sup>4</sup> and preached on John xi: 25, 26. Tarried out.<sup>5</sup> Received a letter from Gen. Howe, of New Haven. The cholera in New York produces much alarm; extraordinary measures are adopted in most of the seaports.

6. In the course of the night past I was taken with an ague in the face. This morning it increased. Was carried home. My pain became very violent and continued through the day. Took fifty drops of laudanum. Had a physician.

7. My ague and pain returned with severity. Took seventy-five drops of laudanum,<sup>6</sup> which abated the pain, but did not produce sleep. Read a little. Took other medicine.

8. Am much overcome with disease and medicine. Unable to go out at all. Uncle Le Baron conducted public worship and preached once.<sup>7</sup> Am much affected with a strangury. Have not been prevented from preaching on the Sabbath by illness since December, 1822. Took medicine and applications and was up late. My local pain subsides.

9. Last night got relief through divine mercy. Took medicine, jalap and calomel, which made me very sick. Have not been so low for some years.<sup>8</sup> In God alone is all my trust.

<sup>1</sup> The parties united in marriage were John V. Turner, of New Bedford, and Sophronia Durham, of Rochester.

<sup>2</sup> John Warner Barber, who prepared and published the *Historical Collections* of so many States. This was the business probably that brought him to Rochester. The *Historical Collections* of the Massachusetts towns were published in 1839.

<sup>3</sup> It seems to have been a fashion of those days, both in Connecticut and Massachusetts, to take collections for the Colonization Society on the Fourth of July.

<sup>4</sup> Haskell was a name in his parish at Rochester, as in his former parish at East Windsor, Ct.

<sup>5</sup> He spent the night at Capt. Haskell's, or with some family in that vicinity.

<sup>6</sup> A very doubtful, if not dangerous experiment.

<sup>7</sup> His uncle, Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, was then eighty-five years old.

<sup>8</sup> They were reckless in those days in the use of powerful drugs. Homeopathy, whether founded in reason or not, has done good in lessening the quantity of medicine taken.

10. Last night had a watcher through the night. Got more rest than I expected. Am very weak. Read a little. Am steadily attended by Dr. N. Southard. Capt. Freeman is considerably unwell. Cannot go out.

11. Wet and bad hay weather. The cholera appears to increase in New York. Am better, through divine mercy, but get strength slowly. Some friends called to see me. How little have I expected such a sickness. Most holy is the Lord. Quite cool. Wrote a little.

12. Uncle Le Baron called to see me. Received a letter from my sister Battell and one from S. T. Wolcott. Important letters. It seems our good brother James is in poor health. I think his case is quite alarming. Rode out. Read. Suffered much from debility. The newspapers are principally occupied with accounts of the cholera.

13. Wrote considerably. Walked out. We had a hard shower. People have a bad time for getting hay. The society had a meeting and voted unanimously to desire me to become their minister, with a salary of \$450. I hope for divine direction. More than fifty voters.<sup>1</sup> Wrote to Isaac Mansfield, Esq., Boston. Read.

14. Rode to the village. Made a few calls. Read. Walked out. My strength seems to increase but slowly.

15. Attended meeting and performed the regular services. Spoke feebly. My strength held better than I expected. Full meeting. Very pleasant, but we have no hot weather. Did not attend an evening meeting. Preached a double sermon on 2 Peter iii: 9. Conversed on the subject of a Fast.<sup>2</sup>

16. Read in my *Universal Magazine* Cornwallis's account of the surrender of his army.<sup>3</sup> Wrote to Gen. Lincoln. Good hay weather. Wrote. I am still feeble as to strength.

17. Walked out and visited. A young woman died last night of a consumption. Visited the family. Visited a school. Towards evening attended my Bible class. Read. Quite warm.

18. Read. The President has refused his assent to the bill to renew the charter of the United States Bank.<sup>4</sup> Walked and visited. Paid for tailor work, \$1.42. Attended the funeral of Miss Cummings and preached without notes on Prov. viii: 17. Attended the evening meeting. Tarried out.

19. Read. The pestilence in New York seems to increase, and great numbers have left the city. Warm and good hay weather. Wrote. Wrote to Gen. Fowler, of Branford, and to my sister Battell. Attended the funeral of a seaman who died soon after the vessel came into the harbor. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> That is, more than fifty voted in giving him this call.

<sup>2</sup> This contemplated Fast was in consequence of the cholera.

<sup>3</sup> This was a view of the battle of Yorktown from the English side.

<sup>4</sup> The removal of the national deposits

from the United States Bank, on the part of Gen. Jackson, and his veto of the bill for the renewal of the bank charter roused great indignation at the time, but it passed away like other public excitements.

<sup>5</sup> Moses H. Davis and Mary Hammond were the persons married.

20. Quite warm. Visited a school. Read in the *Universal Magazine*.<sup>1</sup> It has many historical documents. Was up late.

21. Read. Received a letter from Isaac Mansfield, of Boston. I am still affected with debility. Wrote. Am not able to study much. Afternoon we had a hard and very refreshing shower.

22. Very pleasant, but cool air. Expounded on Matt. iv. Preached on Ps. lxxviii: 38. At the third meeting spoke on Titus ii: 14. All the meetings quite full. Very tired. Read.

23. Read *Universal Magazine*. Visited. Fine hay weather. Towards evening attended the Bible class. Am fatigued with labor.

24. Wrote. Wrote to Theodore Dwight,<sup>2</sup> Esq., New York. Walked a distance and visited. Visited a school. Quite cool. The cholera seems to increase in New York, and appears in other places. Was out late. Wrote to Mr. Ab. Tinkum.

25. Am quite languid. Wrote. Visited a school. Some of our schools are pretty small. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Congress has failed in an attempt to recommend a general Fast.

26. Last evening received a letter from Dr. Mayhew, of Bedford. Wrote to him. Rode with Mr. Freeman to Bedford. Sent \$13 to the treasurer of Auxiliary Colonization Society,<sup>3</sup> Boston, our collection on the 4th. Did errands. Quite warm. People are beginning their harvest; so late. Wrote. Visited a child very sick. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>4</sup>

27. Walked out. Quite warm. Am very languid. Read. The committee of the society called and presented me their late call. There appears to be a great unanimity among the people. Visited.

28. Read in the *Universal Magazine*. Find many valuable facts. Walked out. Attended the funeral of the child lately deceased. The accounts from New York are alarming. Most places on the Sound are alarmed.

29. Read the Bible. Preached with notes on Rom. viii: 6, and a sermon on Eph. ii: 14. Full meeting. Made an appointment of a Fast on Thursday next.<sup>5</sup> Attended the third meeting at Tripp's Mills and preached on Ps. iv: 5. Tarried out. Bore the fatigue better than I expected. At evening walked out.

30. Visited. Rode home. Warm. Wrote. Attended the Bible class towards evening. Quite full.

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<sup>1</sup> This, it will be remembered, was the *Universal Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure*, of which he had recently purchased seventy-one volumes.

<sup>2</sup> This was the son of Theodore Dwight, Esq., of Hartford, Secretary of the Hartford Convention. The son was born in Hartford in 1796; graduated at Yale, 1814; was a man of learning and a brilliant writer; also a teacher and editor; and died in Brooklyn, N. Y., 1866.

<sup>3</sup> The collection taken up on the Fourth of July.

<sup>4</sup> The persons united in marriage were Walter J. Heyer and Deborah Bacon.

<sup>5</sup> They had been consulting about a local church fast, in view of the prevalence of cholera. But there had been talk about a national fast on this account. That having failed, this local fast is appointed. But soon comes notice of a State fast, a week later, and this local fast is put off to that day.

31. A proclamation of the Governor appears in the newspapers, appointing a Fast on Thursday of next week. Consulted Mr. Le Baron and others, and concluded to defer our appointment till that time. My proposed journey must be delayed accordingly. Paid for a silk hat-case, ninety-two cents. Rode to Bedford. Quite warm and dusty. Met with the Association. Mr. Holmes has a fine new house. A large meeting-house is raising today in Bedford, and one in Fairhaven; both for the Free-will Baptists. At evening preached the Associational sermon on Rom. ii: 4. Much fatigued. Was up late.

AUGUST.

1. The Association attended to their ordinary business. Warm and sultry. Looked at the foundation of Mr. Parker's magnificent house. Afternoon left the Association and rode home. We had a refreshing shower. Got a little wet. Purchased a large sun-dial for \$2, to be placed on our meeting-house. It is a very good one. Attended our evening meeting.

2. Very fine weather for vegetation. Conversed with Mr. and Mrs. N. Crosby<sup>1</sup> respecting living with them if I should continue here, and looked at their house. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture with notes on Rom. xiii: 12. The church had a meeting and voted unanimously to desire me to become their collegiate<sup>2</sup> pastor. The people here procured a bell, made for them, 724 pounds, and raised it to its station. It appears to be a very good one. The first church bell in town. Read. The cholera continues very bad in New York and lightly in many other places. Had company.

3. Wrote to my brother Francis and to Mr. Battell. Visited a sick woman. Read. The weather is hot. Just as we need. Wrote on the family-piece of the Tudor family.<sup>3</sup> Walked out.

4. Wrote on my family-piece. Read. Rode a distance in a rough way and attended the funeral of an aged sick woman. The heat oppressive.

5. Preached with notes on Jer. xxix: 13, and a sermon on John xxi: 15. Attended the sacrament. Uncle Le Baron performed a part of the administration. Towards night we had a copious and very refreshing shower. This prevented our third meeting. Our new bell does very well. Had company.

6. Visited the sick. Read. Sultry hot. The cholera seems to be extending over the country, yet in most cases it is light. Attended the monthly concert. Visited a sick woman; very low.

7. Wrote some in reference to the approaching Fast. Read the proclamation of the Governor last Sabbath from the newspaper. Yesterday called on the new Baptist preacher here, by desire, and invited him and his people to unite with us at the Fast. Preparing for my journey. The sick woman died last night. Visited the family. Visited another one very sick. Attended the Bible class. Finished the book of the Acts. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Dea. Nathaniel A. Crosby and wife.

<sup>2</sup> Of the Tudor family in Windsor and

<sup>3</sup> We should now say, "colleague pastor." East Windsor, Ct.

8. Wrote a large addition to a Fast sermon on 2 Sam. iii : 18-21. Sultry hot. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Jones. We had a small shower. Am quite languid. A very growing season. Received of the society treasurer. \$150. Wrote late.

9. Fast on account of the cholera. Very well attended. All labor seems to have been laid aside. Preached in the afternoon on 2 Sam. iii, etc., with the addition written yesterday. We had a prayer-meeting at nine o'clock, and the forenoon exercises consisted in prayer and singing and addresses. Mr. Le Baron assisted. Visited a sick woman. Expected to have rode to Bedford in the evening to go on my journey. A steady, moderate rain prevented. Read. Put up my things.

10. The rain continued through the night and this morning was very violent. It prevented my going to Bedford to take the stage. Read. Wrote on the Tudor family-piece. Wrote to brother Francis and to F. L. Alden.

11. Walked out. Went on board the new ship Gideon Barstow,<sup>1</sup> which is to sail soon. Read. Towards evening Mr. Roberts<sup>2</sup> came here from Bedford to exchange tomorrow. Rode out and visited a family. Rode with Capt. Coggeshall to Bedford and set out on my journey. Not able to pay much attention to the appropriate duties of my birthday.

12. Preached on Ps. cvi : 15, and Heb. vii : 25. At the third meeting preached on Ps. iv : 5. This congregation is not large. They are hesitating about giving Mr. Roberts a call. Had much conversation on the subject. Warm.

13. Wrote to Capt. Freeman and to Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven. Rode in the stage to Providence. Called on Pres. Wayland<sup>3</sup> and Prof. Goddard.<sup>4</sup> The cholera seems to be spreading over the country.

14. Rode to East Hartford and walked to East Windsor. Mr. Wolcott's family are quite well. Am disappointed in not being able to get to New Haven to attend the Commencement tomorrow.<sup>5</sup> Am a good deal affected with fatigue. The stage was full.

15. Attended to my library. Can do but little. Rode to Hartford. Warm. Did some business. Returned.

16. Called on Mr. Lee,<sup>6</sup> lately settled here. I think he will do much better than Mr. Whelpley. Mr. and Mrs. Haskell, and Mrs. Bissell, and the four grandchildren were here.<sup>7</sup> Had company.

<sup>1</sup> Named after Gideon Barstow, Esq., one of the leading men of Rochester.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. James A. Roberts.

<sup>3</sup> Francis Wayland, D. D., LL. D., President of Brown University, 1827-1855.

<sup>4</sup> William E. Goddard, Professor of Moral Philosophy and Metaphysics, 1825-1842.

<sup>5</sup> Here, after a long stretch of years, we reach a change in the Commencement Day at Yale College. From 1796, when this diary opened, until 1832, the Commencement at Yale had been on the second Wednesday of

September. Now it falls back to the third Wednesday of August. There it continued for some years, but has since, by different steps, settled back to the last Wednesday of June.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Chauncey G. Lee, son of Chauncey Lee, D. D., of Colebrook. He was just settled in this East Windsor church (August, 1832), and remained till 1836.

<sup>7</sup> A family meeting at the house of Mr. Abiel Wolcott, his old boarding-place, in his honor.

17. Had boxes made to carry a part of my books. Employed in putting them up. Rainy. Wrote. I cannot bear much fatigue. I fear some of my books are lost. Reckoned with Tudor. Paid him in accounts, \$8, in addition to \$5 before for carrying my things to Stratford.

18. Have some difficulty in procuring a horse to use. Rode to Pine Meadow. Had a pleasant visit. Rode to Enfield. My brother and wife have been sick, and he is quite feeble now. He has not preached for two Sabbaths past. Quite cool.

19. Wet. Preached on Ps. cxxxvii: 1, and Rom. ii: 4. My brother attended meeting. His nervous system is much affected. At evening we had a hard rain and no meeting.

20. Made some calls with my brother. He has a fine new house. Rode to East Windsor. Had a good visit at Mr. Bartlett's.<sup>1</sup> At evening preached for Mr. Lee on Rom. ii: 4. Had a full meeting. Think of selling my land.

21. Paid a tax of fifty cents. Wrote. Attended to my things. Rode to Hartford. Called on Rev. Mr. Linsley.<sup>2</sup> He has been dismissed today. Saw Secretary Day.<sup>3</sup> Carried to the book-binder my volumes of *Encyclopædia*. Procured a number of my books and pamphlets that have been long lent. Got home late. A very fine stone bridge is building in Hartford; the length of the arch, one hundred feet, and the cord, ninety-seven.<sup>4</sup> Wrote letters to brother Francis, Mr. Ely, of Mansfield, and Capt. Freeman, of Mattapoisett. Paid for books, \$1.25. Received a large dividend of \$20 from Hartford Bank.

22. Set out for New Haven and Stratford. At Hartford found a New Bedford vessel, and concluded to send some of my things by it to Mattapoisett. Returned home.<sup>5</sup> Worked laboriously, packing and arranging books and preparing furniture for removal. Walked out. Quite warm. I know not when my library will get together. Had kind assistance.

23. Set out on my journey. Tudor carried a large wagon-load of my things to Hartford. Saw them on board the vessel. Hot and sultry. Rode in my sully with a hired horse. Paid for a halter, \$1. Received of E. W. Bull<sup>6</sup> a dividend of the Phoenix Bank, \$45. Paid him for articles he had sent me, \$5.82. After dinner rode to New Haven. My little horse performs well.

24. Called on Mr. Bacon and Dr. Taylor. Did errands. Rode to Branford. Found that my grandfather's<sup>7</sup> tomb-stone had not been repaired, as I expected. Left with Mr. Phineas Foot,<sup>8</sup> \$4, to have it done. Called on Mr. Gillett.<sup>9</sup> Returned to New Haven. We had a hard shower. Rode to Stratford. Tarried at Mr. J. Booth's.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Shubael Bartlett.

<sup>2</sup> Joel H. Linsley, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Day, Secretary of State.

<sup>4</sup> This was the bridge over the Little River, as it is called.

<sup>5</sup> Back to East Windsor, which he calls his home.

<sup>6</sup> Eben W. Bull.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Philemon Robbins.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Mr. Robbins's first wife was Hannah Foot, and Phineas Foot very likely was of her kindred.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. Timothy Phelps Gillett.

<sup>10</sup> Joseph Booth.



25. Walked out. Mr. and Mrs. Gilman and most of their family are here. Am very kindly treated. Finding that no supply is expected here tomorrow, conclude to comply with many requests and continue here over the Sabbath, though contrary to my calculations. Paid Mr. Burritt, \$5.50, for boxes and sending off my things that were here last February. Made calls. Dined at Mrs. Thompson's,<sup>1</sup> with Mr. Gilman. Took some pamphlets from the post office. Yesterday left with Mr. Bacon, of New Haven, the records and papers of the Ministers' Convention.<sup>2</sup> Since the shower yesterday it has been cool. Saw Judge Kent.<sup>3</sup>

26. Last night was quite cold, but I believe there was no frost. Preached on Ps. cxxxvii: 1, and Rom. ii: 4. A pleasant day. All classes of people here attended meeting. There was no meeting at the church. A great number of New York people are in town. I think I never saw this meeting-house so full. There was great attention. Did not attend an evening meeting. Made some calls. Am considerably at Mr. Southard's.<sup>4</sup> There is a prospect of a young Mr. Chapman<sup>5</sup> being settled here. The people are much disunited.

27. Rode early to New Haven. Paid in the morning, \$1.50, for the freight of my things to New York last winter. Received of Gen. Howe, to be sent to Mattapoisett, a large number of books and pamphlets, which he purchased for me of the library of Dr. Dana.<sup>6</sup> There are some valuable articles. Paid him for them, \$28.41. Paid for a very elegant copy of Stephens's<sup>7</sup> Greek Testament, of 1550, \$10; and quills, \$1. Paid for a gold watch-key, \$3; and a spectacle-case, twenty-five cents. Rode in the afternoon to East Windsor. Warm and dusty. Got home before ten o'clock.

28. Wrote the seven preceding days of diary. Attended to my things. Made calls. Kindly treated by old friends. Wrote to my brother Francis. Read.

29. Rode to Coventry and attended a meeting of the Ministers' Annuity Society at Mr. Calhoun's. I fear its concerns are not likely to be managed as prudently as they have been. Saw Mr. Ely, of Mansfield. He wishes to retain my books still longer. There is a public temperance meeting here today. Very warm. Rode to Hartford. Mr. Wolcott came to East Hartford and took home my horse and sulky. Did errands.

30. Took the stage in the night and rode to Norfolk. Found friends well. Young Joseph Battell went off for New York, having been at home some

<sup>1</sup> Where for a time he boarded while in Stratford.

<sup>2</sup> Or General Association.

<sup>3</sup> Judge James Kent, LL. D., of the Columbia College Law School.

<sup>4</sup> His other boarding-place.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Frederick W. Chapman was settled in Stratford in September, 1832, and remained till 1839. He was a graduate of Yale, 1828, and of Yale Theological Seminary, 1832.

<sup>6</sup> James Dana, D. D., pastor of First Church, New Haven, 1789-1805.

<sup>7</sup> Henry Stephens, of Paris, born about 1470, was father of a celebrated race of scholars and printers. His son Robert first published this Greek Testament in 1549, and Dr. Robbins had purchased a copy issued a year later, in 1550. This work of the Stephens family was in opposition to the Roman Catholic sentiment which prevailed about them, and they suffered in consequence.

time on account of the cholera. Am quite fatigued. Mr. Eldridge,<sup>1</sup> recently settled here, called on me. Rode with Mr. Battell to his dairy farm. People have not done haying.

31. Wrote to my brother Francis. Rode with my sister Battell to Lenox. Very warm and dusty. In Barrington we were hindered some time by a hard shower. My brother James has been very unwell several months with nervous complaints, but is hopefully getting better. I was here twenty days ago today at his wedding. He lost his first child and now has eight. Did not arrive till dark.

## SEPTEMBER.

1. Saw Mr. Samuel Cowles, of the State of Ohio.<sup>2</sup> My brother and his wife conclude to accompany us to Norfolk.<sup>3</sup> Gave their children, \$1.50. Rode the river road<sup>4</sup> to Barrington,<sup>5</sup> and to Norfolk. People are getting hay. Brother James is feeble, but does not appear to have much disease.

2. Preached for Mr. Eldridge on 1 Pet. i: 11, and Rom. ii: 4. A very pleasant day and full meeting. Assisted in the administration of the sacrament. The church is very large. I left here just a year ago. The revival was then in a very favorable state, but it progressed very little after that time. Receive many kind greetings from Christian friends. At the evening meeting Mr. Eldridge preached without notes. He appears to have a good mind and disposition, and is well liked. He is not fluent in speaking. Was up late. My health is very good.

3. My nephew Philip Battell<sup>6</sup> gave me an early conveyance to Winsted. Took a stage to Hartford. Came by Collinsville,<sup>7</sup> a wonderful new village. Received of the Phoenix Bank a new dividend of \$45. Received of interest on a note of E. W. Bull, \$22.80. Paid for a very good pair of thick boots and a pair of shoes, \$10. For a ream of writing-paper, \$3.50. A ream of letter-paper, \$4. A half ream of gilt letter-paper, \$2.50. Made my annual payment to the Annuity Society, \$5. Paid for the stage, \$1; and for a conveyance in a wagon to East Windsor, \$1. Am glad to return here. Received a letter from brother Francis.

4. Rainy. Engaged in looking over my things and preparing for my journey. Had considerable conversation. Rode to Hartford and returned. Paid what I owed to Maria Burnham, \$42.<sup>8</sup> For two bandana handkerchiefs,

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Joseph Eldridge, D. D., a native of Yarmouth, Mass., a graduate of Yale, 1829, was settled in Norfolk in April, 1832. Four years later, 1836, he married Sarah Battell, eldest daughter of Mr. Joseph Battell. Dr. Eldridge was an able minister, and remained here forty-three years, till his death in 1875. For twenty-eight years before his death he was a member of the Yale College corporation.

<sup>2</sup> There were several men from Connecticut of the name Cowles who were among the early settlers of Ohio.

<sup>3</sup> His brother James and wife.

<sup>4</sup> By the Housatonic River.

<sup>5</sup> Great Barrington.

<sup>6</sup> Philip Battell, now of Middlebury, Vt., was then twenty-five years old.

<sup>7</sup> Collinsville was in the town of Canton. It was new then. The Congregational church was organized there that very year — 1832.

<sup>8</sup> From the several payments made to Maria Burnham, it is probable that Dr. Robbins had borrowed money of her, perhaps because she wished to lend it to him for safe keeping.

\$2.67. Procured a bundle of the Wyllys papers of Ch. Olmsted.<sup>1</sup> Am burdened with business. Have not been able to settle accounts with Mr. Wolcott. At evening eat watermelons at Mr. Tudor's,<sup>2</sup> with Mr. and Mrs. Lee.<sup>3</sup> Very little green fruit is eaten this year on account of cholera.

5. Paid Mr. Rider for the use of his horse, \$5. For a box to carry on my journey, sixty-seven cents. Rode to Enfield. Met my brother and wife, just set out on a journey to Guilford. They went back, and afterward rode with me to East Windsor. Mr. Dixon paid me \$20, the amount due me from Somers.<sup>4</sup> Made calls on the Hill. Paid Mrs. Wolcott on a note she holds against me, \$1.50. Left East Windsor. Mr. Wolcott rode with me to Hartford. Paid for that and his horse to Enfield, \$1. Carried to Mr. S. Tudor<sup>5</sup> the draft I have lately made of the Tudor family. Paid for books, \$1. My brother appears but little better than he did a fortnight since.

6. Rode in the stage to Providence. Left my best cane at Windham. Had good company. Arrived in the evening. Wrote to Mr. Gray,<sup>6</sup> of Windham. Saw an account of the death of young Napoleon.<sup>7</sup> Quite tired. Fare, \$4.

7. Rode to New Bedford. Fare, \$2. Find my things here, which I shipped from Hartford, all safe. Found no conveyance to Mattapoisett. Attended an evening meeting with Mr. Holmes. Tarried at my cousin Alden's.

8. In the morning rode home in the stage. Find many welcomes. Have been gone four weeks, and, in God's great mercy, have had a very prosperous journey. Read. Received a letter from Samuel Terry. Am much fatigued.

9. Preached with notes on Ps. xl: 9, and a sermon on Luke xviii: 13. At the third meeting spoke on Rev. xvii: 14. For the three Sabbaths that I have been absent a Mr. King<sup>8</sup> has preached here. Uncle Le Baron has preached once and conducted the other meetings. A Baptist minister<sup>9</sup> has been installed here in my absence.

10. Rode with Mr. Freeman to Bedford. Unable to get a conveyance of my things. Paid for the freight from Hartford, \$5. Read. At evening attended the Bible class. Out late.

11. Wrote. Attended to the business of preparing my room at Mr.

<sup>1</sup> Charles Olmsted, Esq., of East Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> Oliver Tudor.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Chauncey G. Lee and wife.

<sup>4</sup> James Dixon, Esq., had already paid him about \$80, and this was the balance of the debt.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Samuel Tudor was the son of Samuel, who died some ten years before at the age of eighty-five. This Samuel, Jr., was the brother of Oliver Tudor and of Mrs. Abiel Wolcott.

<sup>6</sup> About the lost cane.

<sup>7</sup> Napoleon II (Napoleon Joseph), son of Napoleon I and Maria Louisa, of Austria, died at the palace of Schoenbrunn, July 22, 1832, at the age of twenty-one. This was the child of Napoleon's ambitious hopes and dreams.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Jonathan King, a native of Rochester, who had been settled in the ministry at Dartmouth, 1823-1829.

<sup>9</sup> The Baptist minister settled in Rochester was Rev. Eleazar Savage.

Crosby's.<sup>1</sup> Read Lander's *Discovery of the Niger*.<sup>2</sup> Have written today fourteen days of my diary. Walked out. It is quite cool. I think the crop of corn must be light.

12. My books and furniture were brought from Bedford in a vessel. They have sustained but very little injury in their passage from East Windsor. Took them to Mr. Crosby's. Had a laborious task. Rode with company to Sippican, and attended in the evening a large temperance meeting. Got home late.

13. Worked diligently, unpacking and putting up my books and other things. Had assistance. The joiners commenced their work in doing off a large chamber for me at Mr. Crosby's. Visited. At evening attended a meeting with Mr. Bronson,<sup>3</sup> the Calvinistic Baptist, of Bedford. He preached. He is greatly opposed to the Free-will Baptists. I know not which are the best.

14. Worked at my library. Have to attend to the work at my chamber.

15. Visited. Read. Wrote. Wrote a paragraph for the newspaper. Read expositors. Visited an afflicted family.

16. In the morning attended the funeral of an infant child. Expounded on Matt. v: 1-16, and preached on John iii: 36. Quite warm and languid. At the third meeting spoke on Heb. iv: 1. Much fatigued.

17. Walked out. Attended to the work at my chamber. The heat severe and oppressive.<sup>4</sup> Had company. Had a full Bible class. Was out late.

18. Thought to walk a distance, but was unable to on account of the heat. Rode with a cabinet-maker to Bedford and procured mahogany to make a new book-case. Paid for the boards, at about twenty cents a foot, \$8.92. Paid for a knob, lock, \$1.50. Visited Uncle Le Baron.

19. Read. Rode to Sippican<sup>5</sup> and attended a funeral, in the absence of Mr. Cobb. Quite overcome by the heat. Attended our evening meeting. Considerably unwell. Tarried out.

20. Visited. Read. Am quite languid. The ground is dry and dusty. Wrote. Wrote on pecuniary accounts. On my late journey I paid off debts that I owed, \$197. For books, \$41.66. Articles purchased, \$26.67. Freight and boxes, \$7.67. Donations, \$5.75. Stage and horse hire, \$22.50. Ordinary expenses, \$18.86 = \$320.11. Brought home, \$40.27 = \$360.38. Received in my absence, \$146.98. This deducted from the preceding sum leaves \$213.40. I carried with me, \$214. Leaving a deficiency of .60. This is to be added to expenses. Tudor received a dividend of Hartford Bank in the spring, of \$15; and paid \$8 for my hat, and \$6.60 for other things, and .40 to me. Mr. Bull received a dividend of \$45 of Phoenix Bank, and, reserving \$5.82

<sup>1</sup> Dea. Nathaniel A. Crosby.

<sup>2</sup> Richard Lander was at the head of an expedition that left England in 1830 to explore the river Niger. On returning to England there was published a *Journal of an Expedition to Explore the Course and Termination of the Niger*. 3 vols. London, 1832.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Asa Bronson.

<sup>4</sup> Here we have the September heat in the last half of the month.

<sup>5</sup> The village of Sippican was within the territory of the South Church, Rochester, where Rev. Oliver Cobb, D. D., had been settled since 1799.

for articles he sent me on my order, paid me, as noted August 23d, \$39.18. My journey was a very expensive one. Wrote to Samuel Terry, of Bristol, Ct.

21. Wet, but not much rain. Read Prince's *Chronology*.<sup>1</sup> Attended to my books and the work at Mr. Crosby's. That work is like to cost more than I expected. Read *African Repository*.<sup>2</sup>

22. It is a year this day since I came to this place. A most merciful God has given me a prosperous year. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. G. A. De Witt, of Providence, with the grateful intelligence that he has received from Windham my cane.<sup>3</sup> Read. Attention to the work at my room takes considerable of my time. Wet, but little rain. We have had a warm and sultry week. Read the Bible.

23. Preached with notes on John xv: 22, and a sermon on Mark x: 21. At the third meeting spoke on Luke xvii: 5. Meetings well attended. A ship was launched here in the evening, unnecessarily, I think, and a good deal of work done during the day.

24. Had to move my books at Mr. Crosby's.<sup>4</sup> He is doing a good deal at his house. Mr. Nott,<sup>5</sup> of Wareham, called. Attended the Bible class.

25. Showery. Am quite oppressed with a cold. Read Cox's *Narrative*.<sup>6</sup> We have accounts of much injury done by frost at the northward and westward about the 13th instant. Mr. Freeman had a severe turn of colic. He got some relief in the evening, after severe and increasing pain of about nine hours. Walked out. Wrote to Hezekiah Howe & Co., New Haven.

26. Visited. Mr. Freeman is better. Paid for the freight of my things from Bedford here, \$2.13. We had company. At evening attended our meeting. We had with us a Mr. Lovell,<sup>7</sup> a Baptist, preaching at Fall River.

27. Read. Dined out. Attended the funeral of a young colored child. Visited. Began to write on a subject proposed in the New York *Observer*. Yesterday Mr. E. Jenney,<sup>8</sup> of Fairhaven, was here, and requested me to deliver a temperance address there next Tuesday evening. Wrote late.

28. Rode with Mr. Freeman to Fairhaven and New Bedford. Paid for a gallon of good wine, \$2.50. For a little box to preserve valuable articles, \$1.25. Warm. Rev. Mr. Cobb,<sup>9</sup> of Sandwich, came here. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Thomas Prince, pastor of the Old South Church, Boston, 1718-1758, published, partly in 1736 and partly in 1756, his *Chronology*, reaching from the creation down to A. D. 1633.

<sup>2</sup> The periodical published in behalf of the American Colonization Society. This society was organized in 1817, and in 1823 was begun the publication of the *African Repository*. It is still continued, and is now (1885) passing its sixty-second volume.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins set a great value upon all such possessions. Hence his trouble at their loss, and his joy on their restoration.

<sup>4</sup> His library was now so large that any

general movement of the books, even for a short distance, involved much labor. For four years he had been separated from his library, which had remained at East Windsor. But now, in the prospect of his settlement at Mattapoisett, the library has been largely brought hither.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott, Jr.

<sup>6</sup> Ross Cox's *Adventures on the Columbia River*, before mentioned.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Shubael Lovell.

<sup>8</sup> He married a daughter of Mr. Francis Alden, of Fairhaven.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. Asahel Cobb, pastor of the Trinitarian church, Sandwich, 1831-1842.

29. Rainy the most of the day. Rode a distance and visited an aged sick woman. Visited a school. Wrote. Mr. Cobb thinks he cannot assist me tomorrow on account of ill health. Began to write a temperance address for Fairhaven. I find it necessary to write anew.

30. Wet. In the morning expounded on Matt. v: 17-43. Afternoon Mr. Lovell, the Baptist, preached. Rode out and preached at a small meeting in the evening on Matt. xii: 50.

## OCTOBER.

1. Rainy the most of the day. Mr. Cobb continues with us. His health is poor. Wrote the most of the day on my temperance address. I bore the labor better than I expected. Had no concert meeting. Wrote late.

2. Revised and finished my address. Rode to Fairhaven. Visited. At evening delivered my address to a good audience. Several ministers were present. Attended the Temperance Society meeting. The object labors here. Read. We have some favorable accounts of the decline of Jacksonianism.<sup>1</sup>

3. Walked out with Mr. Gould and looked at some of their new buildings. The building here this year is astonishing.<sup>2</sup> Rode with Mr. Crosby to Bedford. Paid for paper for my chamber, \$6.75. Returned home. Attended the funeral of the aged Mrs. Cushman.<sup>3</sup> Wrote answers of acceptance of the calls of the church and society<sup>4</sup> here.

4. Am quite burdened with labor. Read. Gave my answer to the society committee. Rode to the Neck and visited. At evening preached to a good number on Matt. xii: 50. Tarried out. Our meeting last evening was omitted.

5. Rode home. Warm. Gave my answer to the church to Mr. Le Baron. Preached a preparatory lecture on Ps. li: 12. Much fatigued with labors.

6. The church and society called on me, and we fixed on the 17th instant for my installation and the churches to be sent for the council. Wrote.

7. In the morning rode to Pine Islands<sup>5</sup> and attended the funeral of a child. Preached with notes on 1 Thess. ii: 10, and a sermon on Matt. v: 13.<sup>6</sup> Attended the sacrament. Full meeting. Had no evening meeting.

8. Assisted my uncle in writing letters for our council. Warm. Read. At evening had a full Bible class.

<sup>1</sup> It was in this very year, 1832, that President Jackson quelled the boisterous spirit of nullification. The decline of that style of Jacksonianism was not desirable. But Dr. Robbins, like most of the old Federalists, was always ready to say, "Can any good thing come out of Democracy?" Gen. Jackson was headstrong, and did some rash and wrong things. But in general his administration was healthy, and his name now is honorable.

<sup>2</sup> At that time Fairhaven and New Bed-

ford were on the high tide of prosperity from the whale fisheries.

<sup>3</sup> We do not find her name among the church members at Mattapoisett.

<sup>4</sup> It had been several weeks since this call was made, but from the peculiar circumstances of the case it was doubtless well understood that Dr. Robbins was to accept it. He received the call on the 13th of July.

<sup>5</sup> Another of the localities in his vicinity.

<sup>6</sup> He used to preach a kind of sermon from a text at almost all, if not all, funerals.

9. Last evening read quite late in the *Universal Magazine*. The work is of great value. Read. Afternoon rode over and visited. Wrote Mrs. Battell.

10. Quite unwell with severe headache. I conclude I have taken cold. Could do but little. Did not attend the evening meeting. I believe no election of the President has produced such deep solicitude in this country, unless perhaps in 1800, as the one now approaching. And never have fears been so well grounded. Read.

11. Rainy. My ill health continues. Have a bad diarrhœa. Walked out. Am quite feeble. Received a letter from my brother F. He is hopefully gaining in health.

12. Wrote. My poor health continues. Afternoon was invited out. Read. The country is full of solicitude on account of Jacksonianism. It appears more dangerous than Jeffersonianism did in 1800.<sup>1</sup>

13. Am very little able to study. Walked out. Find exercise beneficial. Visited. Looked at the meeting-house. The people are much engaged in improving it. It is painted inside, and a fine new cushion, etc., in the pulpit.

14. Am better, through divine mercy, than I have been. Preached a double sermon on Isa. ix: 6, 7. My answers to the calls of the church and society were read in public and notice given of the installation.<sup>2</sup> Had our evening meeting at this house. Spoke on John v: 25.

15. Was carried through the labors of yesterday much better than I expected. We had this morning a pretty hard frost. The first we have had.<sup>3</sup> Walked out. Looked at a fine new ship of live oak, built in four months. Afternoon attended a church prayer-meeting in reference to the proposed installation. It was a solemn season. At evening had a full Bible class.

16. A hard frost. Received a box of books and pamphlets from New Haven. Looked at some of them. Spent a part of the day in serious meditation and duties, being about to engage in the work of the ministry. Wrote.

17. I was solemnly installed the collegiate<sup>4</sup> pastor of this people. All things appear favorably. All proceedings have been unanimous.<sup>5</sup> The meeting-house has been much improved. There were eight ministers and their delegates present, all of this Association. Mr. Holmes<sup>6</sup> preached very well on Isa. xxiv: 2. The meeting-house was very full and the singing fine.

<sup>1</sup> The dangers then were slight in comparison with the horrible fears which were abroad in New England, and it will be the same in this case.

<sup>2</sup> While the interval had been unusually long between the giving and the acceptance of the call, the interval between the acceptance and the installation was unusually short.

<sup>3</sup> This was the middle of October, but the place was the south New England shore.

<sup>4</sup> As already explained, this was an old form for what we now call colleague.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Robbins was licensed to preach by the Litchfield North Association of Connecticut, Sept. 25, 1798, thirty-four years before. While he mingled teaching with preaching in the early years after that license was given, yet on the whole his preaching had been very frequent and constant, and the sermons preached by him would be counted by thousands. The sermons preached by him as a missionary in Ohio would count by several hundreds.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Sylvester Holmes, of New Bedford.

At evening we had a public temperance meeting. Mr. Gould<sup>1</sup> delivered a good address. Fine weather.

18. Have recently received a letter from Thomas Gray, Esq., of Windham, and one from Rev. Mr. Holmes, of New Bedford. Walked and visited. Attended to my new room. Paid for articles for it, door-hangings, \$2.05. Read. Wrote. Had company. Paid for freight.

19. Looked at a new ship soon to sail. Wrote a long extract from my late temperance address for Mr. Graham.<sup>2</sup> Afternoon rode to Bedford. Attended in the evening on Mr. Graham's temperance lecture. He is interesting and amusing. Tarried at Mr. Alden's.

20. Rode home. Received a letter from sister Battell. Brother James is better, through divine mercy. Received a present of \$6 from Esq. Meigs.<sup>3</sup> Warm. Read. Wrote an addition to a sermon.

21. Preached with notes on Luke xxiv: 47, and a sermon on Ezek. iii: 17-19. Meeting full and solemn. At evening meeting spoke on John xvii: 5. It is thought the prospects of this society have at no time been better. But our dependence is all of God.

22. Wrote. The schooner Laurel, anxiously expected, came in with 230 barrels of sperm oil. All well. Read. Rainy, which prevented my Bible class. Made a plan for my new book-case.

23. Wrote to my sister Battell. Attended to my chamber. Carried some things. Last night we had a hard rain. Visited with company.

24. In the morning attended the launch of a fine live-oak ship, over 400 tons. It did not go clear. Carried things to Mr. Crosby's and worked considerably. Attended the evening meeting.

25. Received a letter from my brother Francis. He is apparently getting better and expecting to come down here. Engaged in my moving. Read. Made calls. Get fatigued easily.

26. Walked and visited. Visited our grammar school. I trust it will do well. Cold. The prospects of the presidential election are alarming.<sup>4</sup> The Lord be our helper.

27. Wrote. Walked out. My cousin Eliza Le Baron<sup>5</sup> returned from Enfield and left my brother, who came with her, at Bedford. Afternoon rode to Bedford and brought him with me. He chooses to stay at Mrs. Le Baron's. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. William Gould, of Fairhaven.

<sup>2</sup> Sylvester Graham, the well-known lecturer and vegetarian. He was born in Suffolk, Ct., 1794, and studied awhile for the ministry. He was a man of popular address, and forty and fifty years ago his name was very familiar. Notwithstanding his wise and reformed rules of living, he died in Northampton, Mass., in 1851, at the age of fifty-seven.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Meigs, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> In his first presidential election, 1828,

Gen. Jackson had 178 of the 261 electoral votes. In his second election, 1832, he received 219 of the 286 electoral votes. The country evidently did not regard him, on the whole, as a very dangerous man.

<sup>5</sup> His cousin Eliza Le Baron had married, as may be remembered, her cousin, Capt. William Le Baron, son of Lemuel. She had not, therefore, changed her name. She was sister of Priscilla, who married Rev. Mr. Robins, of Enfield, and had just returned with him from her visit to Enfield.



28. In the morning expounded on Matt. v: 43 to vi: 9. Our Sabbath-school was closed. It has done well this season. My brother preached. His health is poor, though he is evidently convalescing. His lungs are sound. Quite cold; there was a considerable snow-squall. Attended the evening meeting and spoke on John ix: 4.

29. My brother spent the most of the day here. His complaints are mostly nervous. Quite cold. Wrote. At evening had a full Bible class. My brother attended a part of the time.

30. Removed the most of my things to Mr. Crosby's. Had two wagon-loads. Warm. Mr. Gould called on me on his way to Association. Regret I cannot go. Worked a good deal on my things. At evening had a meeting and preached on Acts ix: 18. Baptized two children.<sup>1</sup>

31. Worked, putting up my things. My chamber appears very well. Warm and pleasant. Paid a tailor, \$1.37. A merchant. \$3.63. Paid Mr. Crosby, \$20, and gave him an order on the society treasurer for \$30; both for the work on my chamber. Paid another tailor, \$1.25. Paid for a roll of room-paper, seventy-five cents. At evening set out on my journey. Mr. Crosby rode with me to Bedford. Tarried at a tavern.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Took the stage and rode to Fall River and Providence. Saw Capt. De Wolf and his family.<sup>2</sup> Found my cane, which I left at Windham on my last journey. Called on Mr. De Witt.<sup>3</sup> Saw Haydon's splendid painting, Christ riding into Jerusalem.<sup>4</sup> The Assembly of this State are in session here and do poorly. Read. Tarried at a tavern. Wrote to my brother<sup>5</sup> at Mattapoisett.

2. Rode quite early to get to Hartford in the evening. Much fatigued. The presidential election<sup>6</sup> is almost the only subject of conversation or solitude. There has been in this town recently a great fire. Tarried at the stage-house.

3. Rode early to Enfield. Have had unusually good health on this journey. Wrote. Read. The people here have been very destitute of ministerial labor for three months, though generally supplied on the Sabbath.

4. Preached on 1 Peter i: 11, and Luke xix: 41, 42. Administered the sacrament. The church large and mostly present. Preached long. At evening rode out and attended a meeting and preached on John ix: 4. The

<sup>1</sup> The two children baptized at this evening meeting were Deborah Loring, daughter of Mr. James Barstow, and Priscilla Cushman, daughter of Calvin Cannon.

<sup>2</sup> Capt. James De Wolf, of Bristol, R. I., mentioned in the earlier days of this diary. He was now advanced in life, but he did not die till 1837.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. De Witt was the man who had received the cane from Windham.

<sup>4</sup> Benjamin Robert Haydon, 1786-1846.

He was born in Plymouth, Eng., a man of genius, but of ill-regulated mind. He painted many remarkable pictures, but died at last by his own hand. His "Christ's Entry into Jerusalem" was painted in 1820, and its exhibition alone brought him £3,000. Yet he died at last penniless.

<sup>5</sup> His brother, Rev. Francis Le Baron, whom he had left there, on an exchange of pulpits.

<sup>6</sup> This is the first week in November.

people here appear to be very anxious about my brother's health. Much fatigued.

5. Read. This week must be very eventful to this country. I do not think it has been in so great danger since the foundation of the government.<sup>1</sup> May the God of our fathers be our deliverer. Wrote. Attended the monthly concert. Usually thin here. Walked and looked at the new bridge here.<sup>2</sup> It is nearly completed and is a good one. This town had their meeting for the choice of electors and did rather poorly.

6. Wet all day. Was prevented from riding away. Read. The present political contest in our country is evidently one between virtue and ungodliness.<sup>3</sup> Wrote. At evening walked out.

7. Rode to East Windsor and Hartford. The election has gone well in this State, but there is much concern about Pennsylvania.<sup>4</sup> Engaged the freight of some things in a New Bedford vessel. Saw friends. Paid for the Connecticut *Courant* for a year, \$2; for a donation, fifty cents. Returned to East Windsor. The roads very wet. Mrs. Wolcott has been quite low with another turn of bleeding. She is slowly convalescing.

8. Looked over books and papers. Conclude to carry another book-case to Mattapoisett.<sup>5</sup> Returned to Enfield. Quite cold. At evening attended a Bible class. Persons answered sensibly.

9. Rode out and saw the carpet-factory.<sup>6</sup> Engaged a carpet to be made for my chamber. Last night we had a very hard frost. Wrote. Rode to the east part of the town, and preached in the evening to a full meeting on Matt. xii: 5. Tarried out.

10. Rode home. Wrote to brother Francis. Read. Walked out and visited. The ministerial labors in this society are great.

11. Pleasant and full meetings. Preached on Ps. i: 4, and Matt. v: 16. Baptized three children, and two last Sabbath. At evening rode to the southeast part of the town and preached to a full meeting on Matt. xv: 22, etc. The evening cold and frosty.

12. Read. Have considerable pain and soreness in my jaw. I think I took some cold last evening. Wrote. At evening attended the Bible class. But few were present.

13. Last night was quite ill. Sweat some and am better. Rode to East Windsor. The town meeting here yesterday did well. My friend S. T. Wolcott was chosen selectman. Rode to Hartford and back. Carried to the vessel some things for Mrs. Robbins<sup>7</sup> to go to New Bedford. It seems that

<sup>1</sup> That was certainly a needless alarm.

<sup>2</sup> The Enfield bridge over the Connecticut River—the same that is now standing.

<sup>3</sup> Considerable virtue and considerable ungodliness on both sides.

<sup>4</sup> As Pennsylvania then had 28 votes, and Gen. Jackson was to receive, of the whole 284, all but 67, Pennsylvania could not turn the scale.

<sup>5</sup> He had moved only a part of his library, and now concludes to take another case.

<sup>6</sup> At Thompsonville, so named, as already stated, from Mr. Orin Thompson, who had then recently started these mills. The travelers on the New York, New Haven & Springfield Railroad pass these mills about eight miles south of Springfield.

<sup>7</sup> His brother's wife, of Enfield.

Pennsylvania and New York have gone for Jackson. I believe a majority of the voters in the United States choose to have wicked rulers.<sup>1</sup> Paid for a lock to give Capt. Freeman, \$1. Rode home in the evening.

14. Rose early and worked laboriously. Paid \$1.50 for a large box made for me. Filled it with books, papers, etc. Tudor carried it with a book-case and my sulky to Hartford, and we put them on board the vessel. Paid the man for freight, \$6. Cold and windy. Purchased forty volumes of Harper's Family Library,<sup>2</sup> and paid for them, \$18. Rode in a cold evening. Called on Mr. Lee. Good people are depressed and the wicked rejoice at the prospect of Jackson's election.

15. Had a laborious task in putting up my books. About half of the bound volumes, the most valuable part, and the most of the pamphlets remain here.<sup>3</sup> Rode to Enfield. Suffered with the cold. At evening attended a thin Bible class.

16. Last evening received a letter from brother Francis. Wrote. Walked and visited. Wrote to my brother and to F. L. Alden, New Bedford.

17. Read. The prospects of our country are very painful. Our hope is in the God of our fathers. Paid a woman for a quantity of excellent stocking yarn, \$1.50. Read the Bible.

18. Rainy through the day. Thin meeting. Preached a double sermon on Isa. ix: 6, 7. No evening meeting. Wrote Mr. N. Crosby, Mattapoisett.

19. Read *Christian Spectator*. Rode to Pine Meadow and visited at Mr. Haskell's. Returned. Bad riding. That village<sup>4</sup> is much increasing. Attended a Bible class.

20. Wrote. Walked a distance, visited, and preached in the afternoon to a good number on Ps. lxxxvi: 15, 16. Cold and blustering. Was brought home in a dark evening. Received a short letter from brother Francis.

21. Walked to the factory. The ground is frozen. Our country is gone dreadfully for Jackson. Quos Deus vult perdere, prius dementat.<sup>5</sup> We have accounts of the death of Sir Walter Scott<sup>6</sup> and Charles Carroll.<sup>7</sup> Read. Afternoon attended the prayer-meeting at this house. Had company.

22. Wrote articles of association for a library company for my own library. Wet and rainy all day; afternoon and evening very hard. Walked to the Ville,<sup>8</sup> and preached in the evening to a Scotch meeting on Gen. xvii: 1, 2, 7. Baptized five children. Had wine, etc., in connection with the meeting. Tarried out. Got considerably wet.

<sup>1</sup> "In your patience possess ye your souls."

<sup>2</sup> This popular series of books, fifty cents a volume, retail, grew unto an immense number of volumes and embraced much valuable literature.

<sup>3</sup> This paragraph shows clearly the conditions of the removal.

<sup>4</sup> Now Windsor Locks.

<sup>5</sup> Which, being translated, means, "Those whom God wishes to destroy, he first makes mad;" and as the nation is yet far from being

destroyed, he probably did not make it "mad" in 1832.

<sup>6</sup> Sir Walter Scott died at Abbotsford, Sept. 21, 1832.

<sup>7</sup> Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, died at Baltimore, Md., Nov. 14, 1832, in his ninety-sixth year.

<sup>8</sup> Thompsonville. The carpet weavers at that time in New England were generally Scotch.

23. Read *Christian Spectator*. Wrote. Wrote a piece for the newspaper. At evening attended a public supper at Thompsonville in true Caledonian style. Left at nine o'clock.

24. Read. Walked and visited. Read the Bible. Visited sick persons.

25. Preached with notes on Gal. ii: 16, 17, and a sermon on Ps. cxxxvii: 1. Baptized three children. At evening rode out and preached on Ps. lxxxvi: 15, 16. All meetings quite full.

26. Rode with Mr. Prudden<sup>1</sup> to the east part of the town and visited an aged sick man. Visited a family in which a young man died this morning. Rode in the stage to East Windsor. Three Congressmen in the stage on the way to Washington.<sup>2</sup>

27. Rode to Hartford. Did errands. Paid for a pair of blankets, \$4.50; for flannel, \$3; books, ninety cents; pamphlets, twenty-five cents; donation, fifty cents. Warm and pleasant. Looked at the new stone bridge.<sup>3</sup> Probably the first in this country. I much fear that I shall not get Mr. Wolcott to settle our accounts.

28. Yesterday wrote to Hezekiah Howe & Co., New Haven, and sent them \$20. Rode to Enfield. Attended the funeral of the young man lately deceased. Wrote an addition to a Thanksgiving sermon. Rev. Mr. Woodruff,<sup>4</sup> of New Connecticut, called on me. Wrote late.

29. Thanksgiving. A very pleasant day. A good number at meeting. Preached on Zech. xiv: 16. We have a small family; but three at dinner. At evening performed a marriage, with a large company. Read.

30. Wrote. Read *Christian Spectator*. Wet and rainy. At evening walked out. On the 27th paid at Hartford, for cousin Eliza, \$2.37.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Cold. It snowed a considerable part of the day. Rode to the east part of the town and visited an aged sick man. Quite tedious. Mrs. Robbins and I received a letter from brother Francis. He is, through divine favor, evidently mending. Read.

2. Quite cold. There is no stove in this meeting-house.<sup>5</sup> Preached on Isa. lviii: 17, 18. Made calls.

3. My health, by divine mercy, is unusually good. Rode in a sleigh to the factory village and procured the carpet they have made for me. It appears to be, as they say it is, a very good one. There are thirty-five

<sup>1</sup> Son of Rev. Nehemiah Prudden, pastor at Enfield, 1782-1815.

<sup>2</sup> Without a further clew it would be difficult to tell who these three Congressmen were. New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts stand as the sources of supply.

<sup>3</sup> The bridge before noticed over the Little River.

<sup>4</sup> This may have been Rev. Simeon Woodruff, of Strongsville, O., or Rev. Ephraim T. Woodruff, of Williamsfield, O.

<sup>5</sup> Enfield, too, was behind the times. In the north, or Scantic parish, of East Windsor (Rev. Shubael Bartlett, pastor), which adjoined Enfield, the following vote was passed, Jan. 2, 1827: "Voted. To raise three fourths of a cent on a dollar to defray the expenses of putting up stoves and pipes into the meeting-house, to provide fuel for the same, and a man to attend to the stoves." The stove-pipes required for the proper warming of a meeting-house were of great length.

yards, amounting to \$43.75,<sup>1</sup> for which I gave them my note. Read. The monthly concert was prevented by the rain. Visited.

4. Wrote. Wrote to brother Francis. Visited at Esq. Dixon's.<sup>2</sup> Warm. The snow is mostly gone. Assisted in examining a school-master. Read the *Christian Spectator*. I fear that different sentiments on gospel doctrines are growing among the ministers of this State.<sup>3</sup> Read late.

5. Rode to East Windsor. Visited Mr. Bartlett. Purchased of Mr. Haskell black cloth for a suit of clothes, at \$5.50 per yard. Reckoned with Mr. Wolcott and balanced accounts.<sup>4</sup>

6. Assisted in looking over Mr. Wolcott's accounts with his daughters that are married,<sup>5</sup> the most of which I had. Returned to Enfield. Moderate weather. At evening there was a temperance meeting here and I delivered a public address. This temperance society is large. Read.

7. Attended the funeral of Maj. Jones. Bad riding. Rode to the north-east part of the town, and preached in the evening to an intelligent meeting on Matt. ix: 9. The little district were most all present.<sup>6</sup> Visited.

8. Rainy. Wrote. Read the President's Message. It is written with ability, and yet very boastful, with several pernicious opinions.<sup>7</sup> Received, with Mrs. Robbins and Eliza, a letter from brother Francis. Prevented from riding down to Scantic by the rain. Read the Bible.

9. Rainy and wet all day. Rode to Scantic and exchanged with Mr. Bartlett. Very bad riding. Thin meeting. Preached on Ps. i: 4, and Rom. ii: 4.<sup>8</sup> Mr. Bartlett is much blessed in his family.<sup>9</sup> At evening returned. Preached on the way at Weymouth school-house<sup>10</sup> on Matt. ix: 9.

10. Wrote to brother Francis. Read. Rode to East Windsor. Was employed in the evening till late with Tudor, making out Mr. Wolcott's old charges to Frances and Eveline. Mrs. Wolcott is more feeble than she has been. The roads very muddy.

11. Mr. Wolcott procured for me, of Levi Rockwell, \$22, for the rent of my land for the past season. Rode to Hartford. The streets very wet. Received of the Phoenix Bank, \$44.31, and gave them an order for my next dividend of \$45. Paid for a Bible for Mr. Crosby,<sup>11</sup> \$2; candles, \$1.13; a book, sixty-three cents; to a shoe-maker, eighty-five cents. Made calls. Rode back. Settled my accounts with Mrs. Wolcott.

<sup>1</sup> A dollar and a quarter a yard.

<sup>2</sup> Judge William Dixon, father of James Dixon, LL. D., United States Senator. At that time this James Dixon was a member of Williams College.

<sup>3</sup> He might have said, properly enough, that theological controversy in Connecticut was already active and wide-spread.

<sup>4</sup> This was something which he had long desired to do.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Frances (Wolcott) Haskell and Mrs. Eveline (Wolcott) Bissell.

<sup>6</sup> That is, the people of the district.

<sup>7</sup> He softens a little in his estimate of President Jackson.

<sup>8</sup> That afternoon sermon the writer of this note heard, and distinctly remembers for its tender and winning spirit.

<sup>9</sup> Years before he used to say that Mr. Bartlett was much burdened with the care and support of his large family. This was true, but the children were well grown now, and made a bright and cheerful household.

<sup>10</sup> This was in Enfield.

<sup>11</sup> Dea. Nathaniel A. Crosby, of Mattapoisett.

12. Read. The proceedings of the people of South Carolina are most unaccountable and serious. I hope God will save the country from civil war.<sup>1</sup> Wet and rainy through the day. Settled accounts with Dea. Reed. I paid \$20 to the Everest fund on his debt, which he would not allow me. I allowed him \$10 for 2,000 copies of my name which he has engraved;<sup>2</sup> and he paid me \$6.56, and I gave up his note. Put up my things.

13. Rode to Enfield. I feel anxious about Mrs. Wolcott. The riding very bad. Our evening Bible class was prevented by a singing-school. Read. Paid Mr. Haskell for my black cloth, three and one half yards, \$19.25. Gave him an order on Hartford Bank for my dividend just declared, \$15. Paid for cloth for a sack, fifty cents. The accounts from South Carolina are worse and worse.

14. The weather is warm and wet. Walked out. Read Prof. Fitch's Theology in the *Christian Spectator*. Pretty poor.<sup>3</sup> Walked to Thompsonville, visited, and preached in the evening to a good audience on Ps. iv: 5. Very dark and muddy. Paid Mr. Thompson for my carpet, thirty-five yards, \$43.75. Paid for an imported piece, about two yards, for a hearth-rug, \$1.75. Visited a sick woman.

15. Preparing for my journey. Read. Wrote. Visited the sick and others. Read the President's proclamation relative to the events in South Carolina. It is well done.<sup>4</sup> Paid Mrs. Robbins \$8 for four volumes of the *Christian Spectator* in numbers. I think the work is growing less valuable.<sup>5</sup>

16. The weather moderate and very pleasant. Full meeting. Preached on Mark x: 21, and John iii: 36. At evening preached on Job xlii: 5, 6. Quite tired. The people here are pleased with the prospect of my brother's return.

17. In the morning it snowed some. Rode in snow and rain to East Windsor. My new carpet was much liked at Mr. Wolcott's. Rode in a hard rain to Mr. Woodbridge's, Manchester, in an open wagon; got considerably wet. My things got wet. The roads very wet and deep.

18. Left my brother's horse and wagon at Mr. Woodbridge's<sup>6</sup> and took the stage early and rode to Providence. Got in late. Missed of finding my brother, which I expected. The stage came light. Was up late. Read.

19. Rode to New Bedford and found Mr. Crosby with his wagon, and rode home. At Fall River found that my brother went there today and took the steam-boat to Providence. By which means I missed him. Am kindly welcomed. Not much fatigued. Cold and the ground something frozen.

<sup>1</sup> He will begin now to see the uses of such a man as Gen. Jackson.

<sup>2</sup> It was stated in the earlier years of this diary that Dea. Abner Reed was an engraver.

<sup>3</sup> In the theological discussions then going on Dr. Robbins naturally took sides with the Old School men against the New Haven School. He had gone from the State, however, just in season to be out of the thick of the contest.

<sup>4</sup> Now he begins to find actual comfort in old Gen. Jackson.

<sup>5</sup> Perhaps because it was growing more controversial.

<sup>6</sup> This was Woodbridge's tavern, Manchester. He had gone there to take the stage, and leave his brother's horse for him to take on his return from Mattapoisett. Such arrangements were common in those days, when traveling facilities were few.

20. Walked out. Cold. My people appear very glad of my return. Visited a young man very sick. Attended to my things. Walked out. Uncle Le Baron and friends are well. Brother F.'s health was much improved.

21. Worked at my chamber and books. My things are in a very unsettled state. My expected book-case is not yet done. Attended at a funeral, with Mr. Wood, of a child accidentally killed in a ship-yard. Dined at cousin J. Le Baron's.<sup>1</sup>

22. My health is unusually good. Rode with Capt. Freeman<sup>2</sup> to Bedford. Very cold and the ground hard frozen. Paid for glass for my book-case, \$5.13; for carpet-binding, sixty-three cents. My brother did considerable labor here; his preaching was very acceptable, and he was much liked by the few with whom he became acquainted. Read.

23. Severe cold. There was no stove in the meeting-house and I was obliged to shorten the exercises. Preached on Titus ii: 11-14. Read a letter from the church in Plymouth, Mr. Freeman's,<sup>3</sup> requesting our assistance in council; and the church chose a delegate. Preached in the evening on Job xlii: 5, 6.

24. Attended to the work of my new book-case. A most troublesome delay. Wrote. Attended the Bible class. Pretty full.

25. Rode in the stage with my delegate and Rev. Mr. Gould to Plymouth. Dined at Mr. Freeman's. Went to Mr. Russell's<sup>4</sup> to stay. The council formed. About twenty members. A committee was appointed, I one, to desire the Robinson Church<sup>5</sup> to make this a mutual council. We went to them and attended a meeting with them, and I preached on Ps. iv: 5; but they declined uniting or attending on the council. We began the hearing in the meeting-house, with a great audience, and continued till nine o'clock.

26. We continued hearing Mr. Freeman and his church committee till near night. There has been a long and sharp contention between them and the party that has separated and formed the Robinson Church. The council deliberated in the evening and appointed a committee to draw up a result. Mr. Cleaveland,<sup>6</sup> of Salem, is an excellent scribe. Returned late to my lodgings and began to write, and continued till after three o'clock. Last night was up late, and read newspapers and the most of three of Dr. Channing's able, elegant, miserable sermons.<sup>7</sup> Much fatigued.

27. The committee reported their result in the forenoon; the council

<sup>1</sup> James Le Baron, son of Rev. Lemuel, born 1794, his youngest child.

<sup>2</sup> Capt. Seth Freeman.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Frederick Freeman, pastor of Third Church, Plymouth, 1824-1833.

<sup>4</sup> Nathaniel Russell, who married Martha, daughter of Isaac Le Baron.

<sup>5</sup> The Robinson Church, so called (having taken the honored name of John Robinson, of Leyden), was a new formation, composed of

members that had become dissatisfied with Rev. Mr. Freeman's church.

<sup>6</sup> John P. Cleaveland, D. D., pastor of the Tabernacle Church, Salem, 1827-1834. He was settled also in Providence, Lowell, and other places. He was a graduate of Bowdoin, 1821, and died in Newburyport, March 7, 1873, aged seventy-three.

<sup>7</sup> A short and comprehensive criticism from the Orthodox stand-point.

deliberated laboriously till evening, when the result was published. The council were unanimous and censured both churches. Mr. Freeman was acquitted of fault. We closed about nine o'clock. Warm and wet. Had no time to call on a single friend. Dr. Thacher called on me and gave me a copy of his *History of Plymouth*.

28. Took the stage early and rode home. Cold. Find myself much fatigued. Took some cold. Read.

29. Read. Attended to my things. Had my new book-case brought in, but it is not quite done. Read. My chamber is cold. The prospects at the South are gloomy and alarming.

30. Last night and this morning severe cold. Our meeting-house stove has been repaired and put up. The house was finely warmed. Preached with notes on Deut. xxxii: 18, and a sermon on 2 Cor. v: 19. At evening preached on Rom. vii: 9. Full meetings.

31. Worked at my library. It is much deranged. The weather moderates. Read the Bible. At evening had a very full and serious Bible class. I bless God for the great mercies of this year. When I left Mr. Wolcott's at East Windsor, on the 17th instant, Mrs. Wolcott handed to me \$50, which I am to pay her on demand, with interest.





1868.

JANUARY.

1. Endeavored early to commit my way to God and to his great grace for the coming year. And O that he would permit me to record in this diary great mercies to his Zion.. The past year has been with me a year of great mercies. Worked at my chamber, assorting and putting up my things. Wrote to my brother Francis.

2. Very warm and pleasant. Read. Rode out and visited. Attended the evening meeting; full and attentive. There appears to be an increasing seriousness among our good people. The Governor of South Carolina has issued a proclamation counter to the President's.<sup>1</sup>

3. Worked at my library and my new book-case. The latter is not the best workmanship. Had company. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Ely,<sup>2</sup> of Mansfield, and one from Rev. Mr. Davis,<sup>3</sup> of Green's Farms. The country is much agitated by the Carolina business. Wrote late.

4. Gave my cousin Eliza for keeping brother F., in addition to \$2.38 to her daughter at Enfield, \$5.<sup>4</sup> Rode to Bedford. Quite muddy. Very little frost in the ground. Paid an addition to the price of my book-case glass, in consequence of a mistake, \$2. Visited. Much fatigued. Read.

5. Had my cabinet-maker here and worked at my library. My new settling is attended with much expense. Mr. Crosby has paid for materials and work in doing off my chamber, \$80. For paper, door-trimmings, etc., I have paid about \$10 more. I have paid him \$50, and owe him \$30. Unusually warm. The grass grows. I fear some of my books are lost.<sup>5</sup>

6. Expounded on the Lord's Prayer, and preached on Ps. xc: 10. Many people wore no out-coat. At evening preached at a full and serious meeting on Ps. xcv, part of 7 and 8.

7. Had my cabinet-maker. He has at length got my book-case nearly completed. Walked out. Read. Attended at evening the monthly concert; full and serious.

8. Much cooler. Attended to my library. Dined at Capt. Freeman's.<sup>6</sup> At evening attended the singing-school. It is large.

9. Worked, assorting and putting up my books. Read. Visited. Saw

<sup>1</sup> The Governor of South Carolina then was Hon. Robert Y. Hayne, known especially for his debate with Daniel Webster. He it was who, as a member of the "Union and State Rights Convention" in 1832, reported the Ordinance of Nullification, and upon that record was elected Governor.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William Ely.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Thomas F. Davies. Dr. Robbins

is apt to spell this name Davis, but it stands in the records as Davies.

<sup>4</sup> Eliza Le Baron was the wife of William Le Baron. His brother's stay in Mattapoisett had been for some weeks, as they were on a long exchange of pulpits.

<sup>5</sup> The old story, not only with him but with almost every one owning many books.

<sup>6</sup> Capt. Seth Freeman.

a young woman in deep distress of mind. Attended the evening meeting. Last night it snowed, and sleighs move briskly.

10. Warm and wet. Employed in my chamber. Afternoon visited Mr. Anthony's school; doing well. Read Gov. Lincoln's<sup>1</sup> excellent speech. Received a letter from brother Francis. Read late.

11. Very cold. Made this almanack. Wrote. Visited.

12. Read. Worked at my books. Walked out. The ground is very hard frozen. Read the Bible.

13. Very cold, but the meeting-house is quite comfortable. Preached with notes on Prov. v: 11, 12, and a sermon on Matt. xxv: 6. At the evening meeting, quite full, preached on 2 Thess. i: 6, 7. We have evidently an increasing attention to meetings.

14. Walked out. Paid a blacksmith for work, fifty cents. Dined out. Paid for half a cord of wood, \$3. Had a full Bible class. Read quite late.

15. Still severe cold. Was called to see a sick woman very low. Dined out. Walked and visited. At evening attended the quarterly meeting of our Temperance Society. I joined the society, with many others, the most of them women.

16. Last evening a snow-storm commenced, which turned to a violent rain. Wrote. Yesterday gave my cousin Polly Le Baron<sup>2</sup> \$1, by desire of brother Francis. Walked out and visited. Attended our evening meeting.

17. It is again severe cold and tedious. Had a small pine book-case brought in, made by my cousin Samuel Le Baron. It is very good work, but does not hold all my periodicals. Afternoon we had my Uncle Le Baron,<sup>3</sup> and my cousins, and other company here. They much admired my chamber, library, etc. At evening walked out. Read late. Paid a subscription of \$3.50 for painting the inside of the meeting-house. Paid \$2.31 for setting the glass in my large book-case and finding three extra panes.

18. Read reviews, etc. Have now the most of my books set up. I have about 1,000 volumes. Walked out. At evening attended a singing-school. Visited Mrs. Southworth; very low.

19. Extreme cold. Walked out. Mrs. Southworth died last night. Wrote. Kept below. Read the Bible.

20. The cold abates a little. Preached a double sermon on Matt. vii: 13, 14. Attended the funeral. Full meeting. At the evening meeting had a sermon read. Much fatigued. Read late. Our country is much agitated.<sup>4</sup>

21. Attended to the arrangement of my old newspapers. Attended the Bible class. The ground thaws. Worked at my newspapers very late.

22. Finished the job with my *Courant* papers. Wrote. Wrote to E. W.

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Levi Lincoln was Governor of Massachusetts, 1825-1834. The speech here referred to was his address at the opening of the Massachusetts Legislature of 1833.

<sup>2</sup> Polly stands for Mary. This was the cousin to whom Dr. Robbins and his sister,

Mrs. Battell, presented a bonnet a little while before. She was about fifty-five years old, and unmarried.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Lemuel Le Baron.

<sup>4</sup> In respect to the South Carolina Ordinance of Nullification.

Bull,<sup>1</sup> of Hartford, confidentially. I fear I shall have a trial about my boarding.

23. Rode to Bedford. Did errands and made calls. The roads muddy. Paid \$1 for half a gallon of neat's-foot oil. The President has transmitted a long Message relative to the South Carolina business.<sup>2</sup> Attended the evening meeting. Received a letter from Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven, and one from Rev. Mr. Hart,<sup>3</sup> of Plymouth, Ct.

24. Yesterday let Mr. Taber, of Bedford, have a ream of fine English letter-paper for \$7.50, to be paid in books. I paid Gen. Howe for the same, \$9. On the 22d wrote to Mr. Davies, of Saugatuck.<sup>4</sup> Attended to my studies. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Ely, of Mansfield.

25. Last night we had a good deal of rain. The ground very wet. Walked and visited all day. Many complain of my not visiting them.

26. Blacked three pairs of boots and three of shoes with my excellent leather-preserving blacking. Prepared to go to Fairhaven, and received a note from Mr. Gould that he cannot exchange tomorrow. Visited. Wrote. Read the Bible. Quite cold and tedious.

27. Preached both parts of the day with notes on Jer. xxiii: 6. Full and attentive meetings. At evening preached on Luke viii: 18. Much fatigued. Was up quite late.

28. Read in the new *History of India*, in the Family Library.<sup>5</sup> Rode out and visited a sick woman very low. Attended the Bible class; very attentive.

29. Wrote to Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven, Mr. Huntington,<sup>6</sup> Member of Congress, Mr. Huntington, bookseller in Hartford, and my sister Battell. Walked out and visited. Paid \$5 for a new *Universal Gazetteer*,<sup>7</sup> which I had subscribed for. I fear it is not quite as valuable as I hoped to find it. Esq. Willis made me a present of \$5.

30. Read in the *History of India*. Am burdened with parochial duties. Dined at Capt. Freeman's. At evening meeting preached on Matt. iii: 8, 9. Read in my new *Gazetteer*. Warm and wet. Read late.

31. It snowed and was quite tedious. Worked, assorting my pamphlets.

<sup>1</sup> Eben W. Bull.

<sup>2</sup> This was not his annual Message given at the opening of Congress, but a special Message on this one point. The session of Congress that year began Dec. 3, 1832.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Luther Hart, pastor at Plymouth, Ct., 1810-1834.

<sup>4</sup> The Indian name for what was then the parish of Green's Farms, and now the town of Westport, Ct.

<sup>5</sup> *History of British India*, with engravings. In three volumes. By Hugh Murray, James Wilson, Prof. Jameson, and other writers. New York: J. & J. Harper. 1832.

<sup>6</sup> Hon. Jabez Williams Huntington, of Litchfield, Ct., a native of Norwich, Ct.; a graduate of Yale, 1806. He was a Member

of Congress, 1829-1834. He died in the year 1847.

<sup>7</sup> *The Universal Gazetteer* was one of the useful works prepared by Jedediah Morse, D. D., of Charlestown, Mass., the father of American geography, as he has been called. It began with the *American Gazetteer*, of which the first edition was published in 1797, and the second in 1804. After a time he prepared a supplementary volume, entitled, *Gazetteer of the Eastern Continent*. When the two were brought together, as in the editions of 1821 and 1823 (the third and fourth editions), it was then called *The Universal Gazetteer*. It seems to have been published separately in London, and to have had a large circulation in England.

I have collected a large number of them since I left East Windsor. Wrote to Absalom Peters,<sup>1</sup> of New York, and to Hez. Howe & Co., New Haven. The storm prevented my going out to an appointed meeting.

## FEBRUARY.

1. Severe cold. Walked out and visited. There appears to be less concern about the South Carolina commotions.<sup>2</sup> Wrote to Rev. Mr. Gould.
2. The cold continues, but our harbor is not frozen. Wrote. Walked out. Last evening received a letter from Dr. Robbins, of Boston.<sup>3</sup>
3. Preached with notes on Ps. cxix: 97. After which rode some distance and attended a funeral, and preached without notes on Heb. ix: 27. Began our third meeting at four o'clock, and preached a sermon on Ps. cvi: 23. There were many at the funeral who hear but little preaching. No abatement of the cold. Very tired.
4. Read in old pamphlets. Walked out and visited. Steady cold. Attended the monthly concert. Quite full. Read late.
5. Read. Began a long writing. Dined at Capt. Freeman's. In the afternoon became quite unwell, and had a sick evening and night. Cannot ascribe it to any definite cause. Took medicine. The weather moderates.
6. Am quite feeble, yet, through divine mercy, better than yesterday. It snowed and was quite stormy. Worked at my pamphlets. Took a new chamber, much smaller than mine. Read.
7. Severe cold and tedious. The carpenters are obliged to leave their yards. Worked, arranging my pamphlets. Received a letter from Mr. Gould, and wrote to him. Wrote to Dr. Robbins, of Boston. My chamber is a good one, but it is difficult to keep comfortable.
8. It scarcely thaws at all in a clear sun. Worked at my pamphlets. Had company. Received a letter from Mr. James L. Belden,<sup>4</sup> of Wethersfield. Read. They do poorly at Congress.
9. Am something unwell with stomach affections. For the three days past I have not been into the street. Wrote. Rode out and attended the funeral of a child. Received a letter from H. Howe & Co., New Haven. Rode to Fairhaven to exchange.
10. I keep at Capt. Gibbs's.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Gould went to Mattapoisett. Preached

<sup>1</sup> Absalom Peters, D. D., Secretary, 1825-1837, of the American Home Missionary Society, a graduate of Dartmouth College, 1816. He was born in Wentworth, N. H., 1793, died in New York city, 1869.

<sup>2</sup> He should have added, "thanks to Gen. Jackson." In the *Lives of the Presidents*, published in Boston in 1882, the following sentences respecting Gen. Jackson will commend themselves to almost all readers: "It is undeniable that many of the acts of his administration, which were at the time most unsparingly denounced, are now generally

commended. Every year the judgment of the whole community is settling into the conviction that, with all his glaring faults of character, he was a true patriot, honestly seeking the good of his country."

<sup>3</sup> Chandler Robbins, M. D.

<sup>4</sup> James L. Belden was a prominent man in Wethersfield, and was at that time one of the justices of the peace.

<sup>5</sup> Capt. Anselm Gibbs, who, in the year 1800, married Lucy Le Baron, Dr. Robbins's cousin. "I keep" stands for *I stay*, or, *I am stopping*.

both parts of the day with notes on Jer. xxiii: 6. At the evening meeting a sermon on Ps. cvi: 23. It thaws considerably.

11. Saw Mr. Gould. A new congregation has lately been established here—Free-will Baptist Unitarian.<sup>1</sup> Rode home. Some snow, but good wheeling. We have a painful account that the captain and a boat's crew of a whale-ship belonging here is lost. Visited. At evening had a full and laborious Bible class.

12. It thaws and the roads are wet. Visited. Paid towards my mahogany book-case, \$16.50. For my new pine book-case, \$8.50. A merchant's bill, hardware, \$8.90. A post office bill, \$5.24. The whole cost of the mahogany book-case is about \$38. Read. Wrote to H. Howe & Co., New Haven, and to Clapp & Benton, Hartford. Wrote late.

13. Wrote to James L. Belden, Esq., Wethersfield. Yesterday received a valuable packet from Mr. Huntington at Congress. Dined and made a long visit at Uncle Le Baron's. A cold freezing rain. The evening meeting was prevented. Read *History of Plymouth*.<sup>2</sup>

14. Began again to write a long letter to Mr. Hart,<sup>3</sup> of Plymouth, Ct. Walked out. Cold, and the roads very icy. Read. Read the Bible.

15. Wrote the most of the day on my letter. It requires an examination of various documents. Walked and visited. It is pretty good sleighing. Read late.

16. Visited the sick and others. The ice thaws. Wrote. Read expositors.

17. Expounded on Matt. vi: 14 to the end, and preached on Is. xliii: 13. The roads are getting wet. At evening rode to Capt. Southworth's and married three couples,<sup>4</sup> two of his daughters. We had a pleasant wedding. The evening meeting was held without me.

18. Read. Walked out. Bad going, and had a thin Bible class. The Epistle to the Romans requires a good deal of preparation.

19. Walked out. Traded, \$1.13. Read. Wrote laboriously on my long letter. Wrote late.

20. Walked and visited. Spent a part of the day with my uncle.<sup>5</sup> Roads very muddy. Attended the evening meeting. Pretty thin. Read late.

21. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Holmes.<sup>6</sup> Walked a distance and visited. Cold and the ground hard frozen. Out through the day.

22. Spent the day again in visiting, and people complain much that I visit no more. Visited a school. Pretty well instructed. Read late. I have to do a good deal of my reading between nine and twelve o'clock in the evening.

23. It thaws again. Walked out. On the 20th received a letter from

<sup>1</sup> A singular compound for a church organization.

<sup>2</sup> *History of Plymouth*, by James Thacher, M.D., published in 1832.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Luther Hart.

<sup>4</sup> The three couples united in marriage

were George Briggs and Lois Southworth; Alfred M. Wright, of Fairhaven, and Sarah H. Southworth; Samuel Haskins and Lydia Gifford—the last couple from New Bedford.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Lemuel Le Baron.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Sylvester Holmes.

E. W. Bull, and one from Clapp & Benton, of Hartford. Wrote and finished my long letter to Rev. Mr. Hart,<sup>1</sup> of Plymouth, Ct. It has cost me much labor. Read the Bible.

24. Preached a double sermon on 2 Thess. ii: 13. Warm and wet. At evening rainy, and we had no meeting. Read old pamphlets.

25. Severe cold; thought to be equal to any we have had. Read. Wrote to Clapp & Benton, Hartford. Walked out and visited. Put off my Bible class on account of the cold.

26. The cold abates a little. Rode to New Bedford and attended the annual meeting of the Bristol County Temperance Society. I became a member. At evening there was a public meeting, which did well. I was requested to speak, unexpectedly, and performed indifferently. Tarried at Mr. Alden's.

27. Walked to Fairhaven. Capt. Gibbs gave me a conveyance home. Walked a distance and attended a meeting in the evening, and preached on Luke xix: 10. It thaws and the roads are quite muddy.

28. Wrote. Read. The public have been looking at the proceedings of Congress during their present session with great interest and solicitude. I trust God will mercifully carry them through their perplexing dangers. The presidential office and its dependencies seems to be overlooked. Afternoon we attended the annual season of prayer, extensively observed, for the blessings of divine grace on the colleges.<sup>2</sup> Severe cold. Visited. My cousin, Mrs. Eliza Le Baron, is quite feeble.

#### MARCH.

1. We had a good deal of snow. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. Walked out and attended in the evening the Bible class. Quite thin. The cold seems not to abate. Received a letter from J. S. Lyon,<sup>3</sup> of New Jersey. Read late.

2. We have more snow. Pretty good sleighing. Received of my collector, \$37, which, with what I have before received, amounts to \$450; and gave him a receipt for the pay for a year's ministerial labor, beginning Sept. 22, 1831. Paid for some materials for my book-case, \$1.23. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Did some errands. Towards evening it became extreme cold; the wind blew and the snow flew with great violence. Mr. Holmes went to Mattapoisett. Paid Mr. Crosby \$10.<sup>4</sup>

3. The coldest day we have had this year. The mercury was at 02°. Thin meetings. The house well warmed. Preached on 1 Cor. i: 23, Ps. cxxxvii: 1, and in the evening on Ps. cvi: 23. The harbor here is hard frozen.

<sup>1</sup> The nature and object of his long and laborious letter to Rev. Luther Hart, of Plymouth, do not yet appear.

<sup>2</sup> This was the last Thursday of February, the day then observed among the churches for this object.

<sup>3</sup> We have no clew to this J. S. Lyon, whose name has been before mentioned, or to the nature of the business calling for the correspondence.

<sup>4</sup> Dea. N. A. Crosby, on account of board and expenses in preparing chamber.

4. Am disappointed of some books I expected to procure of Mrs. Sampson.<sup>1</sup> Purchased some others. Rode home in the stage. The snow is very much drifted. Read. Attended the monthly concert. Our contributions at **this** meeting increase.

5. This morning, I believe, is as cold as any we have had. Walked out. **Wrote**. Read in the *History of Ireland*.<sup>2</sup> Our harbor is firmly frozen, and has **not** been before during the winter. Mrs. Crosby is quite unwell. Paid Mr. Crosby \$20, which makes the amount of \$80 that he has paid for doing off **my** chamber. Had company.

6. We have considerable addition to our snow, but the cold abates. **My wine** (Madeira), in a chamber without fire, is frozen. **Wrote**. I fear I **have** lost some valuable papers. Attended the evening meeting and **preached** on John x: 14. Baptized a child.<sup>3</sup> The night very cold and frosty.

7. Last evening I think I took some cold and am considerably unwell. **Kept** at home. It is very good sleighing. Read the Bible. Read the most of **the** day in Hales's *Chronology*. It is a work of much learning and labor, but I do not well like his system.<sup>4</sup>

8. Warm and snow thaws fast. Read the Bible. **Wrote** a piece for **the** newspaper. The session of Congress, after great anxiety, has issued favorably. I think there has been a signal interposition of Providence in favor of our country.<sup>5</sup>

9. Read the Bible. Warm; the sleighing is done, and the snow gone except the drifts. Visited. **Wrote**.

10. Preached with notes on Rom. ii: 5, and a sermon on 1 Kings xix: 9. The ground very wet and muddy. Preached at the evening meeting on John x: 10. Quite tired. Meetings full for such going.

11. **Wrote**. Walked out. Read the Bible. The ground very wet. Attended the Bible class. Much fuller than I expected.

12. Mrs. Crosby is some better. Yesterday read Hales's *Chronology*; it is very valuable. Worked, sawing wood. Visited a school. Read *History of Ireland*. **Wrote** a piece for the newspaper. Visited.

13. We had a pretty hard rain. The ice went out of our harbor, after lying about nine days. Visited a sick woman. Attended the evening meeting and preached on Acts ii: 37. Read late.

14. Quite cold. Walked to the east part of the society and visited

<sup>1</sup> The widow, probably, of Hon. Zabdiel Sampson, a native of Plympton, Mass., a graduate of Brown University, and a Member of Congress, 1817-1819. He died in 1828.

<sup>2</sup> In two volumes, of the Harper's Family Library series.

<sup>3</sup> Abigail, daughter of Jonathan Dexter, at an evening meeting.

<sup>4</sup> William Hales, D. D., rector of Killesandra, Ireland. His work was entitled, *A New Analysis of Chronology*. It was pub-

lished, three volumes in one, from 1809 to 1814. The best edition was the second, in four volumes, published in 1830, and this was the edition, doubtless, that Dr. Robbins was reading. He does not altogether like it, but it was regarded by scholars as far in advance of any previous work. It was valued especially for the full and minute attention given to the fixing of Biblical events.

<sup>5</sup> It is gratifying to notice that already Dr. Robbins begins to take more cheerful views of our public affairs.



a school, and visited families. That quarter<sup>1</sup> shows a great want of gospel privileges. Read the history of long-afflicted Ireland.

15. Read. At the late inauguration of the President there was less interest felt in the scene, probably, than on any former occasion. Began to write a sermon on 1 John i: 7. Wrote a little and had to consult various books. At evening walked to Uncle Le Baron's. My cousin Eliza<sup>2</sup> has had a letter from her sister Robbins<sup>3</sup> informing that my brother Francis is quite unwell; his former complaints return. A most afflictive event. The annual society meeting was holden; very harmonious. They voted me a kind donation of three cords of wood.

16. Wrote on my sermon, but made small progress. It requires much investigation. Spring weather. Received a good letter from my sister. She says brother James is getting better and Francis is feeble. Mr. N. Roys,<sup>4</sup> of Norfolk, is dead, aged ninety-nine last June.

17. Expounded on Matt. vii, and preached on Luke xiii: 8, 9. There was a Universalist meeting last Sabbath in the school-house, and today in the larger Baptist meeting-house. The audience is pretty small. At the evening meeting preached on 1 Thess. v: 19. Not as full as usual.

18. Worked some, sawing wood, etc. Went into the ship-yard. Read. Visited. Had a full Bible class. Was out late. The country seems to be much gratified and relieved at the favorable termination of the late session of Congress.

19. Warm. The frost is getting out of the ground. Walked out. Had a large load of seasoned maple wood brought me, at the rate of \$6 per cord. Wrote a long letter to my sister Battell. Visited.

20. Wrote to my brother Francis. I feel for him in his feeble state and pray God to be his holy helper. Wrote to Clapp & Benton, of Hartford. Read in the *History of Mary Queen of Scots*.<sup>5</sup> Read late. Evening meeting prevented by the rain.

21. Walked out. Quite wet. There is much complaint about the deepness of the roads. Visited our grammar school. It has done well for two quarters, and I regret that Mr. Anthony is to leave. Visited.

22. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Hart,<sup>6</sup> of Plymouth. Walked and visited the most of the day. Dined with Uncle Le Baron.<sup>7</sup> Wrote to F. L. Alden,<sup>8</sup> of Bedford. The ground is becoming settled.

23. Last night took physic and am quite feeble. Wrote. Walked out and visited. Read.

24. Very pleasant and spring weather. Preached with notes on Isa. lxiv: 8, and a sermon on Luke vii: 19, etc. Have some difficulty in finding convenient places for evening meetings. Walked to meeting. Very tired.

<sup>1</sup> Of the town.

<sup>2</sup> Wife of William Le Baron.

<sup>3</sup> Priscilla (Le Baron) Robbins, wife of Rev. Francis Le Baron Robbins.

<sup>4</sup> Nathaniel Roys, in his one hundredth year.

<sup>5</sup> Two volumes in the series of Harper's Family Library, by H. G. Bell.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Luther Hart, of Plymouth, to whom he wrote his long and laborious letter..

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Lemuel Le Baron.

<sup>8</sup> Francis L. Alden.

25. Wrote on a second letter to Mr. Hart, of Plymouth, Ct.<sup>1</sup> Read expositors. Full Bible class. Read late in *History of Mary Queen of Scots*.

26. Two promising young men of this place have been lost at sea from a whale-ship.<sup>2</sup> Visited one of the families. Walked to Pine Island and visited, and preached in the evening to a full meeting on 1 Thess. v: 19. Quite cool. Read. Received a letter from Clapp & Benton, of Hartford.

27. Finished my letter to Mr. Hart. Visited. I write slow. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting. Read. Was out late.

28. Read. Walked to the Neck and visited. Quite cold. At evening attended a meeting, rather thin, and preached on John x: 10. Tarried out.

29. Rode in a cold morning to Bedford bridge. Walked over and did errands. Returned to Fairhaven. Was disappointed by the stage, and in the evening walked home.

30. Read. Walked a distance and visited one of the families that has lately lost a son at sea. Missed my way and had a fatiguing tour. Visited other places. We have some unpleasant things in the church. Am much fatigued with the labors of the week.

31. Last evening and this morning wrote a large addition to a sermon, and preached the sermon on Job xxix: 2-5. Spoke in reference to the loss of the two young men at sea. A solemn season. At evening rode and attended our meeting at Isaac Bolles's, and preached on Luke xix: 10. We have very pleasant weather. Baptized a child.<sup>3</sup>

#### APRIL.

1. Received of the society treasurer, \$30. Wrote a sepulchral inscription for my Aunt Gould.<sup>4</sup> Rode with Capt. Freeman to Rochester. Called on Mr. Bigelow.<sup>5</sup> Engaged a pair of grave-stones. Went into the town meeting. The meeting last Monday appointed me one of the school committee. Very warm. The ground is dry and dusty. Attended the monthly concert. Our contributions for foreign missions increase. Received a letter from my brother Ammi.

2. Read in the *Catholic Controversy* now going on in New York.<sup>6</sup> It is low. Dined out. Visited. Read in *Queen of Scots*.<sup>7</sup> We have the painful intelligence that brother Francis is more unwell.

<sup>1</sup> We may reach some explanation of the nature of this correspondence.

<sup>2</sup> This is one of the sad experiences in sea-faring communities.

<sup>3</sup> Elizabeth Allen, daughter of Matthew Mayhew.

<sup>4</sup> His Aunt Gould came into notice in the early years of the diary. She was Rebekah Hannah Robbins, daughter of Rev. Philemon Robbins, of Branford, Ct., who married William Gould, of Manchester, Vt. When she died we do not know, but as she was the youngest child in her father's family she had probably passed away recently.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, pastor of the Old Church, Rochester. He was a native of Boylston, Mass., a graduate of Brown University, 1817, and was settled in Rochester in 1827.

<sup>6</sup> This was the Roman Catholic controversy carried on between John Breckinridge, D. D., Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Education, and John Hughes, D. D., afterwards Bishop of New York, and later Archbishop. These discussions were carried on in 1830, and again in 1834.

<sup>7</sup> Another of the Harper's Family Library series, in two volumes, by H. G. Bell.

3. Paid sixty cents, for thirty, in a series of years, to be preserved.<sup>1</sup> Wrote. Am considerably languid with the relaxing season. Wrote a large addition to a Fast sermon on Jer. xxix: 12, 13. Wrote, by divine favor, with a good degree of correctness and rapidity.

4. Fast. Meetings well attended. Afternoon Mr. Wood<sup>2</sup> attended with us and made the last prayer. Preached on Jer. xxix: 12, 13. A part of the people were off playing ball, according to their usual practice here. At evening rode a distance and preached to a good number on John iv: 29. Am very much fatigued. The afternoon exercise was very long. Read.

5. Am quite languid and feeble. Worked a little, piling wood. Walked out. Read newspapers. The Catholic controversy in New York is conducted almost with vulgarity. I think the Catholics will get the advantage.

6. Wrote to Clapp & Benton, of Hartford, and sent them \$10. Wrote to my brother Francis. I feel very anxious about him in his feeble state. Had a new coat and pantaloons made. They are done better than I expected.

7. Pleasant and dry. Full meetings. Preached written sermons on 1 Peter i: 11, and Prov. i: 31. United with Uncle Le Baron in administering the sacrament. At evening preached on 1 Thess. iv: 8. The meeting thin. Much fatigued.

8. A severe storm of wind and rain all day. Read Mr. Webster's most noble speech on nullification.<sup>3</sup> Read the *History of Mary Queen of Scots*. I think she is fully vindicated from the aspersions that have been cast upon her character.<sup>4</sup>

9. The storm yesterday did some damage in our harbor. Walked out. Wrote to my brother Ammi. Visited with Mr. and Mrs. Crosby. Read in *Life and Times of George IV*.<sup>5</sup> Traded, \$1.

10. Read the Bible. Worked at my wood. Walked and visited. Attended the evening meeting. Preached on 1 Cor. xvi: 22. I am considerably languid.

11. Wrote in an album. Read the Bible. Walked out and visited. Rode to Bedford. Good riding. Paid for wine, \$1.25; a psalm book, seventy-five cents; other things, \$1.38. Cold winds. Visited.

12. Removed back to my own chamber. Read the Bible. Worked a good deal at my wood. Wrote. I think I get some strength by muscular labor. Read.

13. Rode in the forenoon to Rochester to exchange with Mr. Bigelow.

<sup>1</sup> That is, preserved as coins.

<sup>2</sup> This may have been Rev. Elijah Wood, before mentioned, who was traveling as a public lecturer.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Webster's great speech against Hayne was given in 1830, but this was his luminous argument on the relation of the States to the Federal Government, and *vice versa*, made in harmony with Gen. Jackson's

action in putting down the South Carolina nullification.

<sup>4</sup> A good many years have passed since Dr. Robbins wrote that sentence, but the subject of Mary Queen of Scots and Elizabeth of England is still open for debate.

<sup>5</sup> George Croly's *Life and Times of George IV*. 1831. In the Harper's Family Library series of publications.

Visited families. Got some account of the family history of the Haskells.<sup>1</sup> Spent the most of the afternoon with the aged Esq. Holmes. He has a great knowledge of the history of this town. Quite cold.

14. Mr. Bigelow rode to Mattapoisett, and returned in the evening. Preached on 1 Cor. i: 23, and Heb. vii: 25. This congregation, I think, is not so large as mine. At the evening meeting preached on Matt. xv: 22, etc.

15. Made calls. Rode home in the stage. Took some cold. The air is very chilly. Paid a tailor's bill, \$10.25. Had company. Attended the Bible class. Am quite unwell.

16. Read *Life of George IV.* A pretty poor life. Am very languid. Wrote. Wrote to H. Howe & Co., New Haven. Worked, getting in and piling my wood. At evening walked out.

17. Walked out. Received a letter from Joseph Benton, of Hartford. Read. Am much affected with my cold. Wet. The evening meeting thin. Baptized a child.

18. Rode to Wareham and back. Purchased books and pamphlets of Mrs. Everett.<sup>2</sup> Her collection was less valuable than I expected. Paid for books, \$2.62; pamphlets, \$3.68. Called on Mr. Nott.<sup>3</sup> Warm and pleasant.

19. Wrote. Read in the Catholic letters of New York.<sup>4</sup> Dined out. Visited the sick and others. My cousin Eliza Le Baron returned home from Enfield. My brother continues quite feeble. A Mr. Porter, a minister from the Vineyard,<sup>5</sup> came here and tarried.

20. Rode to Bedford and procured two boxes, brought in a vessel from Hartford. My *Encyclopædia* is well bound, and makes an important addition to my library. The volumes are not quite as large as I expected. Paid for freight, seventy-five cents. Dry and dusty. Put up my books. Visited a sick woman. Wrote.

21. Expounded on Matt. viii, and preached on Prov. viii: 4. Preached at the evening meeting on Matt. x: 32. Our Sabbath-school commenced with favorable prospects. Uncle Le Baron has the superintendence.<sup>6</sup> Gave for the library, \$1. Am much fatigued. Was up late.

22. Looked at a show of a great caravan of wild animals, mostly from

<sup>1</sup> Doubtless he was trying to discover whether there was any connection between them and his good friends at East Windsor of that name.

<sup>2</sup> Widow of Noble Everett. Her husband died in 1819.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott, Jr.

<sup>4</sup> The discussion between Drs. Breckinridge and Hughes, already noticed.

<sup>5</sup> The churches at the Vineyard were those of Chilmark, Tisbury, and Edgartown. Many ministers preached for a time at the

Vineyard. This, without much doubt, was Rev. Reuben Porter, who was a student for a time in Dartmouth College, and studied theology with Dr. Nathan Perkins. He was a native of West Hartford, Ct. His ministry was chiefly in New Hampshire, but he preached both in Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard.

<sup>6</sup> The senior pastor, then eighty-five years old. That was the old style of doing things, when there was more ministerial authority than now.

Asia. The people of this place seemed to be all collected.<sup>1</sup> At evening had a Bible class in my chamber. It was thin; by means, I believe, of the public day.

23. Wrote to Josiah Booth, of Stratford, and to Joseph Benton, of Hartford. Read in my *Encyclopædia*. Wet and cold. Vegetation advances but little.

24. Worked at my books. They have been in a deranged state for some years.<sup>2</sup> Attended the evening meeting. Visited a sick child.

25. We had a hard frost. Visited a school. Worked at my books. Some of them are lost. At evening married Mr. N. Freeman. They came here and we had a pleasant wedding.<sup>3</sup>

26. Walked and visited. We have an unusual number of sick persons. On the 24th sent a ten dollar bill (\$10) to Joseph Benton, of Hartford, my book-binder. Called on Uncle Le Baron. Was out late.

27. Was carried in a boat across the harbor, and visited families on the hither Neck.<sup>4</sup> Walked home. Not greatly fatigued. Visited a sick child.

28. Preached a double sermon on Acts xiii: 2. Full meeting. Cool. At the evening meeting preached on Gen. vii: 16. Full and attentive. Quite tired.

29. Wrote. Received of Capt. Freeman, \$55. He has indorsed \$25 on a note he holds against me, and he paid me \$30, April 1st. Gave him a receipt of \$110. Visited. Rode out with Mrs. Crosby. Attended the Bible class.

30. Visited a sick man and an afflicted family. Rode in my sulky to Bedford. Purchased some books and left them with the binder. Returned to Fairhaven and met with the Association. At evening Mr. Seabury<sup>5</sup> preached. Quite warm and dusty. Saw peach-blossoms.

#### MAY.

1. The Association had a good session. Left with Mr. Gould, \$50, to be paid to the treasurer of the Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society, to be here today. Could not remain to attend that meeting. The Association closed at twelve o'clock. Rode home and attended the affecting funeral of a promising child. Much fatigued. At evening attended the quarterly meeting of the Temperance Society.

2. Walked out. Looked at a new ship, which was well launched, towards evening. Rode out and visited. At evening preached in an out neighborhood on Luke xix: 10. Meeting well attended.

3. Yesterday received a letter from my brother Francis. He is still feeble, but better than he has been. Began a sermon on John i: 29. I write

<sup>1</sup> Menageries, not so common then as now, though they were then far more common than in the earlier years.

<sup>2</sup> He had the major part of them now at Mattapoisett, but many were yet at East Windsor. His library was a pleasure to him, but also a burden.

<sup>3</sup> Nathaniel Freeman and Sophia A. Doty were the persons married.

<sup>4</sup> There were two necks, as already suggested—the points of land running out on both sides of the Mattapoisett harbor.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Pardon G. Seabury, of New Bedford, pastor of old church revived.

pretty slow. Rode out with Mrs. Crosby. Quite cool. Walked out and visited.

4. Wrote on my sermon. The nature of Christ's purchase is a critical subject. Received a letter from J. Benton, of Hartford. Read. Walked out.

5. Finished in the morning my sermon on John i: 29. But the day was wet and I did not preach it. Preached a double sermon on Ex. xx: 5, 6. Thin meeting. Had no evening meeting. Walked out. We had but little rain. The ground is dry. Yesterday finished sowing my asparagus bed.<sup>1</sup>

6. Worked at my books, inserting my name.<sup>2</sup> My last impression by Mr. Reed was not as good as a former one. Rode out. At evening attended the monthly concert. Visited a man badly hurt in the ship-yard.

7. Visited the sick man. He is badly broken. Worked at my books. They have been much neglected since I left East Windsor. Dined out. Walked and visited.

8. Visited the sick and a school. Read. Mr. Barrows,<sup>3</sup> our Andover student, spent some time with me. Attended the evening meeting. Thin, on account of the appearance of a shower. We had vivid lightning, but very little rain. I fear we shall have a dry season.

9. Worked at my library. Had assistance. Visited. Went into a ship-yard. We have clear and pleasant weather, but cool. Walked out. Seldom spend an evening at home.

10. My work at my books holds on. On the 7th received of my collector, \$13. Read. Visited the sick. The man who was very much hurt appears to be better. Visited.

11. Considerably warm, but we have cold winds from the water, which retard vegetation. Put up my books. Read. There seems to be a great dearth of divine influences through our country.

12. Preached with notes on Matt. vii: 26, and the sermon finished last Sabbath on John i: 29. Attended a third meeting at Tripp's Mills and preached on Luke xix: 10. Much fatigued. Our evening meeting was attended by Mr. Barrows.

13. Am very languid. Had some work done for me. Read. Yesterday saw apple-tree blossoms; some trees out full. Attended the Bible class. Pretty thin. My people are very stupid.<sup>4</sup>

14. Wrote a piece for the newspaper. Rode with company to New Bedford. My brother is expected there, but has not arrived. Purchased some books and directed them to be sent to Hartford for binding. Paid

<sup>1</sup> He cultivates an asparagus bed at Mattapoisett, as he had done through all the years of his settlement at East Windsor.

<sup>2</sup> The printed card or label which he pasted into his books.

<sup>3</sup> This was Rev. Homer Barrows (a native of Wareham, near at hand), who was graduated at Amherst College in 1831, and at An-

dover Seminary, 1834, and settled in several places. He died in Andover, 1881. He was assisted from the Everest fund.

<sup>4</sup> Here we have the old adjective which Dr. Robbins was wont to use very frequently in the earlier years of his ministry, by which he meant, not intellectually weak, but spiritually dull.

towards them, \$10. A great blowth on the fruit-trees. Visited an afflicted family.

15. Rainy. Very grateful to the earth. Wrote. Had a tailoress to work for me. Read. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. We are in a pretty low state.

16. It rained moderately through the day. Worked, putting up my books. Read. Wrote to my brother Ammi, and to Mr. Battell.

17. Read the Bible. Wrote to Joseph Benton, and to Hutchinson & Driver, Hartford, and inclosed \$7 for Mr. Benton. Walked a distance and visited. I am apprehensive of a trial in the church.

18. Began a sermon, and wrote attentively, on 2 Thess. ii: 16. At noon Esq. Robbins<sup>1</sup> came here from Plymouth, with an earnest desire that I would go there and spend the Sabbath. I consulted Uncle Le Baron and some others, and concluded to go. Rode with him.<sup>2</sup> Quite warm. A great blowth is falling from the fruit-trees.

19. A very warm day. Took off my flannel. Mr. Freeman<sup>3</sup> is dismissed, and preached his farewell sermon last Sabbath. Preached on John i: 29, and Ps. cxxxvii: 1. Much oppressed with the heat. This congregation is not larger than mine. Said considerable to them relative to their trying situation. At evening had a meeting and preached a sermon on Ps. cvi: 23. Much fatigued. Kept at Esq. Robbins's.

20. Cooler and wet. Called on Dr. Kendall,<sup>4</sup> Dr. Taylor,<sup>5</sup> and others. Resumed my flannel. Attended some time in the Supreme Court; Judge Wilde.<sup>6</sup> Took tea at Mr. Thomas's.<sup>7</sup> This town is much improving.

21. Wet and rainy. Saw some persons of the Robinson Society.<sup>8</sup> I think there is little prospect of a union between them and the Third Church. Rode out to Mr. Jackson's.<sup>9</sup> There is much improvement in the north part of the town. There are two very fine rope-walks here. Visited. At evening attended a serious and interesting church meeting. Gave them my best advice. Mr. Freeman was with us, but would take no part. Was out late.

22. Took the stage early and rode home. Mr. Robbins gave me \$3 for stage fare, and I paid for that, \$1.50. Quite warm. Am much fatigued.

<sup>1</sup> Josiah Robbins, Esq., chosen deacon of the Third Church in Plymouth in 1831.

<sup>2</sup> Plymouth, in a straight line, was a little more than twenty miles from Mattapoisett.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Frederick Freeman, of whose troubles with his parish we have previously heard. He was a native of Sandwich, and had been settled in the Third Church of Plymouth since 1824.

<sup>4</sup> James Kendall, D. D., pastor of First Church, Plymouth, since 1800.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Taylor, physician.

<sup>6</sup> Samuel Sumner Wilde, LL. D., born in Taunton, Mass., 1771, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1789, became an eminent

jurist. He was Judge of the Massachusetts Superior Court, 1815-1850. He died in Boston, 1855. He was a member of the Hartford Convention.

<sup>7</sup> John B. Thomas, of Plymouth, married Dr. Robbins's cousin, Mary Howland Le Baron, daughter of his Uncle Isaac. She was born in 1786.

<sup>8</sup> The new society that broke away from the Third Church and society because of dissatisfaction with Rev. Mr. Freeman.

<sup>9</sup> Thomas Jackson, in 1805, married, for his second wife, Sarah Le Baron, daughter of William Le Baron, of Fairhaven, another cousin of Dr. Robbins.

Uncle Le Baron conducted the meetings here last Sabbath. Attended the evening meeting.

23. Wrote. Attended the launching of the finest ship, probably, that was ever built here. It did not float actively. Read. Visited. Attended the Bible class. Pretty thin.

24. Yesterday left off my flannel. Wrote to William H. Stowell, of Bedford, in answer to a letter received from him on the 17th. Read. Walked a distance and visited. We have an unpleasant case in the church.

25. Read. Wrote and finished the sermon begun last Saturday on 2 Thess. ii: 16. I write slow. Walked out and visited the sick. Cold, and east wind.

26. Wet and rainy. Expounded on Matt. ix, and preached the sermon written yesterday. Thin meeting. At evening preached on 2 Sam. vii: 27. Fatigued with speaking. Some of our meetings lately have been thin.

27. Was told yesterday that my brother had arrived at Bedford. Wrote to F. L. Alden. Walked out and visited. Preparing for my journey. Wrote. Towards evening my brother came here. He is feeble, but better than he has been. Had a good Bible class.

28. Mr. Crosby rode with me early to Bedford. Took the stage and rode to Boston.<sup>1</sup> Called at Mr. Fairchild's. Carried Wyllys papers to Mrs. Adams.<sup>2</sup> Very kindly entertained at Mr. Weld's. Went with him in the evening and attended the annual meeting of the Unitarian Association. It appeared much better than it did last year. Much fatigued. Warm. Vegetation appears finely.

29. Attended the annual meeting of the Pastoral Association. It was interesting. Saw many friends and acquaintance. Attended the semi-annual meeting of the Antiquarian Society.<sup>3</sup> Highly respectable. Dined, with most of the members, at Gov. Winthrop's.<sup>4</sup> A splendid dinner. Wet. The Common here has been much improved and is very beautiful. Attended the annual meeting of the Convention of the Clergy. They act to a considerable extent by party.<sup>5</sup> Did some errands. Attended in the evening the meeting of the Tract Society. Had some good speeches. Went home with Mr. Fairchild.

30. Heard a part of a public discussion on the subject of African

<sup>1</sup> To attend the anniversaries, this being the last week in May.

<sup>2</sup> The same journey, with the same object, as the year before (see note, May 29, 1832).

<sup>3</sup> The meeting was held in Boston for convenience, though the home of the society is in Worcester.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. Thomas Lindall Winthrop, LL. D., not Governor, but Lieut.-Governor of Massachusetts, father of Hon. Robert C. Winthrop. Hon. Thomas L. Winthrop was born in New London, Ct., March 6, 1760; graduated at

Harvard College, 1784, and died in Boston Feb. 22, 1841. At the time mentioned in the diary he was President of the American Antiquarian Society. Though not Governor (as the diary calls him), he was descended from illustrious governors of the early New England generations—John Winthrop, Sr., of Massachusetts, and John Winthrop, Jr., of Connecticut.

<sup>5</sup> The Convention embraces both the Trinitarian and Unitarian Congregational ministers.



Colonization; not very able. Heard the public Convention sermon, by Dr. Osgood.<sup>1</sup> Pretty good. Dined, by invitation, with the clergy. Few present except Unitarians. Find but little time to call on friends. Saw Eber L. Clark and my niece, his wife. At evening attended a very interesting meeting of the Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society. They had a large Hindoo idol. After ten o'clock walked to Dr. Robbins's,<sup>2</sup> at Roxbury. Contributions, \$1.25. Book, fifty cents.

31. Saw my cousin S. P. Robbins,<sup>3</sup> of Marietta; a promising young man, now residing at Andover. My cousin Peter rode with me to Cambridge. Saw his two sons; both soon to become preachers, and, I fear, Unitarians.<sup>4</sup> Talked plainly with them. Warm. Treated kindly. Paid for books, mostly old, \$35. Made several calls on friends. Am fatigued with labors and want of sleep.

JUNE.

1. Walked early with Mr. Weld, and took an extensive view of the town on the margin of the water. Great improvements are making. Took the stage and rode to Fairhaven; found Mr. Crosby's wagon and rode home. Have had, by divine favor, a prosperous journey. Found my brother at Fairhaven. Much fatigued. An evening meeting of a few brethren was held here.

2. My brother came from Fairhaven last evening and was with us. He preached the preparatory lecture on Thursday. Preached with notes on John xvi: 33, and a sermon on Gen. v: 24. United with Mr. Le Baron in the administration of the sacrament. At evening preached on John vi: 48. The evening was wet and the meeting thin.

3. Received a letter from brother Ammi, one from sister Battell, and one from Dea. Churchill,<sup>5</sup> of Plymouth. Read newspapers. Visited with my brother and relatives. At evening had an interesting monthly concert; gave some account of the public meetings at Boston. My brother is feeble, but I hope convalescing.

4. Wrote to Mr. Thomas Burnham,<sup>6</sup> and to Crocker & Brewster,<sup>7</sup> of Boston. Walked out. Dined out with my brother and wife, and others. Wrote eight days' diary. Read. Vegetation is rapid.

5. Wrote to Esq. Robbins, and to Dea. Churchill, of Plymouth. Rode out. A number of new houses are building here. Visited. Read. Had a good evening meeting.

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Osgood, D. D., of Springfield.

<sup>2</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Rev. Samuel Prince Robbins, whose ordination sermon Dr. Robbins had preached at Marietta, O., in 1805. This son was graduated at Ohio University, 1830, and at Andover Seminary, 1835. He became a foreign missionary.

<sup>4</sup> Chandler and Samuel Dowse Robbins, before mentioned.

<sup>5</sup> Dea. Solomon Churchill.

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Burnham, at the antiquarian bookstore, 58 Cornhill; father of the present Thomas O. H. P. Burnham in the same business.

<sup>7</sup> Crocker & Brewster had, at that time, one of the chief bookstores and publishing houses in Boston, and it is a remarkable circumstance that both these men are still alive, and near ninety.

6. Received of my collector, \$23. Quite cool. Read. Walked out and visited. The air is quite cool. Wrote.

7. Read authorities on the doctrine of the Trinity. Wrote on the same subject. There are difficulties on the passage of 1 John v: 7, but I believe it is genuine.<sup>1</sup> Wrote to my sister Battell. Yesterday sent \$15 to Boston, by Mr. Briggs, for books and other things. At evening walked out. Had fire in my chamber.

8. Had a steady fire through the day. Wrote a sermon on Job viii: 13. I have not done this before in a single day for a good while. I have been too negligent.<sup>2</sup> Received a present of a valuable box from young Elizabeth Barstow. I write less accurately than I have done.

9. Preached with old notes on Ps. iv: 2, and the sermon written yesterday. We have a cold, dry wind. The roads quite dusty. Rode to Tripp's Mills and preached at a third meeting on Matt. xx: 30-34. Tarried in that neighborhood. Very tired.

10. This morning there was a little frost. Walked and made calls. Visited a school; well instructed. Afternoon rode home. The evening showery, and the Bible class was thin.

11. Wrote. Made calls. Worked some at my books. At evening rode and visited Dea. Hammond. He is hard sick.

12. Rode to Bedford. Saw my brother. He returned yesterday from Nantucket and is pretty feeble. The morning cold. Found at Bedford a large glass and a box of books which I purchased at Boston. Brought the books home. They make a valuable addition to my library. Received a letter from Thomas Burnham, of Boston. Had the evening meeting at this house.

13. Wrote to brother Ammi. Received of Capt. Freeman, \$40. Received a letter from Dea. Churchill, of Plymouth. Walked out. Read. My brother and wife came here. Had returns from Boston. A messenger has paid for me there, \$10 towards my looking-glass, and \$3.75 for books. Went into the ship-yards with my brother. Rode in the evening and visited Dea. Hammond.<sup>3</sup> He is still hard sick.

14. Last night we had a hard thunder-shower. Worked at my books. Received a letter from Dea. Churchill, of Plymouth, with nine volumes of

<sup>1</sup> Clergymen generally at that time would probably have said the same. But in the late revision the words, "For there are three that bear record in heaven," etc., are left out, and the sixth verse, immediately preceding, is divided into two parts, to keep the numbering of verses in the chapter the same. The revisers, however, would not admit that the doctrine taught in this verse is not a Bible doctrine, but the Biblical writers are not wont to put their truths into such systematic shapes. The very form of language in the verse is suspicious, because it is

set and fixed as if to secure a technical end, which is not the Scriptural fashion.

<sup>2</sup> That is, in writing so rapidly. A man can write rapidly in a wakeful condition of mind, and when his subject has been thoroughly considered, and yet write well. But in general rapid writing is apt to be negligent writing.

<sup>3</sup> Dea. Amittai B. Hammond, chosen to his office in 1825. The senior deacon at that time was Nathan Cannon, chosen in 1821, and the junior deacon was Nathaniel A. Crosby, chosen in 1829.

the Boston *Recorder* newspapers, which he has procured for me. Wrote to him. Rode with my brother to the Neck and visited.

15. Sent a volume to Mr. J. Thomas,<sup>1</sup> of Plymouth, with a letter to Dea. Churchill,<sup>2</sup> inclosing \$3. Warm. Wrote a sermon on Luke ix: 30, 31.

16. Expounded on Matt. x: 1-33, and preached the sermon written yesterday. The subject of the transfiguration is very interesting. At evening preached on Rom. vii: 25. Much fatigued. In the evening my brother came here from Fairhaven.

17. Rode to Bedford and back with my brother, and brought the glass lately sent from Boston. An old French glass and a very fine one. The plate is 37 1-2 inches by 25, and very thick. It cost at Boston, \$15.<sup>3</sup> At Capt. Gibbs's;<sup>4</sup> had green peas at dinner. Warm. A new ship was launched here and went well. Had a good Bible class.

18. My brother went to Bedford. Had company. Worked at my library. Wrote. Another ship was launched here successfully. All whalers.

19. Read a long, tedious manuscript on Universalism. Looked over the nine volumes of the *Recorder* lately procured. They are well preserved. Walked and visited. Attended the evening meeting.

20. Walked and visited all day. Dea. Hammond is convalescing. Visited a school. Received a letter from Hutchinson & Driver, Hartford. In the evening read late.

21. Added to my coins, to the cost of \$6. Read. The country of Syria seems likely to become subject to Egypt.<sup>5</sup> Read old authors on the doctrine of the Trinity.

22. Read Bishop Pearson on the Creed.<sup>6</sup> Hoped to have written a sermon today, but find myself otherwise occupied. Walked and visited. We have several sick persons.

23. Preached with notes on 1 Peter i: 9, and a sermon on Matt. vi: 24. In the morning attended the Sabbath-school. Uncle Le Baron does much good in it. Quite warm. Rode to Randall neighborhood and had a good meeting. Preached on Matt. x: 32, 33. Tarried out.

24. Visited families and a school. This neighborhood has been too much neglected. Rode home. Visited with cousins; Mrs. Robbins and Mrs. Jackson, of Plymouth, are here. At evening had a good Bible class. Was out late. Rev. Mr. Porter<sup>7</sup> came here and tarried over night.

25. Rainy the most of the day and quite cold. Had a steady fire. Worked, putting papers with my name in books. At evening walked out. Read late.

<sup>1</sup> John B. Thomas.

<sup>2</sup> Dea. Solomon Churchill.

<sup>3</sup> If Dr. Robbins were a married man such a purchase would have seemed altogether natural.

<sup>4</sup> Capt. Anselm Gibbs.

<sup>5</sup> May 6, 1833, the European powers intervened to stop the war between Russia and

Turkey and bring matters to a general adjustment, but the final settlement was not reached at that time.

<sup>6</sup> John Pearson, 1612-1686, a learned English bishop, who wrote *Exposition of the Creed*, published, 1650.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Reuben Porter, mentioned in a previous note.

26. On the 23d received a letter from Rev. Mr. Mason,<sup>1</sup> of Nantucket, requesting me to visit him and his people. Visited. My cousin Mary Hammond<sup>2</sup> is quite low. Sent off my Aunt Gould's tombstones for Branford,<sup>3</sup> by way of New York. Wrote to Dea. Churchill, of Plymouth, and sent him \$15 for the *Recorder* newspapers. Wrote. Walked a distance; visited Dea. Hammond, still quite ill, and preached in the evening on John vi: 28, 29. Had a good number. On my return, late, I found Mr. Frost, the temperance agent, here. Received a letter from Esq. Robbins,<sup>4</sup> of Plymouth.

27. Cold and showery. Have fire in my chamber. Walked with Mr. Frost. Paid Dea. Thomson, at the center of the town, \$16 for my Aunt Gould's tombstones. Worked some at my books. Had company. At evening we had a full temperance meeting. Mr. Frost delivered a very excellent address, and above fifty members were added to the society.

28. Rode a distance and visited a young woman in consumption and a man near gone with intemperance. Visited other sick persons and a school. My brother came, having been at Boston. He continues feeble. Read late.

29. Wrote. Considerably occupied with my brother. He rides and exercises a good deal. Read. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Concluded to have a meeting on Independence Day. Called on Mr. Wood.<sup>5</sup>

30. Warm. Expounded on Matt. x: 34 to xi: 15, and preached on Heb. xii: 14. My brother took no part in the service. Had a full evening meeting and preached on John xx: 27, last clause. Tired and sat up late.

## JULY.

1. Rode with my brother to Fairhaven and New Bedford. Am quite languid. People are beginning their haying. At evening attended the monthly concert. My brother was with me and spoke very well.

2. Am quite languid and do but little. Read. I fear my brother is not improving much in health. Preparing for Independence.<sup>6</sup> Read late.

3. Wrote an addition to my sermon in behalf of the Colonization Society,<sup>7</sup> and an address for our Sabbath-schools. Read. Walked out and

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Stephen Mason was a pastor at Nantucket, 1830-1835. He was a native of Litchfield, Ct.; born, 1788; a graduate of Williams College, 1812, and of Andover Seminary, 1815. He preached in many places besides Nantucket, but his closing years were spent at Marshall, Mich., where he died, Nov. 8, 1870, eighty-two years old.

<sup>2</sup> Abraham Hammatt (Hammond) married Priscilla Le Baron in 1774. This Mary Hammond is probably of that kindred.

<sup>3</sup> They were to be set up not in Manchester, Vt., where her married life had been passed, but in her native town of Branford, where Rev. Philemon Robbins, her father, was so long the minister.

<sup>4</sup> Dea. Josiah Robbins.

<sup>5</sup> Possibly Rev. Francis Wood, who, from 1823 to 1826, had been settled at Barrington, R. I.

<sup>6</sup> At the time of the opening of this diary, in the closing years of the last century, comparatively little attention was paid to the Fourth of July in the country towns of New England. The habit of observing the day grew more general from the beginning of this century.

<sup>7</sup> We have already noticed the custom of making the Fourth the occasion of aiding the Colonization Society. It had been the custom in Connecticut and was so here. Collections were taken sometimes on the day itself, and sometimes on the following Sabbath.

visited. Dined at my cousin Eliza's.<sup>1</sup> Our evening meeting prevented by rain.

4. The day very fine. We had a good meeting in the Baptist meeting-house; well attended. I preached on Ps. lxxviii: 31, and made an address to the two Sabbath-schools. About a hundred and twenty children were present. Mr. Wood and my brother prayed. Mr. Le Baron was with us. Esq. Robbins, of Plymouth, and his wife came here. I rode with him and inspected the water-power near us. I hope it may be turned to some good account. Visited. Got much fatigued.

5. Wrote to my cousin P. G. Robbins, of Roxbury, in answer to a letter received from him on the 3d. My brother<sup>2</sup> arranged newspapers for me. He is at a loss what to do. I have considerable solicitude about Esq. Robbins's business, which is kept secret. We have in the family good sound apples.

6. Received three *Recorder* papers from Dea. Churchill, so that there is now but one missing in eight years. My brother and wife left here for Bedford, expecting to set out for home next Monday. His case appears discouraging; I pray God to be his helper. Quite warm. The third day of fine hay weather. Rode out and visited. Wrote. The President<sup>3</sup> has set out on his return, unable to continue his journey from ill health.

7. The morning rainy; meetings rather thin. Preached a double sermon on Ps. xiv: 2, 3. Had a collection for the Colonization Society and got but \$11.30. Last year we had \$13. It was not sufficiently known. Had the third meeting at the meeting-house at six o'clock, and preached on 1 Cor. ii: 1-5. The air warm and faint. Quite tired.

8. On the 6th received a letter from the aged Esq. Holmes of this town. Rode out with Mrs. Crosby. Very warm. Am very languid. Wrote. At evening attended the Bible class.

9. Read. Warm and showery. We had a good deal of rain. Wrote to Mr. Phineas Foot,<sup>4</sup> of Branford, Mr. Mason,<sup>5</sup> of Nantucket, and Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven. Read in Rollin's *Roman History*.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. William Le Baron.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Francis Le Baron Robbins.

<sup>3</sup> From the second volume of James Parton's *Life of Andrew Jackson* we take the following passage: "The President early in June (1833), accompanied by Mr. Van Buren, Gov. Cass, Mr. Woodbury, Major Donelson, Mr. Earl, and others, began that famous tour which enabled the North to express its detestation of nullification, and its approval of the President's recent action. Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Newark, Elizabeth, Boston, Salem, Concord, Newport, Providence, each received the President with every demonstration of regard which ingenuity could devise. Every one in the United States knows how these things are done. . . . At Boston the President, overcome by fatigue,

had a dangerous attack of his malady, bleeding at the lungs, which confined him to his room for several days. At that point he suddenly turned his course homeward, visiting Providence and Newport, and steaming by New York without stopping, and making the best of his way to the seat of government."

<sup>4</sup> Doubtless concerning the placing of the stones for his aunt, Mrs. William Gould, which he had shipped by way of New York. His grandmother, Mrs. Philemon Robbins, was Hafnah Foot, and Phineas Foot was probably of the kindred.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Stephen Mason.

<sup>6</sup> That is, in that part of *Rollin's Ancient History* pertaining to the Roman Empire. His work embraces many ancient nations.

10. Rode a distance and visited sick persons. Fine hay weather, but this vicinity produces but little grass. Wrote to Messrs. D. Appleton & Co., New York. I hope to be able to procure a polyglot Bible. Walked out. Am affected with a pain in my jaw.<sup>1</sup> Received of my collector, \$40. Attended the evening meeting with Uncle Le Baron.

11. Read. A prospect of peace in the east of Europe. I think the Pasha of Egypt becomes a more powerful monarch than the Sultan. The Turkish Empire seems to be hastening to its close. Perhaps the Mahometan dominion will be continued in Egypt.<sup>2</sup> Received a letter from Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven. Paid a merchant, \$3.27. Wrote.

12. Wrote to my sister Battell. Very warm. Am almost too languid to read. Have taken lately too little exercise. Walked out.

13. Walked and made calls. Read. Rode to Fairhaven to make an exchange. Crossed the ferry to Bedford and returned. A fine steamboat for the ferry is soon to run. Looked at its machinery, etc. Warm and very fine weather. Mr. Gould went to Mattapoisett.

14. Preached on Job viii: 13, and Luke ix: 30, 31. This society, I think, is improving. Very warm. Attended a third meeting and preached without notes on John viii: 29. Very languid and much fatigued. Kept at Capt. Gibbs's.<sup>3</sup>

15. Am quite feeble. Crossed the ferry to Bedford and returned. Paid W. Howe for books and binding, \$7.70. His binding is quite satisfactory. Made calls with Mr. Gould. Had to pay \$1.25 for a carriage and boy to bring me home. Studied the lesson and attended in the evening the Bible class. Tarried out.

16. Rode in the stage to Plymouth. Saw Esq. Robbins. Made calls. People are beginning their harvest. At evening attended, with Mr. Robbins, a church conference and preached on John viii: 29. The prospects of this society, I think, are improving. Saw Mr. Washburn,<sup>4</sup> a valuable young man preaching with them. Tarried at Mr. Russell's. Was up late.

17. Was out early, and went with Esq. Robbins to his rope-walk. I hope he will be able to do something at Mattapoisett. Saw Mr. Kendall. Last evening saw my cousin W. Hammatt,<sup>5</sup> now residing at Howland,<sup>6</sup> Me. Took the stage and rode home. The dust very severe. Much fatigued. Read. The evening meeting at this house.

<sup>1</sup> The complaint from which he suffered greatly in early life.

<sup>2</sup> These sentences were written more than fifty years ago, but the checkered and changing condition of that whole Turkish and Egyptian history still continues.

<sup>3</sup> Capt. Anselm Gibbs, who married Lucy Le Baron.

<sup>4</sup> This must have been Rev. Samuel Washburn, who had been graduated the year before (1832) at Andover Theological Seminary.

He was afterwards agent of the American Sunday-School Union, and pastor of Congregational and Presbyterian churches. He died in New York city, 1853.

<sup>5</sup> William Hammatt (Hammond), whose mother was Priscilla Le Baron.

<sup>6</sup> This William Hammatt's grandfather, Abraham, married Consider Howland, and there can be little doubt from the coincidence of name that Howland, Me., received its name from this Howland family.

18. Wrote to Mr. Fowler,<sup>1</sup> of Fall River. Received a letter from my brother Ammi, and one from D. Appleton & Co., New York. Read. Dined out. The hay here is mostly in; a good crop, and in the best order. Wrote.

19. Walked out. My cousin, Mrs. Mary Hammond,<sup>2</sup> long very feeble, died suddenly this morning. Esq. Robbins, of Plymouth, and Mr. Washburn, their preacher, came here and made some stay. I earnestly hope Mr. R. may establish a cordage manufactory here. Mr. W. appears to be a valuable man. Visited the sick and afflicted. At evening attended a temperance meeting. We have 280 members. I do but little business. Warm.

20. Wrote to F. L. Alden, and sent a volume of my *Universal Magazine* to the printer. Read. Visited a sick man very low. Late in the evening Mr. Farnsworth,<sup>3</sup> agent of the American Education Society, came here and tarried. Was up late.

21. In the morning attended the funeral of Mrs. Hammond. Preached on Job xvi: 22, a funeral discourse, and on John iv: 29. The meeting-house very full. Very warm and dusty. Had a third meeting at Pine Islands, and preached on John viii: 29. Mr. Farnsworth went in the morning to Fairhaven, and returned and preached here in the evening in behalf of the American Education Society. Much fatigued.

22. The heat severe and oppressive. Am very languid. Troubled with a toothache. Mr. Farnsworth continued here. Last evening and this morning visited the sick man, dying with intemperance and Southern fever. Could do but little. Read expositors. At evening had a good Bible class. Paid for freight, seventy cents.

23. Attended the funeral of the man deceased yesterday. The heat continues and the ground is very dry. People are generally harvesting. Mr. Farnsworth left us.<sup>4</sup> Read the Bible. At evening rode out and visited Dea. Hammond. He gets better, but is feeble.

24. Wrote to Esq. Robbins, of Plymouth. Afternoon and evening very warm. Can do but little. Read the Bible. Walked out. The evening meeting was short. The ground is parched.

25. We have some hot nights. Walked and visited. We have a number of people in feeble health. My tooth is troublesome, with a steady, moderate pain. Visited Uncle Le Baron. Wrote to brother Francis.

26. Had my tooth extracted; entirely sound to appearance, probably

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Orin Fowler, a native of Lebanon, Ct., graduate of Yale College, 1815, afterwards Member of Congress from Massachusetts. He was settled in Fall River in 1831. He was in Congress from 1849 to his death, in Washington, D. C., Sept. 3, 1852.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Mary Hammond, born Aug. 27, 1778, was the daughter of William and Sarah (Churchill) Le Baron. She married Mr. Wyatt Hammond, of Rochester, March 12, 1810, and died, as it appears by the diary, July 19, 1833.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. James Delah Farnsworth, a graduate of Harvard College, 1818. He was a native of Groton, and was acting as agent for the American Education Society in Plymouth County.

<sup>4</sup> This was Tuesday. It was customary then for the traveling agents of benevolent societies to live during the week in the families of ministers. They could not afford to return from distant places to Boston every week, and so were quartered, generally, with the ministers' families.

some disease at the root. Visited sick persons. Wrote. Visited. At evening went with several members of the church to Dea. Hammond's,<sup>1</sup> and settled, I hope judiciously, a difficulty of nearly a year's standing. It has given me much anxiety.

27. Am quite feeble. Prepared for my ride. Set out to go to Fall River to exchange. Met Mr. Fowler. On the way was taken sick with a cholera-morbus, and stopped at a private house and could proceed no further. Sent to the village, three miles, that I was there sick. Kindly taken care of. Very weak and restless.

28. Got a little rest the latter part of the night, but am very weak and diseased. Some gentlemen came for me from Fall River, and I rode with them. Kept at Dr. Durfee's.<sup>2</sup> Attended the usual services, though very weak, and preached on Ps. cxxxvii: 1, and Luke ix: 30, 31. In the afternoon spoke with nearly a natural voice. This is a very fine congregation, with a noble stone meeting-house. Declined attending the third meeting. Kept my bed considerably. Gave Mr. Waddell, where I staid last night, \$1.

29. Looked a little at this flourishing village. Walked with some difficulty to Mr. Fowler's. He returned. He is very active. Rode to Bedford and home. Called on Mr. Holmes. The dust very oppressive. It has been so for several days. Vegetation seems to be stationary. Cool. At six o'clock attended our Bible class. Quite too feeble to do it.

30. Walked out and visited a sick woman, very low. We had a most grateful shower. Read. Can do but little of anything. Am again deprived of the privilege of attending our Association.

31. Am a little better, through divine mercy. Visited the sick. A number here are unwell. Am feeble to walk. Wrote a little. Attended our evening meeting, but did but little. My days are wasting away.<sup>3</sup> God has done much for me.

#### AUGUST.

1. Wrote. Walked out and visited. Preached a preparatory lecture on Ps. lxxviii: 18. A woman was received into the church by letter. Communicated to the church the account of the late settlement of a difficulty. The meeting thinly attended. A good woman, a Baptist, died this afternoon. I think, through divine goodness, my strength increases.

2. Read. Received a good letter from my cousin S. P. Robbins,<sup>4</sup> at Andover. Visited the afflicted and others. Read late. I find I need a good deal of exercise. Received of my collector, \$9.

<sup>1</sup> Dea. Amittai Hammond. We do not understand whether this difficulty was between Dea. Hammond and the church, but probably his house was the place where other parties met to adjust some existing difficulties.

<sup>2</sup> Nathan Durfee's, one of the wealthy and hospitable homes of Fall River, where many

ministers, through a long course of years, were entertained.

<sup>3</sup> He was then nearly fifty-six years old, but he was to live twenty-three years more before his earthly course would be ended.

<sup>4</sup> His second cousin, who was graduated at Andover in 1835, and became a foreign missionary, as before stated.



3. Walked out. Wrote. Attended a funeral with Mr. Wood. Rode and visited a young woman very low in consumption. Attended the evening meeting of the brethren in this house. Received of my collector, \$9. The drought has become very severe.

4. Preached with notes on Luke xxii: 14, 15, and a sermon on Luke xvii: 22. United with Uncle Le Baron in the administration of the sacrament. Very warm and sultry. Made an appointment for a Mr. Haskett to deliver a lecture in the evening on luxury, etc. Had no third meeting. At evening we had a moderate and very grateful rain. Did not go out to the lecture.

5. Wrote to my brother Francis. Walked out. Very warm. Some of the carpenters got overdone with the heat and hard labor. Wrote. Read. Attended the evening concert; pretty thin. We had a light shower.

6. Wrote to my cousin S. P. Robbins. Rode a distance and visited a very poor family where a young man died last night. Got a little wet. Walked and visited several sick families. Read late.

7. Rode and attended a funeral. Preached at the house on Heb. ix: 27. Very hot and the flies severe. Much fatigued. Wrote to Isaac Mansfield,<sup>1</sup> of Boston, and sent him \$12 for the Colonization Society. Added to our collection, seventy cents. Wrote to Hardy Ropes,<sup>2</sup> of Boston, and sent him \$9 for the Education Society. Added to what was collected here July 28th, in my absence, \$1.09. Rode and attended our evening meeting, and preached on Mark xii: 30. Was out late.

8. Rode to Bedford and Fairhaven. Carried a chest with books, etc., for the binder, to go to Hartford. Made calls. Paid for a whip, eighty-eight cents. Am fortunate in procuring a horse for my contemplated journey. Esq. Robbins and wife, from Plymouth, came here and went to Bedford. I am in great hopes he will make an important purchase here for a cordage manufactory. Wrote. At evening visited a woman hard sick.

9. Wet and cold. We get but little rain, but the ground is greatly revived. Wrote to sister Battell, and to Hutchinson & Driver, Hartford. Received a letter from brother Francis. Visited.

10. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Holmes, and to F. L. Alden, of New Bedford. Rode and visited a sick person very low. Read. Esq. Robbins returned to Plymouth. He seems to be likely to procure the water site here. Visited the sick. There are an unusual number with measles and other complaints. Paid for shoeing my hired horse, \$1. Took medicine on account of sick rooms.

11. My birthday. Am unable to devote it as I could wish. Very pleasant and full meetings. Expounded on Matt. xi: 16 to the end, and

<sup>1</sup> Treasurer of the Massachusetts branch of the American Colonization Society. This Isaac Mansfield was of the firm of Isaac Mansfield and Francis R. Bigelow, dry goods, in Liberty Square. There was a Rev. Isaac Mansfield, a native of Marblehead, Mass., who

had been settled in Exeter, N. H., but who died in Boston in 1826. It is not unlikely that he was the father of the Boston merchant of the same name.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Hardy Ropes, Treasurer of the American Education Society, 1830-1845.

preached on 1 Cor. x: 9. Preached at the third meeting on Mark x: 51. I am not as strong for labor as before my ill turn.

12. Visited the sick and others. Dined out. Preparing for my journey. Attended the Bible class early. Visited. Am pretty feeble and fatigued. Was up late.

13. Quite rainy. Very much wanted. Am obliged to defer my journey. Wrote to my brother Ammi. Received of Abner Harlow, \$40, to carry to him.<sup>1</sup> Visited a sick child very low. Wrote. Read *Universal Magazine*. At evening visited the afflicted family. The child is dead.

14. Set out early on my journey. Called at Bedford. Rode by Fall River to Providence. A good air, but very warm. My horse travels rather poorly. Tarried at a tavern.

15. Rode to Plainfield. Most of the way in a severe heat. Great prospects of fruit. Called on Mr. Rockwell.<sup>2</sup> He is pleasantly situated here. Much excitement in this county about the colored school.<sup>3</sup> Tarried with Mr. Rockwell.

16. Rode early. The morning very sultry. My horse travels heavily. Rode to Lisbon, to the house of the late Dr. Lee.<sup>4</sup> Kindly treated by the family. Procured of them 150 pamphlets, and gave them \$3.<sup>5</sup> The pamphlets are not very valuable. Mr. Judson, late of Ashford, is settled here.<sup>6</sup> Rode to North Mansfield and tarried with Mr. Ely.<sup>7</sup> He is very active and laborious. A very hot day. Rode over a pretty uneven part of the country.

17. Mr. Ely is not yet willing to part with the books he has borrowed of me. Rode to Tolland. Procured of Dr. Williams's<sup>8</sup> family a large quantity of old books and pamphlets, and paid them \$17. Paid for a box and transportation to Hartford, \$1. Afternoon rode to Enfield. Have had, by divine favor, a prosperous journey. I think my brother is something better than when he left Mattapoisett.

18. Preached on Job viii: 13, and Luke ix: 30, 31. Quite warm. The congregation here is large. My brother assisted some in the services.

<sup>1</sup> To Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, of Colebrook. It is idle at this point to conjecture what business transactions had passed between Abner Harlow, of Mattapoisett, and Ammi Robbins, so far away.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Samuel Rockwell, pastor at Plainfield, 1832-1841.

<sup>3</sup> Miss Prudence Crandall, in the autumn of 1831, had, with the co-operation of the leading people of Canterbury, Ct., established a young ladies' school in that town. It was regarded as a valuable acquisition. At length she decided to admit a colored girl into the school as a day scholar. This created a storm, and the white girls, boarders, were taken by their parents and guardians to their homes. Then Miss Crandall undertook to continue her school as one for

colored girls alone. This caused a great commotion in the town and county (Windham County), which continued until at length, under a law of the State, Miss Crandall was condemned and imprisoned. This strife and litigation covered several years, and furnishes one of the disagreeable and disgraceful chapters of the old pro-slavery days.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Andrew Lee, of Hanover parish, Lisbon, pastor there from 1768 to his death, in 1832, sixty-four years.

<sup>5</sup> Pamphlets, two cents apiece.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Philo Judson was settled there in 1833, but remained only till 1834.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. William Ely, often mentioned.

<sup>8</sup> Dr. Nathan Williams, whose ministry at Tolland had reached from 1760 to 1829, sixty-nine years.

At evening attended a meeting without him, and preached on John viii: 29. The people here are very quiet and harmonious under their privations.

19. Set out for New Haven. Stopped some time at East Windsor. Did errands at Hartford. Rode to Meriden and tarried at a tavern.<sup>1</sup> Have my brother's horse. The roads very dusty.

20. Rode early to New Haven. Met with the Phi Beta Kappa Society. Mr. Everett<sup>2</sup> delivered before them an oration worthy of all his fame. Did errands and made calls. Am treated with much kindness. Hope to get some historic collections from the Davenport family.<sup>3</sup> At evening attended the society of the alumni, and had a good address from Judge Daggett.<sup>4</sup>

21. Attended the Commencement.<sup>5</sup> Sultry hot. The performances were good, with a want of variety and humor.<sup>6</sup> I think I never saw the house so full. There are many temporary residents in the town. Mr. Dow preached the *Concio ad Clerum* in the evening. Not well attended. Meet with many friends. Visited the very fine gallery of paintings.<sup>7</sup> Mr. Battell and Joseph are here.

22. Bought some valuable books of Gen. Howe. Paid him, to settle the former account, \$22.50. Left two bundles of books and my ancient great chair, sent from Branford, at Thompson's store, to be sent to New Bedford. Made calls. Rode to Branford. Very dusty. My grandfather's tombstone has been re-erected, and the stones for Aunt Gould's grave, which I sent on, are set up. Received back \$1 of \$4 left here last year for expenses. Mr. Foot has been faithful and kind. Called on Mr. Gillett.<sup>8</sup> Rode to Durham and tarried at Mr. Smith's.<sup>9</sup>

23. Rode to East Windsor. Stopped in the forenoon by a shower; very grateful. Was some time at Wethersfield. Dr. Tenney<sup>10</sup> is in poor health. Looked at some old books and pamphlets. Did errands at Hartford. Paid Dr. Smith, of Durham, for books, \$1.25. My health, I think, improves by my journeying. A great prospect of fruit. Found a chest at Hartford which I sent on from New Bedford. Book, fifty cents.

24. Put up the greater part of my pamphlets, and in the afternoon Tudor carried them, with two large book-cases and other things, to Hartford.

<sup>1</sup> It was about eighteen miles from Enfield to Hartford, and not far from the same distance from Hartford to Meriden.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Edward Everett. He was at that time Member of Congress.

<sup>3</sup> The descendants of the celebrated John Davenport, first minister of New Haven.

<sup>4</sup> Judge David Daggett, of New Haven.

<sup>5</sup> Commencement then was on the third Wednesday of August.

<sup>6</sup> Humor, in the shape of dialogues, poems, and amusing addresses, was then one of the attractive features of Commencement Day.

<sup>7</sup> The Trumbull Gallery was a new feature in the Yale College history. It was in 1831 that the arrangement was made between Yale College and the artist, Col. John Trumbull, by which his pictures were to be gathered and preserved at the college. After the bargain was concluded it took some time to make ready the building for their reception; and so, at this Commencement of 1833, it is likely that Dr. Robbins had his first sight of them.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Timothy Phelps Gillett.

<sup>9</sup> Dr. David Smith.

<sup>10</sup> Dr. Caleb J. Tenney.

Rode to Hartford and put my things on board a vessel.<sup>1</sup> Did errands. Returned, and rode to Enfield in the evening. Took a pretty hard cold. Last Saturday evening received a letter from my cousin S. P. Robbins, at Andover. Have had my brother's horse on this journey.

25. My brother improves a little, I think, in his health. He assisted in the exercises. Preached on 1 Thess. ii: 16, and John i: 29. Labored in speaking on account of my cold. Was called to see a dying man. Rode out and attended the evening meeting, and preached on Luke xviii: 38-43.

26. My brother cannot go to Norfolk as we expected, today, on account of the funeral to be attended tomorrow. Rode to Pine Meadow. There has been a good religious revival in this neighborhood. Very hot and am very languid. Towards evening rode to East Windsor. Paid for oats, \$1.

27. Worked, collecting and putting up books for removal. Rode out and visited. A good woman died this morning in this neighborhood. Mr. Nettleton<sup>2</sup> is here. Saw Dr. Spring,<sup>3</sup> of New York. There is a prospect of a large meeting of ministers in this place, about which I feel some anxiety.<sup>4</sup> Towards evening my brother came here. Paid a tax, \$1.19.

28. We started early and rode to Norfolk. Called at brother Ammi's. The dust very oppressive. Cool. We rode in a wagon.

29. Brother F. remained last night at brother Ammi's, and they two came here today. But three of Mr. Battell's children are at home. In the morning rode with Mrs. Battell to North Canaan. Visited at Mrs. Cowles's.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Henry Woodbridge<sup>6</sup> and wife board there, he supplying the people as a candidate. Conversed with him about going to Plymouth. Was not able to procure any of the study furniture of Pres. Edwards,<sup>7</sup> as I hoped. Returning, got something wet with rain. The ground is dry and the orchards are breaking with their burden. Wrote. Did not go to the paternal mansion. Saw Mr. Eldridge.<sup>8</sup> Wrote.

30. Took breakfast with my cousin Lawrence.<sup>9</sup> There was a light frost. Took some articles from the post office and paid twenty-five cents. Mrs. Battell gave me \$3, the amount of what I have paid for re-erecting our grand-

<sup>1</sup> This entry shows that he had as yet taken only a portion of his library to Mattapoisett.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Asahel Nettleton, D. D., evangelist.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Gardner Spring.

<sup>4</sup> This meeting was probably composed of those who were dissatisfied with the New Haven theology, and they were taking the incipient steps toward the founding of a new theological seminary. Rev. Chauncey G. Lee, then settled in Dr. Robbins's old parish at East Windsor, was one of the active workers in this movement, and afterwards an agent in its behalf.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Cowles was the widow of Rev. Pitkin Cowles, who had been pastor at North

Canaan from 1805. He had died in the previous February.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Henry H. Woodbridge, just settled there, was a graduate of Yale, 1823.

<sup>7</sup> The younger Edwards, Dr. Jonathan Edwards, had been settled in Colebrook before he went to Union College to die. Dr. Robbins does not tell us exactly where he expected to find these Edwardian relics. There were such relics in existence. The writer has seen in Stockbridge Pres. Edwards's writing-desk, which is probably still there.

<sup>8</sup> Dr. Joseph Eldridge, then recently settled in Norfolk.

<sup>9</sup> Mr. William Lawrence.

father's tombstone at Branford, and \$2 for one half of a bonnet I procured by her direction for our cousin Le Baron. She leaves me to pay for Aunt Gould's tombstones, as she procured Aunt Thompson's. Rode with my brother<sup>1</sup> to New Hartford. He stopped there to take the stage. Rode through Wintonbury to Hartford. Can find nothing of some books which I suppose I have lent. Did errands for my brother. In the evening rode with him to East Windsor. Cool.

31. Worked laboriously, putting up my books, etc. In the forenoon it rained some. My brother went home. He bore our journey well. I think he is convalescing. Rode out. Am not able to ride to Wethersfield today, as I expected. At evening visited an afflicted family. Fatigued with constant labor, though my health is much improved, through divine mercy, by my journey. Paid for black cloth, \$5.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Rode early to Wethersfield to assist Dr. Tenney in his feeble state. He is about as unwell as my brother. Preached on 2 Thess. ii: 16, and Luke ix: 30, 31. Administered the sacrament to the largest church, I think, that I have ever done.<sup>2</sup> Quite windy. Attended the evening meeting in the meeting-house, and preached on John viii: 29. Dr. Tenney attended meeting, but performed no part.

2. Made calls. The wives of Mr. James L. Belden<sup>3</sup> and Dr. Cook, daughters of the late Col. E. P. Belden, gave me volumes of ancient books; some of them highly valuable. The widow of Joseph Belden gave me some old classical books and about thirty Green's *Registers*. The whole constitute a very valuable present. I suppose the old books were brought from England by Rector Williams.<sup>4</sup> Afternoon rode to Hartford; put up my books for transportation, did errands, etc. Paid for new books, \$5.25. Made my annual payment to the Annuity Society, \$5. Received a dividend of the Hartford Bank, \$22.50. Traded, \$1.92. Rode to East Windsor. Attended the monthly concert. Mr. Lee present; very thin.

3. Finished putting up my things and books to be left, and did some necessary errands. Dea. Reed acknowledges his obligation to make up my loss in my name-papers I had of him, but I get very little from him. Paid for a large box for books and papers, \$3. Left my old good home. Dined at Esq. White's,<sup>5</sup> East Hartford. Received of S. T. Wolcott of the rent of my land the present year, \$20. The whole rent was \$24. Had a good deal to do at Hartford. Received of the Phoenix Bank a dividend of \$45. Received of E. W. Bull, interest on my note, \$24. Paid him for arti-

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Francis Le Baron Robbins.

<sup>2</sup> The population of the town of Wethersfield, by the census of 1830, was 3,853. This population very largely centered about the Congregational church of the town, and the church membership was large.

<sup>3</sup> One of the official men of Wethersfield.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Elisha Williams, son of Rev. William Williams, of Hatfield, was called in 1726 from the Newtonton parish, in Wethersfield, to be Rector of Yale College, as the office of president was then called. For ability he stood among the leading men of his time.

<sup>5</sup> Lemuel White, Esq., where he boarded.

cles received now and before, \$8.25. Of this last sum, \$3 is charged to Mr. Crosby. Paid my book-binders, \$15. Paid for books, \$2.23. Rode in a tedious dust to Pine Meadow and tarried at Mr. Haskell's.<sup>1</sup> Called at Mr. Rowland's.<sup>2</sup> He has recently lost his wife.<sup>3</sup> He was absent from home. At Hartford took up some of the articles which I had deposited for the Historical Society. Yesterday at Wethersfield called on the aged Judge Mitchell,<sup>4</sup> near ninety. Very tired.

4. Last night we had a very refreshing shower. The morning wet. Yesterday morning there was some frost. Rode to Enfield. My brother preached once last Sabbath and administered the sacrament. He is evidently gaining health and strength. After dinner set out for home. Rode through Somers and Stafford, and tarried at a tavern in a corner of Willington. The road pretty good. Sultry hot. My horse travels slow.

5. Rode to Woodstock. Dined with the aged Rev. Mr. Lyman.<sup>5</sup> Paid him \$1.50 for fifty pamphlets. He had none that were ancient. Rode on towards Providence and tarried at a tavern in Greenville.<sup>6</sup> I think this road is better than those at the south of it.<sup>7</sup> Rode slow. Much oppressed by the heat. Fruit of all kinds is very plenty, especially apples and peaches. The drought is great; a great portion of the streams are dry. Traveled but thirty-three miles.

6. Rode early. Made but a short stay at Providence. The thermometer there yesterday was at 89°.<sup>8</sup> The heat not quite as severe as today. Rode forty-one miles. Tarried at a tavern at Hicks's Meeting-house.<sup>9</sup>

7. Rode to New Bedford and breakfasted at Mr. Alden's.<sup>10</sup> Found my things here which have been sent from New Haven and Hartford. Paid a freight bill of \$5.50. Rode home. Have had, through divine mercy, a very prosperous journey. My health has been much improved. But one death in my absence; the young woman with the consumption. Mr. Le Baron has preached once and held meetings, but there has been no other preaching. Am considerably fatigued. At evening had to attend a meeting.

8. The morning rainy, but we got but little. The ground is dry. Many wells fail. Yesterday afternoon rode and visited an aged good woman quite low. Preached a double sermon on 2 Cor. v: 19. Meeting thin. At the evening meeting spoke on Matt. xxi: 41.

9. Attended to my things. Read. Wrote on my diary, which had got much in arrear. Attended the Bible class. Pretty thin. Read late.

<sup>1</sup> Harris Haskell.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Henry A. Rowland, of Windsor.

<sup>3</sup> His wife was Elizabeth Newbury, daughter of Gen. Roger Newbury, of Windsor.

<sup>4</sup> Judge Stephen Mix Mitchell, born in Wethersfield, Dec. 20, 1743; graduated at Yale, 1763; died in his native town, Sept. 30, 1835, in his ninety-second year. He had filled many high offices, State and national.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Eliphalet Lyman, a native of Lebanon, graduated at Yale, 1776; pastor

in Woodstock, 1776-1824. He resided in Woodstock until his death in 1836.

<sup>6</sup> Greenville was an outside district of Providence, R. I.

<sup>7</sup> The chief road south of this was the one leading through Bolton Notch and North Coventry, Ct.

<sup>8</sup> We are again in early September.

<sup>9</sup> Hicks's Meeting-house, or Hicksville, is in the northwest corner of New Bedford.

<sup>10</sup> Francis L. Alden.

10. Wrote on my diary. Wet, but very little rain. Walked and visited. Visited a family who have lost a son, a seaman, by sickness in New York. Yesterday wrote to Hutchinson & Driver, Hartford, and S. P. Robbins, Andover. Read.

11. Wrote. On the 9th received of my collector, \$51. Looked over late pecuniary accounts. Walked and visited. Warm. My book-cases and other things which had arrived at Bedford were brought here in a vessel. Worked hard getting them in. Attended the evening meeting. Paid for carting, forty cents. Read in Guicciardini's<sup>1</sup> *History*. A valuable work.

12. Wrote to Mr. Josiah Robbins, Plymouth. Wrote. Paid in my absence, lately, for books, pamphlets, and binding, \$69.23; freight and box, \$8.50; purchases, \$15.17; debt, \$6.19; expenses, \$27.76. Find a deficit of .55. Worked at my pamphlets and putting up my book-cases.

13. Worked at my library. Walked and visited aged sick persons and others. Have a fire in my chamber. Read late. The revolution in Portugal gives great and extensive joy.<sup>2</sup>

14. Paid for a new stove procured at Boston, including freight, \$21. For freight of things from Bedford, \$1.25. A merchant's bill, \$3.46. Read. This morning there was a pretty hard frost. Wrote.

15. Expounded on Matt. xii: 1 to 31, and preached a sermon on Prov. ix: 12. At evening had a full meeting, and spoke on Ps. cxix: 6. Mr. Barrows<sup>3</sup> assisted. In the morning went into Sabbath-school. Pleasant day and a full house.

16. Worked at my pamphlets. They have become much deranged.<sup>4</sup> Late last evening visited a sick child. Attended the Bible class. Quite cool. Visited the sick child again. Read late.

17. Last evening received a letter from Esq. Robbins. Just as I was setting out on my journey my cousin S. P. Robbins came here from Andover to make some stay. Took the stage and rode to Plymouth. Found Esq. Robbins absent. Mr. Russell's family are greatly afflicted with the loss of a daughter-in-law and a very promising son. Met the committee of the Third Society, who desired me to write to Henry Woodbridge<sup>5</sup> to come and supply them. Yesterday wrote to H. W. & S. Brastow, of New York, and sent them \$25 to procure some cloth. Paid last evening fifty cents to our Temperance Society. Paid today for stage fare, both ways, \$3. I believe I took a good deal of cold last evening.

<sup>1</sup> Guicciardini Francesco, 1482-1540. He was distinguished as a historian and as a diplomatist.

<sup>2</sup> There had been long strife and confusion in Portugal over the question of the royal succession. But in July, 1833, Donna Maria, in whose favor Dom Pedro resigned the throne in 1826, was proclaimed Queen.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Homer Barrows.

<sup>4</sup> To keep a library of the size to which

Dr. Robbins's had now grown, even when kept securely in one place, is no small care. Much more when it has to be moved from place to place. Dr. Robbins moved his from East Windsor to Mattapoisett in sections.

<sup>5</sup> This was the Rev. Henry H. Woodbridge whom Dr. Robbins found supplying the pulpit at North Canaan, Ct. The effort to draw him to Plymouth did not avail, as he was settled that year (1833) at North Canaan.

18. Left my afflicted friends and rode home. Am quite unwell; constant headache and some fever. Attended the funeral of Dr. Southworth's child. Something rainy, but we get but little. Had to take my bed when I could.

19. Quite ill; took physic. My headache remains. Mr. Robbins is here and is about to commence the study of systematic theology.<sup>1</sup> At evening walked to a near neighbor's and performed a marriage.<sup>2</sup> Quite warm.

20. Am quite feeble and distressed. My light physic seems to do no good. Wrote with much difficulty to Mr. Henry Woodbridge, at Canaan, Ct., in behalf of the Third Society at Plymouth. Visited a school.

21. I think I need powerful physic, but conclude to delay that I may go out tomorrow. Kept my bed considerably. My physician thinks I am not likely to be much sick; I fear otherwise, but holy is the Lord.

22. Attended meeting and preached with much difficulty a double sermon on Isa. lv: 6. The exercises were short. Could do no more. I submit all to the divine will.

— The three latter days were written after my sickness.<sup>3</sup>

#### OCTOBER.

21. Through God's great mercy I now once more take my pen to write a little in my diary. Am quite feeble. Wrote by my amanuensis to Eli B. Haskell, of East Windsor. The rain of yesterday and today is greater than we have had this fall, and seems to saturate the ground, long dry.

22. It is still dark and wet weather. Unfavorable for invalids. Read in the Bible. Can read but little. Went down twice and ate with the family. Have considerable company. My appetite is good, but not strong. Eat none but light food.

23. Pleasant and cool. The ground is very wet and I do not go out. A merciful God helps me from day to day, though my progress is slow. Wrote a little. Read the Bible.

24. Received a letter from brother Francis, and wrote to him by Mr. Robbins<sup>4</sup> as amanuensis, in reply. He has been negligent in writing. Expected to have rode out today, but there is a rough wind, though it is pleasant, and I am advised not to attempt it. Walked out for the first time and went to the barn. Read. Conversed but little. Sent to F. L. Alden to pay for freight, \$6. Mr. and Mrs. Crosby returned from their journey, after an absence of a week.

25. Mild weather. Rode out in a chaise. I think to my benefit. Wrote myself to Esq. Robbins, of Plymouth. My cousin concludes to return to Andover.<sup>5</sup> He has been a great benefit to me in my sickness. Gave him

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Prince Robbins, who was afterward graduated at Andover, and became a foreign missionary.

<sup>2</sup> The persons joined in marriage were Lot Jones and Melintha Cannon.

<sup>3</sup> Here occurs the first gap since his sickness in Ohio, in the months of July and August, 1804. With these exceptions the

whole time, from 1796 to 1833, has been covered by daily entries.

<sup>4</sup> His nephew from Ohio.

<sup>5</sup> He came, apparently, intending to study theology with Dr. Robbins. But this sickness had interfered with his plans, and it was uncertain when he would be able to give his attention to teaching.



\$10 and some articles of use. Read the Bible. I have to spend a good deal of time idly. My eyes are weak.

26. My cousin S. P. Robbins went off for Plymouth and Andover. He seems to be attached to this place. Rode to Uncle Le Baron's. Was out considerably. Read. I fear a very great stupidity with regard to divine things is pervading our land.

27. A pleasant day and my people had no preaching. They attended meeting, however, pretty well. There was a Universalist meeting. We have an account of the death of Mrs. Hannah More.<sup>1</sup> She was about the age of my mother. At evening had company. Did not go out. Read the Bible.

28. Walked in the street some. Afternoon rode a good distance. Wrote. Am something rheumatic.

29. I believe I took some cold yesterday; I have a severe rheumatism. Kept my chamber through the day. Put on my flannel. Received of my collector, \$30. In the evening there was a good temperance meeting, with an address from Mr. Corydon, of New Bedford.

30. I am very lame in my back, but I think I am better than yesterday. It is quite cold. Read the Bible. Wrote to F. L. Alden. I read, perhaps, more than is best for me, as it is hard to be idle.

31. My rheumatism and crick in my back seemed in the morning to be worse than before. Got some better in the course of the day. Read the Book of Daniel. I take some medicine. Received a letter from Esq. Robbins, of Plymouth. This is the third day that I have been out of the house.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Through divine mercy my rheumatism abates some. Rode to my cousin J. Le Baron's<sup>2</sup> and spent the most of the day there. Wrote. We have had a very cold turn for the season.

2. Quite ill, with much pain. Kept the house mostly. Read some. I have read this week a large pamphlet addressed to the churches of Connecticut.<sup>3</sup> I fear they are getting into serious divisions and errors. The God of our fathers mercifully prevent. Had strong expectations of seeing brother Francis here today, but am disappointed.

3. After an absence of five Sabbaths was permitted once more to go to the house of worship. Cool, but pleasant. Had my case mentioned for public thanks. Dea. Hammond prayed very well. In the forenoon had a sermon read. I made some remarks and closed the service. After-

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Hannah More was born in Staple-ton, England, 1744, and died near Bristol in September, 1833, not far from eighty-nine years old. She was accounted the ablest female writer of her time on moral and religious subjects.

<sup>2</sup> John A., the fourth child of Rev. Lemuel Le Baron. He was born in 1782.

<sup>3</sup> This pamphlet was the outcome of that meeting of ministers in East Windsor, about which Dr. Robbins had much anxiety. There was already, and was to be in larger degree, a serious division among the Congregational ministers and churches of Connecticut. The sharp theological conflict which sprung up at that time divided the churches for many years.

noon the Sabbath-school was closed, the report read, and Mr. Le Baron and I each made an address. We had no sermon. During the summer, till now, the people have been nine Sabbaths without preaching. This has sensibly affected the Sabbath-school. I think I am not the worse for going out.

The people manifest kind pleasure that I can again be out. Quite Am quite stiff and feeble with my rheumatism. Was out but little. company. The people are trying to procure a vestry. Wrote to Mr. Tryon Edwards,<sup>1</sup> of Hartford, a candidate, in behalf of the people of Plymouth.

5. Spent the most of the day at Capt. Freeman's. Last night had much pain. We have hard frosts. Received a letter from Hutchinson & Driver, Hartford. Wrote.

6. Walked out a little way, but am quite weak. Received a letter from Charles E. Abbott, of Plymouth, with a number of a new magazine printed at Boston. Paid a lad for cutting and piling wood, \$1. Wrote to P. B. Gleason & Co., Hartford, and sent them \$5. At evening attended the meeting held here and spoke considerably. I think I took some cold. Read.

7. Have much pain with my rheumatism during the night. Very pleasant. Received a letter from Thomas Burnham,<sup>2</sup> of Boston. Paid a peddler, \$1.21. Wrote. Had some boxes and a book-case brought from Bedford, which came from Hartford, the same I prepared for removing before I left Connecticut. They have been long in coming. Paid for carting, \$2.

8. Had assistance in opening my books. Can do but little myself. Rode to Capt. J. Le Baron's,<sup>3</sup> dined, and spent the afternoon and night. Warm and pleasant. My flesh increases, but my rheumatic pains and attendant weakness are nearly stationary. Read.

9. Rode home. Worked a little at my things. They have come very well. I have not room for the books or pamphlets. Received a letter from Esq. Holmes,<sup>4</sup> of Rochester. Paid for pine wood, \$1.75. Read. Attended to my studies.

10. We had rain last night, but now a pleasant day. Preached with notes on 2 Sam. iii: 39, and a sermon on Jer. ix: 1. Suffered some with rheumatic pains, but performed services, by divine assistance, better than I expected. Have great reason to bless God, infinite in mercy, that I am restored to my ordinary ministrations. For six Sabbaths past I have not preached. The longest term I have been prevented from preaching in thirty-five years, excepting in the summer of 1804,<sup>5</sup> by a still more severe sickness. O that I may profit by this holy visitation. At evening had company.

<sup>1</sup> Tryon Edwards, D. D., was a great grandson of the first Jonathan. He was a graduate of Yale College, 1828, was first settled at Rochester, N. Y., in 1834, and in New London, Ct., in 1845, where he remained till 1857

<sup>2</sup> Antiquarian book-merchant, 58 Cornhill, Boston.

<sup>3</sup> John A. Le Baron.

<sup>4</sup> Abraham Holmes, Esq.

<sup>5</sup> His severe sickness in Ohio, before noticed.

11. The people generally went to Rochester to attend town meeting. The State seems to be in several political parties.<sup>1</sup> Worked what I could at my books and pamphlets. Had some help. My people had a meeting and concluded, with much harmony, to do off a room for a vestry. Wrote. Quite warm.

12. Walked out. Had a tailoress<sup>2</sup> to work for me. Worked considerably at my books and pamphlets. My collector paid me \$20, and I gave him a receipt in full for my last salary. I get fatigued easily.

13. A schooner belonging here came in from whaling, having made a very profitable voyage. Wrote to Esq. Holmes, of Rochester, and to Manchester & Thompson, Bedford. Received a letter from my brother Francis, and one from Mr. Tryon Edwards,<sup>3</sup> Hartford. Walked out and attended a meeting in the evening, and preached on Rom. xv: 29. Baptized a child.<sup>4</sup> Cold and windy. Paid a tailoress.

14. Have had a tedious night with my rheumatism. Attended at a funeral of a Baptist woman in the neighborhood. Rode out. Had company. Worked some at my books. Looked at pecuniary matters. Have, in bills, \$94. I easily get fatigued.

15. Examined a schoolmaster. Paid a merchant's bill, too old, seventy-five cents. Wrote to Hutchinson & Driver, Hartford, and sent them \$5. Find difficulty in stowing away many of my books and pamphlets. Wrote on my library catalogue.

16. Read. Wrote to Esq. Robbins, of Plymouth. Received a letter from S. P. Robbins, at Andover. There is a good work of divine grace in that place. Worked a good deal, arranging books, clothes, etc. I believe this domestic work done this week has been beneficial to my health. Read expositors. Walked out.

17. Cold, but pleasant. Expounded on Matt. xii: 31 to the end, and preached on John x: 27, 28. At evening rode some distance and performed a marriage.<sup>5</sup> Our meetings were full. I am very weak as to muscular strength and suffer a good deal from my steady rheumatism.

18. Feel the fatigues of yesterday. Walked out. Read. Wrote to my brother Francis. I can do but little.

<sup>1</sup> There were no divisions such as caused any change in the State administration. Gov. Levi Lincoln, who had been in office since 1825, was re-elected again in 1833.

<sup>2</sup> The country custom in New England at that time was to have a tailoress come to the house and do the tailoring for the household. Dr. Robbins was a bachelor, but employed a tailoress, who probably worked at her home.

<sup>3</sup> Tryon Edwards, D. D., already briefly noticed, was the son of Jonathan W. Edwards, Esq., of Hartford, who was the only son of Dr. Jonathan Edwards (called the

younger Edwards). Dr. Tryon Edwards, who is still living, was born in 1809, and, after his graduation at Yale in 1828, married a lady in Baltimore of the family name of Tryon.

<sup>4</sup> Martha Olena, daughter of Henry Young, baptized at an evening meeting, which seems to have been a somewhat common custom at Mattapoisett. It was regarded as more regular to have the baptism in the public Sabbath service.

<sup>5</sup> The parties married were Ivory Snow and Martha Snow.

19. Wrote to my cousin S. P. Robbins, at Andover. Walked out to see my cousin, Dr. Lemuel Le Baron,<sup>1</sup> who has come to his father's after an absence of five years at the westward. Read Davila.<sup>2</sup> Read late.

20. Arranged newspapers. Afternoon spent some time with Uncle Le Baron. He is ill with rheumatism, much like myself. I have much pain. The doctor<sup>3</sup> appears well. Attended the evening meeting and preached on Hosea xiii: 9, 10. Well attended. Quite cold. Read Davila, an excellent historian.

21. Rode with Capt. Mayhew to Fairhaven. Visited friends. Mr. Alden<sup>4</sup> has removed there from Bedford. Crossed to Bedford. My box left at Hartford does not come. Returned. At evening walked out. Last night it froze quite hard. Paid for freight and storage, \$2.

22. Wet. My rheumatic pains are tedious. Read the Bible. Wrote. Afternoon and evening a hard rain. Feel the want of exercise. Read Davila.

23. Walked out and exercised a good deal. Received a fine present from several ladies—a good puff<sup>5</sup> for my bed. Received a letter from P. B. Gleason & Co., Hartford. Attended to preparations for the Sabbath.

24. Pleasant; the meeting quite full. Preached on Isa. lix: 17. Attended a very full evening meeting. My cousin, Dr. Le Baron, spoke in the meeting, and very well. He has hopefully been made a subject of grace the present year. Much fatigued.

25. It snowed and rained the most of the day. Went out to see about the stove in the vestry. It smokes badly. My rheumatic pains are at times severe. Read a good deal in Davila.

26. Walked out. Find exercise very necessary for my complaint. Had company. Wrote. The civil wars of France show much retributive justice in divine Providence.

27. Walked out. The ground is very wet. Read. Wrote a small addition to a Thanksgiving sermon. Had to attend to my stove. Paid a man for sawing and getting in wood, \$1.

28. Thanksgiving.<sup>6</sup> Meeting rather thin. Preached on Zech. xiv: 1. The village was quiet. In the evening attended a public lecture in the school-house by Mr. Randall, the teacher. We had our usual contribution for indigent widows, and collected \$9.28.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Lemuel, son of Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, was born in 1780, and was three years younger than Dr. Robbins.

<sup>2</sup> Enrico Caterino Davila, an eminent Italian historian, 1576-1631. The Italian title of his chief work is *Storia delle Guerre Civili di Francia*: Venice. 1630. The work might be properly entitled, the Religious Wars of France.

<sup>3</sup> Lemuel Le Baron, M. D.

<sup>4</sup> Francis L. Alden.

<sup>5</sup> We understand this to mean a comforter made of down, though we do not remember ever meeting the word used in this way before.

<sup>6</sup> The last Thursday in November, which is now the established day for Thanksgiving throughout the country, was the usual, though not the uniform, day in Massachusetts fifty years ago. Other States appointed different days, if it so pleased them. The present custom is more satisfactory.

29. Walked a distance. Settled with Mrs. Hammond<sup>1</sup> for her horse, which I had to go my journey last August. Paid her \$2, in addition to \$6 before. Rode to Fairhaven in the stage. Crossed to Bedford. Paid Dr. Mackie for visiting me six times in my sickness, \$16.<sup>2</sup> He did well, but I think his charge was high. Paid Mr. Taber, the bookseller, \$10. Received from a coaster a small box sent from Hartford. Tarried at Fairhaven. My rheumatic pains are severe.

30. The stage left me in the morning, in violation of its promise. It rained last night and through the day. Called on Mr. Gould. A ship has come into Bedford with 4,300 barrels of sperm oil. The greatest cargo known to have been procured in this country.<sup>3</sup> Rode home. Paid for the conveyance, \$1.25. My candles and other things from Hartford have come well.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Wet and rainy. Meetings thin. Preached with notes on Ps. cxxx: 7, and Acts iii: 26. Spoke in behalf of the Home Missionary Society. Administered the sacrament with Uncle Le Baron. Had no evening meeting. Read the *Evangelical Magazine*,<sup>4</sup> published at Hartford. I hope it will do good.

2. Still wet and very chilly. Bad weather for my complaint and I suffer a good deal. Received a good letter from my sister. Our esteemed friend, Mr. Gilman,<sup>5</sup> has died at Alton, on the Mississippi. Read. Visited. At evening we had the monthly concert; short; after it the adjourned annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Association. We have collected \$31.75. Met at the meeting-house.

3. Carried up wood. I cannot bear much sitting. Wrote. Walked out. Read *Evangelical Magazine*. I can write but little.

4. Visited. This is the fifth day that we have scarcely seen the sun. The ground is very wet and cold. Wrote to Thomas Burnham, of Boston, and sent him by Mr. Hammond, \$11.25, and the imperfect copy of Smollet's *History* which I had of him. Read Livy. Yesterday I conferred with

<sup>1</sup> The name Hammond, as already intimated, was a common one in the town of Rochester.

<sup>2</sup> This charge was higher than it would have been, probably, because of the distance which the doctor had to travel.

<sup>3</sup> Those were the stirring days of New Bedford and Fairhaven.

<sup>4</sup> The *Evangelical Magazine*, here named, was published in Hartford for four years, 1832-1836. It was designed especially to oppose the theological teachings of the New Haven School. It was edited by Rev. S. H. Riddell, who was pastor in Glastonbury, 1827-1837. In 1836 it was transformed into

a weekly Old School paper, called the *Northern Watchman*, edited by Rev. Joseph Harvey. Under this name it ran till 1839, when the name was again changed to *The Congregationalist*, and with this title it continued two years more.

<sup>5</sup> The Mr. Gilman here mentioned must be Mr. Benjamin Ives Gilman, Sr., who was born in Exeter, N. H., 1766, married Hannah Robbins in 1790, and went to Ohio. His son, of the same name, who was graduated at Brown University in 1813, had become connected with a business firm at Alton, and so it happened that his father's death occurred there.

Dr. I. N. Southworth, and he refused to take any pecuniary compensation for all that he did for me in my sickness. An unexpected liberality.

5. We have at length clear weather. Walked and visited. My rheumatic pains are severe. Was out pretty late in the evening. Read.

6. Walked out. Visited a school. Had some new flannels prepared for my complaints. At evening was in a little while at the singing-school in the new vestry. Wrote to my sister Battell.

7. Tried to work a little abroad. Last evening read the President's Message.<sup>1</sup> It is better than we have sometimes had. Read the Bible. Wrote.

8. Wet and unpleasant. Meetings pretty well attended. Preached a sermon on Ps. cxlii: 6, and with notes on 1 Cor. vii: 29. At night we had a violent storm of wind and rain. Expected to have had our first meeting in the vestry. The rain prevented.

9. My rheumatic pains are steady, and at times severe. Walked out. Worked some. Wrote. Read. The President has a difficult job with the United States Bank.<sup>2</sup> He shows a bad temper. Visited.

10. Wrote. Worked, carrying up wood, etc. Visited a school. Weather mild for the season. Visited. Read the Bible.

11. Paid for a large load of oak and maple wood, a cord and a half, \$8.44. Dined and spent considerable time with Uncle Le Baron. I can bear but little labor. At evening we had a good meeting in our new vestry-room and dedicated it. The room is a good one, and we had a serious and pleasant occasion. Received a letter from brother Ammi.

12. Received a pleasing letter from S. T. Wolcott, and one from Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven. Walked a distance and visited a school. Got much fatigued. Visited several families. Was out late. Cold.

13. Had one of the windows in my chambers nicely closed. Wrote. Worked some, but I labor in pain. Quite cold. Wrote the most of a letter to S. T. Wolcott.

14. Rode to Fairhaven to exchange. Crossed to Bedford. Paid Taber, \$9.50, and balanced his account of \$37. I have had a number of valuable books of him. Mr. Gould rode with my sulky to Mattapoisett. A very cold and rough east wind. Went to Capt. Gibbs's.

15. In the morning there was a little snow. Preached on Ps. cxlii: 6, and Ps. cxxxvii: 1. Meeting rather thin. My rheumatism quite painful. After meeting Mr. Crosby brought Mr. Gould and carried me home.<sup>3</sup> Attended the evening meeting in the vestry and spoke on Luke xii: 50.

<sup>1</sup> This was the first session of the Twenty-Third Congress. Dr. Robbins not only likes this Message better than some, but, what is more, he likes the President himself much better just now than he did awhile before. His prompt action on the subject of nullification made him popular at the North.

<sup>2</sup> President Jackson's contest with the United States Bank is regarded very differently now than it was at the time. He was moved by a sense of justice.

<sup>3</sup> Dea. Crosby kindly let Dr. Robbins's horse rest after his morning journey, and with his own horse and carriage took Mr. Gould home and brought Dr. R. back.

Was quite feeble. On Wednesday evening at the dedication of that room preached on Acts xvi: 13.<sup>1</sup>

16. Am very feeble and unwell. Carried up wood. I must have exercise. At evening walked. Do but little of anything. Read *Joan of Arc*.<sup>2</sup>

17. Read the Bible. After three days of rough east wind we have a violent storm of rain. Read the papers. Congress must be in a state of much anxiety. Wrote. Have much pain. At evening walked out.

18. Am troubled with night sweats. Still wet and rainy. Read *Joan of Arc*. Had company. The evening meeting prevented by the rain. Read the Bible.

19. The ground very wet and the roads much washed. Can do but very little. I am evidently not as well as I was last week. Rode with Mr. and Mrs. Crosby to Sippican, and married Joseph Meigs.<sup>3</sup> Returned. Found the going much better than I expected. It grew cold.

20. Quite cold, but pleasant. My pains pretty bad. Read. Walked out feebly. On the 18th finished and sent my letter to S. T. Wolcott. Wrote. The death of Dr. Hyde,<sup>4</sup> of Lee, is a solemn admonition. He was sixty-six. He has a good biography in the *New York Observer*.

21. Walked to Uncle Le Baron's. Got something fatigued and, I believe, took some cold. Read. The 18th sent Dea. Crosby, \$10.

22. In the morning felt quite feeble and was suddenly taken with a severe crick in the back. I was entirely confined through the day. The meeting was held without me. The forenoon we had a hard rain. The evening meeting at the vestry, they said, was quite full and interesting. God is very wise and holy in his righteous chastisements. Am very helpless.

23. I was mostly confined to the house. Read a little. My cousins, John and Samuel Le Baron, called on me. Looked at accounts with Mr. Crosby. By advice of friends I wrote to Esq. Holmes, of Rochester, that I shall not be able to deliver a temperance address there next week, as I had undertaken to do. I am very weak. Have just read Mr. Hotchkiss's, of Saybrook,<sup>5</sup> half-century sermon. His people have been a prodigy of union and harmony.

24. The forenoon we had a hard rain. Removed to the south chamber of the house. My complaint alters but little. Received a letter from cousin S. P. Robbins, at Andover. Wrote.

<sup>1</sup> He goes back to give the text used on the dedication of the vestry, which he forgot to put down at the time.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Southey's poem, *Joan of Arc*, was first published in 1794, and there were later editions. This was the book, probably, which Dr. Robbins was reading.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Meigs, Jr., was united in marriage with Mary Holmes.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Alban Hyde, D. D., LL. D., whose name has many times appeared in the earlier pages of this diary. He was one of the solid

divines and theological teachers of Massachusetts. He was born in Franklin, Ct., 1768, graduated at Dartmouth College, 1788, settled for life at Lee, Mass.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Frederick William Hotchkiss, who was settled in Old Saybrook, Ct., 1783. This year, 1833, brought him to his half century, but he remained there eleven years longer, till his death, 1844. He was graduated at Yale in 1778, when students with two given names were as rare as students with only one now.

25. Read in Unitarian publications.<sup>1</sup> I gain of my complaints very little. Holy is the Lord, but great are my trials.<sup>2</sup>

26. The pain in my back was severe the most of the day. A considerable part of the time I kept my bed. At evening had company. Paid for the *Recorder* for the coming year, \$2. Cold.

27. Am something relieved of my pain, through mercy, but am very weak. Have pleasant weather, after much dark and wet. Read my Bible. Had considerable company.

28. In the forenoon rode to the meeting-house and back. The first time I have been in the street this week. The ground is hard frozen. Something interrupted by company.

29. In the forenoon kept house. Afternoon, by God's great mercy, went once more to his house and preached on Acts xxiv: 25. A pleasant day and quite full meeting. Spoke feebly, and have great debility. Near the close of the meeting took a little cold, which produces its natural effects. At evening Solomon R. Eaton and Maria S. Rogers came here and were married. Went to bed quite ill.

30. Rose late. My back is very stiff and weak, but am spared the severe pain. Read the Bible. Cannot put on my boots without assistance. Read some of the interesting things done in Congress. Nothing can sustain the President but the obstinacy of party.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> From 1830 to 1835 a good many of the old Congregational societies in the country towns of Massachusetts went over to the Unitarians. In Boston the change had taken place earlier.

<sup>2</sup> A reverential but comprehensive sentence.

<sup>3</sup> It was more the obstinacy of the Presi-

dent than of party that sustained him, but his obstinacy was not found to be wholly on the side of wrong.

Here sickness again intervened to break the continuity of the diary. December 31 has no entry, and the whole of January, 1834, is left blank. In February he takes his pen again, but is obliged to lay it aside.





## 1884.

### FEBRUARY.

1. It grows warm. Mr. Utley<sup>1</sup> came here in the forenoon to spend the Sabbath. Dr. Mackie says my state and prospects are good, and he shall not visit me any more unless sent for. Am mostly free from pain.

2. Mr. Utley preached very acceptably. The committee of the society, having conferred with me, requested him to supply us for a time. I hope he will. The meetings were full, though bad walking. We have hardly had a pleasant Sabbath before in two months. My young lad takes care of me by day and night. Had rather a feeble day.

3. Have pains in my back, but think I am better than yesterday. Am able to read some. The hard ground thaws fast. Paid a subscription for singing, \$2. Paid Mr. Crosby, \$6. Like the rest of the country, I have got quite low in funds.<sup>2</sup> The monthly concert was well attended.

4. Began to write a little in my diary. A little mental exertion wearies me. Read some. Have considerable company.<sup>3</sup>

6. Experience much kindness from friends. Wrote with my own hand to my brother and sister Battell. A preacher was expected from Fairhaven at the evening meeting, but they were disappointed. The traveling is very bad. The meeting was said to be very full and solemn.

### MARCH.

1. Rode out twice. Called on Uncle Le Baron. We sent to Bedford, but can get no preacher for tomorrow. Wrote. My large plaster gives me very restless nights. Paid for wine, \$2.

2. Rainy. We had no preaching. Meetings were regularly attended. Read the most of the Book of Acts. A young man called on me in a very serious state of mind. At evening wrote to Mr. Breed,<sup>4</sup> now at Bedford.

3. A young man called on me early to converse on divine things. The Spirit of God is with us of a truth. Read. Had a good deal of

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<sup>1</sup> Reference has before been made to Rev. Samuel Utley, whose ministerial life was spent mainly in New Hampshire. He was a native of Dalton, Mass., and a graduate of Union College in 1826, being then twenty-eight years old. He was ordained as an evangelist at Rochester, Mass., Nov. 2, 1831, and supplied the Third Church in Rochester for some years.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robbins does not often joke, even in good health, but this may pass as a jocose expression.

<sup>3</sup> Here again a day drops out, and after

an entry for February 6, the pen stops over till March.

<sup>4</sup> William James Breed, a graduate of Yale, 1831, and then in his senior year at Andover. He was ordained in 1835, and made pastor of the Congregational church in Nantucket, where he remained four years. He was born in Lynn, Mass., in 1809, and died in West Taunton, Mass., 1869. He was a man of good abilities, and was for five years the successful financial agent of Yale College. He was, for a time, District Secretary of the American Board in the Mississippi Valley.

company. Quite cold. The cold affects my complaint. The monthly concert was attended.

4. Still cold. Feel much want of exercise. Read. Congressional proceedings are very important. Great and numerous petitions are pouring upon them from all parts of the country. The President degrades his office.<sup>1</sup> Had another young man to converse with me on divine things. Have little time or strength for study. Arranged newspapers.

5. Rode out and made two calls. Saw Mr. Breed. He came and preached last evening, but must return today. His health is poor. The Baptists continue their meetings and make great efforts. Our hope is in infinite grace. The weather is like spring.

6. Received a letter from Gorham D. Abbott, of Boston,<sup>2</sup> requesting historical information. Made this almanack, which I have not been able to do before. Wrote the above. The air was damp, and did not go out. A young woman called on me with a recent hope.

7. Rode out and spent the most of the day. Conversed with several persons in a serious state of mind. The Baptists are making great exertions to get recent converts into the water. Read late.

8. Wrote. My health now seems to be pretty good, with the exception of a very weak and lame back. We had a hard rain. Began a letter to Mr. Abbott, of Boston. Can write but little.

9. Cold and windy. We had no minister, though one was expected. Afternoon, through the great mercy of God, went to meeting, after an absence of nine Sabbaths. Spoke a good deal and performed the most of the service. The merciful work of grace evidently increases with us. Not greatly fatigued.

10. Walked out twice and made calls. Saw a new burdened soul. Wrote. The cold continues and affects my back. Received of Capt. Freeman, my collector, \$9.13.

11. Wrote. Rode out and visited. The religious attention among us becomes a subject of common conversation. Conversed with Uncle Le Baron about our having a protracted meeting.

<sup>1</sup> We copy from Haydn's *Dictionary of Dates* an outline of what was then going on at Washington: "An act of Congress, 1832, rechartering it (United States Bank) was vetoed by President Jackson. He also caused the United States funds to be withdrawn from it in September, 1833. This act produced a violent partisan feeling throughout the Union, and strong movements were made to impeach the President. A resolution of censure was passed by the United States Senate in March, 1834. It was expunged by the order of the Senate in 1837." The last sentence of the above quotation shows that a great change of opinion touching Gen. Jack-

son's course was already beginning to take place.

<sup>2</sup> Gorham D. Abbott, son of Rev. Jacob and brother of Jacob and John S. C. Abbott, was born in Brunswick, Me., Sept. 3, 1807; graduated at Bowdoin College in 1826, and died in South Natick, Mass. (the native place of his wife), Aug. 3, 1874. Like the brothers above named, he held the pen of a ready writer, and was the author of several books, but his principal life-work, in connection with his brother Charles, was to found and carry forward the Spingler Institute in New York, for young ladies, more than 1,300 of whom were connected with the school.

12. Read. Very pleasant. Walked out and made calls. Afternoon rode out and visited. Have serious visits. In the evening rode to the vestry and attended a very full and solemn meeting. How does it become me to bless the Lord for what he has done for me, and for what he is doing for my people. Mr. Lovell,<sup>1</sup> a Baptist minister, assisted at the meeting.

13. Rode out and visited. My friend Capt. Freeman called on me in deep distress of mind. Afternoon we had a church meeting, and the church adopted a confession of faith and voted to renew covenant and have a public meeting. Quite fatigued.

14. Wrote to my brethren, Holmes<sup>2</sup> and Gould.<sup>3</sup> Walked and made calls. Went as far as the post office. Rode out and wrote a relation for a woman to be propounded to the church. Conversed with distressed persons.

15. Wrote. Read. There seems to be no diminution of the sufferings and alarm of the country. Divine things seem to be a common object of attention and conversation among us. Studied some, but am quite weak. Had company. Cold and rainy.

16. A pleasant day; attended the morning meeting, prayed, etc., and had a sermon read. Afternoon preached, with notes, on renewing covenant, on Deut. xxvi: 16-18. Received a kind letter from Mr. Gould.

17. Wrote to Mr. Cobb<sup>4</sup> and Mr. Bigelow.<sup>5</sup> The work of God, in his adorable mercy, seems to increase with us. The people have very good and profitable meetings without a minister. Visited Uncle Le Baron. Walked from there home. Received a good letter from sister Battell.

18. Rode out. Visited anxious persons. Paid a post office bill, for about eleven months, of \$10.10. The largest I ever paid. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Holmes. In the afternoon William S. White,<sup>6</sup> of Boston, and Eliza Willis, of this place, came to my chamber, very unexpectedly, and were married. Her two sisters were the only persons present. Wrote. At evening went into the meeting at the vestry late and assisted some. It was very solemn. One man was very much affected. Began a letter to sister Battell.

19. Visited houses of seriousness. Wrote to Rev. Messrs. Eaton and Richmond. Read. Anxious persons called on me. Attended the evening meeting. Numbers had to leave for want of room. A good number arose at the special call for prayer and address. The Spirit of God is with us in great power. The late efforts of the Baptists seem to have effected but little.

20. I find my complaints rather increased by my labors. I am very feeble. Wrote to Rev. Messrs. Holmes and Roberts.<sup>7</sup> Visited, and was

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Shubael Lovell.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Sylvester Holmes, of New Bedford.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William Gould, of Fairhaven.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Oliver Cobb, D. D., of the South Church, Rochester, known as the Church in Sippican.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, of the First Church, Rochester.

<sup>6</sup> William S. White, in the *Boston Directory* for 1834, bears the title of captain, and has a son of the same name.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. James A. Roberts, of New Bedford.

visited. Divine things form the principal topic of conversation in this place. Paid for cutting and getting in a cord of wood, \$1. Finished my letter to Mrs. Battell. Uncle Le Baron attended the evening meeting.

21. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Utley. Read the Bible. Walked out. March winds; I got quite chilled. Had company. Read.

22. Wrote to Mr. Cobb,<sup>1</sup> of Sandwich. Received a very pretty present of fruit. Quite cold. Did not go out. Paid a public tax of \$1.25. Finished my long letter to Gorham D. Abbott, of Boston. I am now daily bathing my back and hips with new rum. Read.

23. Attended meeting and, through God's great mercies, once more performed the regular services. Preached a sermon on 2 Chron. xxx: 26, 27, and without notes on Matt. xv: 22. Bore the labor quite as well as I expected. Uncle Le Baron attended the evening meeting in the meeting-house. Gave notices relative to our protracted meeting.

24. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Utley. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Richmond.<sup>2</sup> Visited. Read.

25. Wrote in a lady's album. Find a new case of hopeful conversion; an important character. Afternoon rode out and was caught in a sudden snow-squall. Got a little wet. We had a pretty hard rain. I think I took some cold.

26. Visited. My rheumatic pains are something worse than they have been. Attended to an old church difficulty. Traded, \$1.67. Paid the barber who shaved me in my sickness, \$2. Had the evening meeting at the meeting-house and preached on Luke xvi: 19, etc. Very tired. Preparing for our public meeting.

27. Am able to do but little. Read. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture with notes on Ps. li: 10. Cold and windy. Had company.

28. Wrote to Mr. Gould.<sup>3</sup> Endeavored to keep in on account of my complaints. One called on me with a new hope. Read the Bible. Read. Have considerable pain.

29. Made calls. Dined out. Rode to Uncle Le Baron's. People appear to be preparing in various ways for our public meeting. Am pretty feeble. The Lord be my helper.

30. An eventful day. Last evening and this morning wrote notes and preached in the forenoon on Matt. xii: 30. Afternoon the church renewed their covenant with great solemnity. After which we had the sacrament. No sermon in the afternoon. The church and congregation were very full. I trust we had the divine presence. These services commenced our protracted meeting.<sup>4</sup> Mr. Gould came and preached in the evening at the meeting-house. I did not go out.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Asahel Cobb, before mentioned, settled at Sandwich, 1831-1842.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Richmond, pastor at Dartmouth, 1832-1837.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William Gould, of Fairhaven.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins, as we have before suggested, seems to have carried into that neighborhood the idea of a four days' or protracted meeting. He had been in several in Connecticut before he went to Mattapoisett.

31. Our meetings were full and solemn. Business appears to be laid aside, and it seems like a continuance of the Sabbath. The usual seasons of prayer were observed. Mr. Utley preached in the forenoon, and Mr. Cobb in the afternoon, and Mr. Utley in the evening. Did not go out in the evening. We have increasing evidence of the divine presence.

APRIL.

1. Mr. Bigelow preached in the morning, and Mr. Holmes in the afternoon. Mr. Gould addressed the children. Distressed souls get relief. The house full and very solemn. It began to rain in the morning and continued, at times quite hard, through the day. We concluded to have no evening meeting. A good number of people present from out of the place.

2. The rain continued through the day. The people have, I believe, attended as well, but we should have had more from abroad had the weather been pleasant. I had to preach in the forenoon, though feeble, no other minister except Mr. Le Baron<sup>1</sup> being present. Preached on Luke xviii: 13. Mr. Roberts<sup>2</sup> preached in the afternoon and evening. Mr. Gould addressed the youth. The rain abated towards evening, but I did not go out. About forty arose for special prayers.

3. Fast. We conclude the regular continuance of our protracted meeting will be a proper method of observing the Fast. Mr. Roberts preached in the morning and went home at noon. Afternoon I made an address to the children, then received the instructions and transactions of the meeting, and concluded the solemn, joyful scene. All seemed to be satisfied and to find their expectations surpassed. The divine favor seemed remarkably to rest upon the meeting. My health was mercifully sustained. In the evening attended a very full meeting at the vestry, while another was attended on the Neck. All praise is due to God.<sup>3</sup>

4. Walked and visited as much as I could. All are ready to speak on divine things. Many are deeply impressed. We have a rough east wind, and I took some cold. At evening had company; anxious souls.

5. Rode out and visited a distressed man. Am much pained with my maladies. Read. Had company. Great is the responsibility in directing anxious inquirers. We had, perhaps, fifteen hopeful conversions before the public meeting. God this week, in great mercy, has about doubled this number. Get no time to study or write.

6. Am quite feeble and unwell, but rely on the great physician to carry me through the labors of the day. The sunrise prayer-meetings I do not attend. In the morning preached with notes on John iii: 7. Afternoon without notes on Jer. viii: 20. Attended the evening meeting at the vestry,

<sup>1</sup> The senior pastor, too old to take any very active part in the meetings.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Jas. A. Roberts, of New Bedford.

<sup>3</sup> This "protracted" meeting began on Monday and ended on Thursday, so that it

was a "four days'" meeting. At that time these two modes of designation were essentially of the same meaning. The period of four days was chosen that the Sabbath duties of ministers might not be interfered with.

overflowing full, and preached without notes on Heb. iv: 7. Very tired and much pained in my back. The evening meeting very solemn.

7. It is thought our meeting-house was never fuller than on the last Thursday.<sup>1</sup> Wrote to Rev. Mr. Bigelow. Wrote the preceding eight days of diary.<sup>2</sup> Walked out. Am very feeble and can do but little. May the Lord help me, when there is so much to be done. I was reappointed on the school committee at the town meeting. Attended the monthly concert, having been absent the three preceding. Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow. Meeting full, and the collection, \$8.74. Much fatigued.

8. I believe I took cold by being out yesterday. We have rough easterly winds. Walked out, but kept house the most of the day. Read.

9. Read history. Visited. My pains are considerably severe. The evening rainy, and I did not go out. Received of Capt. Dexter, my collector, \$30. Paid Mr. Crosby, \$10. Wrote.

10. Walked out. I am quite feeble and get fatigued with a little exertion. Attended the evening meeting and preached without notes on Acts xiii: 46. Very full and solemn. It is a great self-denial that I must do so little.

11. Walked and visited. Find many thoughtful, burdened souls. Attended a meeting in the evening. Gave my friend Jesse, fifty cents. Have a good deal of pain. Dined out. Read.

12. Last night had pretty hard rheumatic pains. Very warm. Walked out. Wrote. Gave a poor man, fifty cents. Wrote notes for preaching.

13. In the morning my pains were considerably severe. Very pleasant and warm. Preached a sermon on Rom. i: 18, and with notes on Matt. xvi: 26. Had the evening meeting in the meeting-house and preached without notes on Luke xv: 7. Full meetings and divine influences seem to continue with us. Was carried through the services better than I feared.

14. Rode to New Bedford. It is nearly four months since I have been out of my parish. Very favorable political intelligence from Connecticut and the city of New York.<sup>3</sup> Read. My malady is better than for some days past. Wrote.

15. Wrote to my brother Francis. Was out the most of the day visiting serious ones. At evening attended a meeting. Quite warm. The work of God with us is still encouraging.

16. Read. Dined out. Warm like summer. Am very languid. There was much violence at the late New York election. Attended the evening meeting and preached on Luke xix: 44. Find some new instances of hope.

17. Visited. Rode to the Neck and preached in the evening on

<sup>1</sup> The last day of the protracted meeting.

<sup>2</sup> In such cases he wrote probably from brief hints or memoranda set down as the days were passing.

<sup>3</sup> We do not discover the nature of this favorable intelligence from Connecticut and New York city. In Connecticut, that spring, the Hon. Samuel A. Foot, who had been a

Democratic Member of Congress and United States Senator, was chosen Governor instead of Henry W. Edwards, who had also been a Democratic Member of Congress and Senator, and the year before had been elected Governor. Mr Foot, after holding the office of Governor for one year, gave place again to Mr. Edwards.

Isa. xxi: 11. The weather changed suddenly and became quite cool. Very tired and have considerable pain.

18. Read. Wrote. Rev. Mr. King,<sup>1</sup> of Tiverton, called on me. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Mr. King assisted.

19. Quite cold. Rode out with company and visited serious persons. The mercy of God toward us is very great. Read the Bible.

20. The forenoon quite wet; did not go out. Afternoon preached a sermon on Ps. xl: 4. Had a very full evening meeting at the vestry and preached without notes on Prov. v: 11, 12. The last meeting very solemn.

21. Called on Mr. King. He left his wife here sick, and has returned. Gen. Jackson has publicly protested against the proceedings of the Senate.<sup>2</sup> I fear he wishes for a commotion. At the evening meeting Mr. King preached.

22. Read the most of the day. Cold and wet. Wrote some short notes, and delivered an address in the evening to our Temperance Society. The expected performer failed. Seventeen new members were received.

23. Cold and rainy. My rheumatic pains are bad. Wrote to Mr. E. T. Foote, of Jamestown, Chautauqua County, New York. Read. Attended our evening meeting and preached on Luke ii: 48. Quite wet. Looked over documents relative to the Foote family.

24. Wrote. Walked out. Cold and high wind. Rode to the Neck, and preached in the evening on Luke ii: 48. The President's protest excites great attention and disapprobation.

25. Rode with Capt. Dexter to Sippican. Had a good visit with Mr. Cobb. A whale-ship, mostly owned here, came in with a good cargo of oil. Visited Uncle Le Baron. Did not attend the evening meeting. I find nothing disagreeable,<sup>3</sup> but fear our revival is declining.

26. Took from the treasurer of our monthly concert, \$24, collected the year past, and added to it \$15, which remained last year, and \$1, interest for the same, and borrowed \$10 of the Ladies' Mite Society, to make \$50 for foreign missions. Walked and visited. The President has revoked a considerable part of his protest. It would seem that nothing can save him from contempt.<sup>4</sup> Wrote. Had company. I think my health has improved this week, through divine mercy. On the 23d visited a school well instructed. On the 24th, at the evening meeting, baptized a child.<sup>4</sup>

27. It snowed and rained frequently through the day.<sup>5</sup> Attended meet-

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jonathan King. He was a native of Rochester, and was pastor at Tiverton, R. I., 1828-1835. He had previously been pastor at South Dartmouth, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> That is to say, he had exercised the veto power. The right of veto, lodged with the President and with State Governors, had not been much used at that time, and was more in dispute than at present. Now it is a right fully and freely conceded, and often very usefully employed.

<sup>3</sup> Passing judgments in political affairs,

as we have had frequent occasion to observe, are often very wide of the mark.

<sup>4</sup> Sylvia Russell, daughter of Gideon Hammond, 2d. This baptismal service, like several before, was performed at an evening meeting.

<sup>5</sup> Such weather as this on the 27th of April, and on the south shore of New England, shows that the springs fifty years ago were not always so mild and lovely as some people try to picture, but were very much of the same sort we have now.



ing, quite thin in the morning, and preached with notes on Rom. v: 12, and a sermon on Rom. x: 8, 9. At the evening meeting preached with notes written last evening on Zeph. i 12. Much fatigued. The people directed that the \$50 to be paid for foreign missions should be applied to make Mr. Le Baron an honorary member of the Board.

28. Read the New York *Observer*. Walked out and visited. This morning there was a good deal of frost and ice. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting.

29. Rode in the stage to Wareham and met with the Association.<sup>1</sup> Find that I was appointed at the last meeting a delegate to the General Association at Lee next June. It is doubtful whether I can go.<sup>2</sup> Preached the Association sermon, in the absence of the appointed preacher, on Rom. x: 8, 9. Attended an evening meeting. Wet.

30. Last night was the first which I have spent out of my chamber since December. The Association closed their business. Had to write considerably. Afternoon we had the meeting of the Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society. Spoke at the meeting. Showery. Capt. Dexter came for me and I rode home. Preached at our evening meeting on Heb. x: 29. Yesterday saw peach-blossoms. The season is a little forwarder a few miles back than near the water. At dinner we had asparagus. The afternoon wet. Paid to the treasurer of the Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society our donation of \$50.

#### MAY.

1. Rode and visited. Dined out. Am very feeble and languid. Read. At evening two young persons came here and were married.<sup>3</sup> Walked out late and visited a gloomy woman.

2. Visited the sick. Occupied with company. Did not attend the evening meeting. Was out late. Read. Warm and spring-like. Conversed with persons on the subject of professing religion.

3. Walked and visited. Had pretty hard rheumatic pains. Wrote. Read. Wrote notes for preaching. The people do very well at meetings without me.

4. Preached with the notes written last evening on Isa. xxviii: 17, and a sermon on Luke vii: 40-43. Preached in the evening on Eph. iv: 30. Warm and pleasant, and full meetings. Much fatigued. I trust we are not to be soon left of the good Spirit of God. We had our contribution for the Sabbath-school library, and collected \$8.81.

5. Wrote. My labors seem too great for my feeble state. Visited the sick and others. Read. At evening attended the monthly concert. Wet, and thin meeting.

<sup>1</sup> The Old Colony Association.

<sup>2</sup> Doubtful whether his health would permit so long a journey, but he would naturally be attracted by the old associations of that region, where he was at college and where

he studied theology. It had been some time since he had visited in those parts.

<sup>3</sup> Their names were Watson Cannon and Deborah S. Rogers. The name Cannon was common in Rochester.

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 1834.]

6. Last night and this morning we had a great and violent rain. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Gould, and rode today to Fairhaven and attended the funeral of his mother.<sup>1</sup> Services at his house. Last Sabbath received sixty persons into his church. Returned, and attended an evening meeting in the west neighborhood and preached on Matt. ix: 9. Received letter from sister Battell.

7. Walked out and visited. Afternoon rainy. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting. Pretty thin.

8. Wrote to D. Appleton & Co. Visited. Find it laborious, as I have always done, to bring forward persons for a public profession.<sup>2</sup> Rode out and attended the evening meeting at the Neck. Preached on John iv: 39.

9. I think I took some cold yesterday; have a good deal of pain in my limbs. Read. Yesterday received a church letter from Plymouth.<sup>3</sup> Wrote. We have a great deal of wet.

10. Made calls. Quite wet and cold; bad for my complaints. Afternoon we examined a number of persons to be propounded for our communion. They appeared well. Yesterday wrote to Rev. Elam Clark,<sup>4</sup> of Greenwich, Ct.

11. Pleasant and full meeting. Preached with notes on Rev. xxii: 12, and a sermon on Ex. xxxii: 26. At evening quite rainy, and no meeting. A young man in an anxious state of mind called to see me. Propounded twelve persons for a public profession of religion.

12. Looked at a new ship, a very fine one, nearly completed. Dined out. Visited a sick woman. Have severe pain. Read. Went to the evening meeting, and after a while left it and went and performed a marriage.<sup>5</sup>

13. Walked and visited. Conversed with persons on the subject of a Christian profession. Visited the sick. Get easily fatigued. Cold and rough wind. Preached at the evening meeting on Matt. vii: 24.

14. Visited. I think I have taken cold lately and got several small additions. Wrote a church letter to Rev. Mr. Mason,<sup>6</sup> of Nantucket. Had company. There was a hard frost this morning. Towards night became quite unwell and was unable to go out in the evening.

15. I am relieved, through mercy, yet am feverish and quite weak. My physician called on me. Kept house. Cold and blustering. Wrote a church letter to Dr. George E. Palmer, of Stonington. Persons now have to call on me to converse.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins attended this funeral in sympathy with a brother minister. He himself had an Aunt Gould, as we have seen, but we do not understand that this woman was of his kindred. He was there to conduct the funeral service.

<sup>2</sup> He recalls especially his experiences while pastor at East Windsor, where people were very reluctant to join the church.

<sup>3</sup> A church letter may be of various kinds

—calling a council, dismissing and recommending members, etc.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Elam C. Clark, whom we have before noticed, was a graduate of Williams College in 1812. He supplied the pulpit for a time at Greenwich, Ct., but was not settled there.

<sup>5</sup> The persons married were Benjamin F. Barstow and Sarah S. Leach.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Stephen Mason, before noticed.

16. For three or four mornings there has been frost and ice. Am something better, but quite feeble. Dined out. Attended the funeral of an infant child. Saw apple-tree blossoms. Received of my collector, \$35. Received a valuable letter from Dr. Eliab Todd Foot,<sup>1</sup> of Jamestown, N. Y. Occupied with company.

17. Wrote. Visited. Afternoon assisted in examining six persons for a public profession. Am quite feeble and easily fatigued.

18. Wrote notes and preached in the morning on Ezek. xxxvii: 3; afternoon a sermon on Rev. iii: 18. After meeting was at the funeral of a Baptist woman. Mr. Taylor,<sup>2</sup> from Fairhaven, preached. Much warmer than it has been. Was not able to attend the evening meeting.

19. Last night was much troubled with various affections. Can bear but little labor, mental or muscular. Yesterday received a letter from David Appleton, New York. Mr. Le Baron and several of my people think I am not able to go to Plymouth this week to the proposed ordination,<sup>3</sup> and at their desire I conclude to relinquish the design. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Holmes and informed him I cannot attend General Association at Lee the last of next month. Wrote to Esq. Robbins,<sup>4</sup> of Plymouth. Visited. Attended a short evening meeting.

20. Yesterday I was weighed. But 122. I thought I had got nearer my usual weight of about 133. Walked out. Warm and pleasant. Wrote to my brother Ammi, and to E. W. Bull, of Hartford. Saw the launch of a fine ship—the first from Mr. Cannon's new yard. It went very well. At the evening meeting preached on Matt. v: 4. We are obliged to have our evening meetings quite short.

21. Visited. Read. Quite warm and a fine season. It is trying that I cannot perform more labor. Wrote. Saw another ship launched in fine state from Mr. Cannon's yard. At the evening meeting preached on Heb. xii: 2.

22. Wrote a long letter to Samuel T. Wolcott. Visited. Mr. Breed<sup>5</sup> called here, temporarily supplying Mr. Holmes. Warm. There is a great blowth on the apple-trees. Read. Rode to the Neck, and preached in the evening on Matt. v: 4. Got home late much fatigued.

23. My health, through divine mercy, is better than it was last week. A Frenchman called on me for charity. Visited considerably. Read. I cannot bear much labor. Did not attend the evening meeting.

24. Read the Bible. My people are erecting several dwelling houses

<sup>1</sup> He is preparing a genealogy of the Foot family. Hannah Foot was his grandmother.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Mr. Taylor stands in six consecutive years of the Massachusetts *State Register* as Baptist minister of Fairhaven, with his given name wanting.

<sup>3</sup> The church letter which he had received from Plymouth had reference to the ordination of Rev. Gaius Conant as pastor of the

Second Church, Plymouth. This ordination took place April 24. This Mr. Conant was a native of Bridgewater, and a graduate of Brown University, 1800. He had been settled in Paxton, Mass., 1808–1832.

<sup>4</sup> Josiah Robbins, Esq., who was a prominent man in Plymouth affairs.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. William J. Breed (see note, March 2, 1834).

the present season. Wrote notes for preaching. Received kind and frequent presents from the family of Mr. Wilson Barstow.<sup>1</sup>

25. Preached with notes on 1 Thess. v: 19, and a sermon on Ps. x: 13. Easterly weather; have considerable rheumatic pain. At the evening meeting preached on John x: 27.

26. Wrote. Am not able to get off my flannels. Read. Walked out and visited. At evening recommenced my Bible class, after a long intermission. Began with the first chapter of Luke.

27. Wrote a long letter to brother James. Paid three small merchant's bills, \$4.98. Quite warm. Visited Uncle Le Baron and others. Am quite feeble.

28. Visited a school. The teacher is a flagellant.<sup>2</sup> Wrote. Visited. Mr. Homer Barrows,<sup>3</sup> now a licensed Andoverian, preached for me at the evening meeting and tarried here.

29. Last evening received a letter from Rev. Mr. Cobb,<sup>4</sup> desiring my assistance at a protracted meeting. Looked over the church records, which I received on the 27th from Uncle Le Baron, who has kept them till this time. Cold and wet. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture with notes on Deut. xxiii: 21. Read our confession of faith, etc., to the propounded members. Visited. Read.

30. Wrote. Attended to my things. Can bear but little labor. Dined out. Visited a school instructed by two ladies. Quite large. Removed back to my own chamber. Read.

31. Walked out. Visited a new ship soon to leave here. Read. Warmer. Read the Bible. Am anxious about the duties and scenes of tomorrow.

#### JUNE.

1. A good day. In the morning preached with notes on Matt. xxvi: 29. Afternoon we received twelve men and eight women to a public profession of religion, six of whom were baptized. One other was received by letter. After the admission we attended the sacrament of the Supper. The meeting was full and solemn. We had a little wet, but not material. All things were ordered favorably. Mr. Le Baron did a good deal. I have a great reason to bless the Lord for this apparent fruit of my labors here, rather divine blessing upon them. At evening a hard rain and no meeting.

2. The ground is much refreshed by the plentiful rain. Rode to Bedford with Capt. Freeman.<sup>5</sup> Called on Mr. Holmes. Warm and showery. Read

<sup>1</sup> There were several families of the name Barstow in Rochester. There was a Gideon Barstow, at that time one of the justices of the town.

<sup>2</sup> This word, translated into simpler English, means a whipper, and there were many school-masters of that generation that would be described by that title.

<sup>3</sup> He was graduated that summer. As before explained, he was aided from the Everest fund.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Oliver Cobb, D. D., of Sippican Village, Rochester.

<sup>5</sup> Capt. Seth Freeman, with whom he boarded when he began to preach in Mattapoisett.

in Mrs. Sigourney's<sup>1</sup> *Sketches*. At evening attended the monthly concert. Wrote.

3. Received a letter from Dr. Palmer, of Stonington, and handed it to Mr. Cannon.<sup>2</sup> Paid a merchant's bill of \$9.34. Read. Visited a school: pretty small. My rheumatic pains are troublesome. Visited.

4. Walked out. I keep a steady fire in my chamber. Read. Attended the evening meeting and preached on John iii: 36.

5. A hard wind and rain all day. Worked at books and pamphlets. Am embarrassed for want of room. Read in Hervey's<sup>3</sup> *Dialogues*.

6. Wet and cold. Employed about my pamphlets. I can perform but little labor yet. I hope my strength, through divine mercy, is increasing. Received a good letter from Rev. Elam Clark. Walked out.

7. Read. Wrote to D. Appleton & Co., New York. Warmer. Am very languid. Received a church letter from North Falmouth.<sup>4</sup> Visited.

8. Wrote notes and preached in the forenoon on Matt. xxii: 11, 12. Afternoon a sermon on Job xxvii: 8. Preached at the evening meeting on John vi: 67, etc. Full meetings. Wore no out-coat.

9. Rode out and visited. Very warm. Dined at Uncle Le Baron's. Very languid. Read. At evening had a full Bible class. Had company.

10. Wrote to the agent of the American Bible Society, New York. Sent to D. Appleton & Co., for books, \$5. Rode with Mr. and Mrs. Crosby to Sippican to attend their four days' meeting. Mr. Bigelow preached in the forenoon, I in the afternoon on Ex. xxxii: 26, and Mr. Luce<sup>5</sup> at the third meeting. The people here attend but little.

11. I believe I have taken some cold, for I have much pain in one hip. Mr. Whittemore,<sup>6</sup> Mr. Utley, and Mr. Roberts preached. Many of our

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Lydia Howard (Huntley) Sigourney, of Hartford, Ct., was a voluminous writer, both in poetry and prose. None of her works can be called great, but she was popular, and widely read fifty years ago. She was born in Norwich, Ct., in 1791, and at the age of eighteen taught a young ladies' school in Norwich, and in 1814 opened a school of this kind in Hartford. In 1819 she married Mr. Charles Sigourney, a successful merchant of Hartford. The book which Dr. Robbins was reading was, *Sketch of Connecticut Forty Years Since*, which was first published in 1824.

<sup>2</sup> His correspondence with Dr. George E. Palmer, of Stonington, Ct., seems to have been not on his own account, but for one of his parishioners.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. James Hervey, a clergyman of the Church of England, born, 1714, died, 1758. He is more familiarly known by his *Meditations and Contemplations*, commonly called,

*Meditations among the Tombs*. Theron and Aspasia is the title of one of his dialogues.

<sup>4</sup> This was a letter missive calling a council for the dismission of Rev. Paul Jewett from the Third Church in North Falmouth. Mr. Jewett was a graduate of Brown University, 1802.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Leonard Luce, a native of Rochester, graduate of Brown University, 1824, and of Andover Seminary, 1828. He was pastor at Westford, Mass., 1829-1852. Afterward made Westford his home, and supplied neighboring pulpits. Died in Westford, June 7, 1884, aged eighty-five. For many years a trustee of Lawrence Academy, Groton, Mass.

<sup>6</sup> This must have been Rev. William H. Whittemore, who was a native of Bolton, Ct., 1800, graduated at Yale College, 1825, and at Yale Seminary, 1829; preached in several places; agent in behalf of freedmen; still living in Brooklyn, N. Y., at the age of eighty-five.

people are here, to their credit. There is much stupidity and a great prevalence of Universalism here. The Lord be their helper. A schooner, with five hands of this place, has been cast away, and the men supposed to be lost. Became so unwell towards night that I was obliged to come home.

12. Last evening received a most grateful present of \$2 from Capt. James Snow. Had a considerably painful night, and this morning I am quite feeble. Wrote. At evening married my cousin Sarah Ann Le Baron to Arvin Cannon. Had a pleasant wedding.

13. Am a little better this morning, through mercy. Mr. Holmes called on me this morning, and I rode with him to Sippican. Mr. Dexter<sup>1</sup> and Mr. Holmes preached. I assisted Mr. Gould in administering the sacrament, and closed the meeting. The house was well filled. May the Lord Almighty add a blessing. Our people have attended well through the meeting. Am quite feeble, but the Lord is my stay. Returned home.

14. Yesterday received a church letter from Dea. Ebenezer Denison, of Stonington. Am better, through mercy, but considerably lame. Paid my merchant tailor a bill of \$14.65, \$10 of which is a donation to Mr. Crosby in consideration of assistance he afforded me in my sickness last fall. Visited a sick person. Read.

15. Expounded on Matt. xiii: 1-23, and preached a sermon on Ex. x: 17. Had the evening meeting in the meeting-house and preached on 1 Peter ii: 7.

16. Rainy and wet. Mr. Crosby thinks of making an addition to his house.<sup>2</sup> I propose to pay a part of the expense. Wrote. Had a full Bible class. Received pamphlets by mail, and a letter from E. W. Bull, Hartford.

17. Warm. Walked and visited the most of the day. Visited a school. I am easily fatigued. Read in Gibbon's *History*.<sup>3</sup>

18. Rainy. Afternoon we had a shower of great violence, almost flooding the ground. Read. Cannot bear study much better than muscular labor. Preached at the evening meeting on 1 Cor. iii: 11, etc.

19. The ground is much washed by the rain. We have a difficulty in our town school. The teacher whips rashly.<sup>4</sup> Rode to the Neck and preached in the evening on 1 Peter ii: 7. Returned.

20. Walked and visited the most of the day. Warm. Read. Congress evidently intend to do nothing to relieve the general distress. Had company.

21. Walked a distance and visited. We have an account of the death of Gen. La Fayette.<sup>5</sup> An extraordinary man. Received a donation,

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Elijah Dexter, father of Rev. Henry M. Dexter, D. D. Mr. Dexter was pastor at Plympton, Mass., from 1809 to his death, 1851. He was a graduate of Brown University, 1806.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Wolcott's house at East Windsor had to be enlarged (Dr. Robbins bearing part of the expense) to make room for the great library. The same has to be done at Dea. Crosby's, Mattapoisett.

<sup>3</sup> *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*.

<sup>4</sup> This is the *flagellant* before spoken of.

<sup>5</sup> La Fayette died May 28, 1834. Ten years before he made his triumphal journey through the United States, welcomed everywhere with the strongest expressions of gratitude and joy. He was born 1757, and was consequently seventy-seven years old at the time of his death.

by request, of fifteen valuable Bibles from the American Bible Society. Received from New York Burnet's<sup>1</sup> *History of the Reformation*, ordered, for which I paid \$4.50. Wrote. Ate a good sound apple. Received of my collector, \$57. Am greatly affected with dissipated thoughts. The Lord forgive and help me.

22. In the morning visited our Sabbath-school. It is large and promising. Preached a double sermon on Ezek. xviii: 32. Warm. Preached at the evening meeting on John i: 11. Have calls for my Bibles.

23. Rode with Mrs. Crosby to Bedford. Very warm. The newspapers are generally in mourning for La Fayette. Did errands. Had a full Bible class.

24. Read. Wrote to Dr. Sprague,<sup>2</sup> of Albany. Walked out and visited. Conversed with several persons on the subject of a Christian profession. Dined out.

25. Wrote. Visited. Quite warm. Find a good deal of reluctance about confessing Christ. Preached at the evening meeting on Rom. x: 9.

26. Received from Hartford a box of books and pamphlets, which I procured of the family of Dr. Williams,<sup>3</sup> of Tolland, last summer. Received also from Hartford a dozen good Bibles. Visited a school. Visited. Received a letter from Mr. John Ritchie, agent of the American Bible Society, New York.

27. Walked a distance and visited the sick and others. Dined out. Get much fatigued by my constant labors. Have but little time for myself. Received a good letter from my brother Francis. Visited.

28. Walked and made calls. Gave two Bibles for a ship. Worked at my pamphlets. I fear my people are getting into great stupidity. Have no help but in God.

29. Wet. Meeting rather thin. Preached with notes on Ps. cxl: 6, and a sermon on Ex. iii: 24, 25. At evening had a good meeting and preached on 1 John iii: 14. I bear speaking better than I have done.

30. Walked and visited. Rode to Bedford and procured some tracts to give to the ship Dryad. Paid for them, \$1. Dined out. Attended the Bible class. The season grows more favorable. Quite fatigued.

#### JULY.

1. Wrote. Began to write a sermon on the subject of the office of deacons. Am something troubled with tremor and have to write slow. Walked out and visited.

2. A committee called, and requested me to deliver an address on the

<sup>1</sup> Gilbert Burnet, 1643-1715, Bishop of Salisbury, author of the *History of the Reformation*. Other works of his were, a history of his own times, and *Exposition of the Thirty-Nine Articles*.

<sup>2</sup> William B. Sprague, D.D., whom we have hitherto found at West Springfield, has

now commenced his distinguished ministry in the Second Presbyterian Church at Albany, lasting from 1829 to his death in 1876. He was born in Andover, Ct., 1795, and was graduated at Yale, 1815.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Nathan Williams, pastor in Tolland, Ct., 1769-1829.

Fourth.<sup>1</sup> Wrote on 'my sermon begun yesterday on Acts vi: 2-6, and nearly completed it. Attended the evening meeting and preached on 2 Cor. v: 7.

3. Wrote late and nearly finished my address. Attended to some things by way of preparation. The people are much engaged in the business.

4. Wrote and finished my address. I had not anticipated the necessity of having it all written. We had a very handsome celebration. There has not been one here for many years. The children were all out with their teachers, and several soldiers of the Revolution. I delivered my address, a Baptist made the last prayer, a Universalist from Sippican read the Declaration. He did not sit down in the pulpit. Dined out. All appeared to be much pleased.

5. Am much fatigued. Have not written so much in a week for a long time. I would be thankful for the ability. Took the stage and rode to Fairhaven. Quite warm. Had a good visit at Capt. Gibbs's. Crossed the ferry to Bedford in the horse-boat.<sup>2</sup> Walked with no small fatigue up the hill to Mr. Holmes's. In the evening walked out with Mr. Holmes and attended a domestic baptism. Mr. Smalley,<sup>3</sup> minister at Franklin, and wife, came here.

6. Mr. Smalley preached in the morning very well, and then went to Dartmouth.<sup>4</sup> Preached on Ex. xxxii: 26. Mr. Holmes and Mr. Smalley returned, and Mr. Gould came, and we had a very interesting meeting in the evening and ordained four deacons.<sup>5</sup> Wrote the close of my sermon during the day, and preached on Acts vi: 2-6. Tarried at Mr. Coggeshall's.<sup>6</sup> The heat quite oppressive.

7. Did errands. No abatement of the heat. Am very languid. Found I had left my cane at Bedford, and had to return for it from Fairhaven. By this means I was left by the stage. Called at Mr. Gould's. Attended the monthly concert with him. Received a letter from brother Francis. Gideon Alden<sup>7</sup> has lately come from there. Tarried at F. L. Alden's.

<sup>1</sup> How dependent the people were upon their ministers fifty, and still more a hundred, years ago is illustrated by this application, almost every year, to Dr. Robbins for a Fourth of July address. It would be more natural now in a service of this kind to apply to men of other professions.

<sup>2</sup> This is Saturday, and he is to exchange pulpits the next day with Rev. Sylvester Holmes.

<sup>3</sup> Elam Smalley, D. D., graduated at Brown University, 1827, and settled in 1829 as colleague with the venerable Nathanael Emmons, of Franklin, Mass. He was afterwards settled at Worcester, Mass., and Troy, N. Y.

<sup>4</sup> Dartmouth was his native town, where he was born in 1805.

<sup>5</sup> "At a church meeting in May, 1834, John F. Emerson was chosen clerk, to fill

the vacancy occasioned by the death of Dea. Kempton. At the same meeting a committee reported in favor of appointing the apostolic number of deacons. Messrs. Henry P. Willis, Dr. Andrew Mackie, Sydney Underwood, and Thomas Nickerson were selected. Messrs. Willis and Nickerson declined the appointment, and at a subsequent meeting David Briggs and John Bryant were chosen in their places."—*History of Churches in New Bedford*, pp. 28 and 29. Anthony & Son. 1869.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Charles Coggeshall.

<sup>7</sup> Gideon Alden, son of Gideon and Priscilla (Le Baron) Alden, was the brother of Francis L. Alden, and was the young man who was involved in some temporary trouble in New York after the second marriage of his mother with Rev. Francis L. Robbins, of Enfield, Ct.



8. Rode home in the stage. A very fine season. People are beginning to mow. Much oppressed with the heat. Can do but little. Read. At evening walked out.

9. Wrote. We have hot nights. I think hardly as warm as yesterday. Walked and visited. Read. Had company. Conversed with persons relative to a Christian profession. At the evening meeting preached on Isa. i: 12, etc.

10. Walked a distance in the heat and visited. Not quite as warm as it has been, but the air is very languid. Find my duties very laborious. Wrote. Conversed with several persons respecting a Christian profession.

11. Wrote. Read a part of the late Universalist discussion at Philadelphia. Of little benefit. Walked and conversed with serious persons.

12. Find a greater reluctance about making a profession than I hoped to. Afternoon visited with Mr. Le Baron and certain members of the church in examining persons for our communion. They appeared well and the meeting was very interesting. Have much to do. Quite fatigued. Was out late in the evening.

13. In the morning performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup> Preached with notes on 1 Cor. i: 17, and a sermon on Ps. l: 22. Towards night it became rainy, and we had no evening meeting. Propounded eleven persons for the communion of the church. On the 11th wrote to E. W. Bull, Hartford.

14. We have had a great rain. There is some hay out and much injured. We have a great deal of cloudy and wet weather. Visited. Attended the Bible class. I have now divided it, and have males one week and females the next, alternately. Warm and sultry. Had company.

15. Walked out. Have lightened my dress a little. I am evidently better by the warm weather, through God's great mercy. Received a good letter from my brother James, and one from brother Francis. Brother Ammi is much unwell, and I fear dangerous. Wrote. Added \$1 to our late contribution for the Colonization Society, making it \$8.63. Visited.

16. Hot and damp. Visited. Sent my black surtout to my brother James by way of New York. Wrote brother James, Capt. Joshua Lovell,<sup>2</sup> of Barnstable, and to S. T. Wolcott. Attended the evening meeting and preached on Acts xvii: 11, 12.

17. Wrote. Rode to the Neck and visited several families and a small school. People begin to mow, but the weather is unfavorable.

18. Read. Wrote on an important question for Association. Hope to be guided into all truth. Cooler than it has been. Walked out.

19. Wrote. Walked out and visited. Read. Had company. Get but little time for study.

20. Visited the Sabbath-school. Expounded on Matt. xiii: 24-44, and

<sup>1</sup> The parties were William Merrithew and Silence Cannon.

<sup>2</sup> Capt. Lovell, as it soon appears by the diary, was the commander of a sloop going

to Hartford, and Dr. Robbins engages him to bring on his remaining goods, books, etc., which were still in East Windsor. Carriage by water was cheaper and easier than by land.

hed a sermon on Num. xxiii: 19. Full meeting. Wrote short notes preached in the evening, too long, on Job xxi: 7. Cooler than it has been.

21. Rode to Bedford. Agreed with Capt. Lovell, of the sloop Orion, to bring my things from East Windsor. Did errands. Read in *Miriam Coffin*.<sup>1</sup> Attended the male Bible class; pretty thin.

22. Read. Visited a school well kept by two ladies. Worked at my pamphlets. People have a fine time for haying. At evening Mr. Morgridge,<sup>2</sup> of Bedford, delivered a good address at our temperance meeting.

23. We have very warm days and nights. Dr. Cogswell,<sup>3</sup> Boston, Secretary of the American Education Society, came here and spent the day, and preached on the subject of that society. People attended well. Visited a school.

24. Yesterday wrote to Maj. Wolcott, and the day before to Capt. Lovell. Dr. Cogswell went to Sippican. Wrote. Began to write on my question for Association. Made notes on the subject on the 18th. The heat very oppressive. At evening walked out.

25. Wrote as much as I well could with such oppressive heat. Was called to see a sick man; very sick. Visited two other sick persons. A fine time to get hay, if man can work.

26. Visited the sick man; his case more hopeful. In the forenoon the carpenters left the ship-yard on account of the heat. Wrote what I could on my question through the day. I bear the heat quite as well as I could expect.

27. But little, if any, mitigation of the heat. Yesterday conversed with some persons respecting a Christian profession. Wore a thin coat, but cannot come fully to my usual summer dress. Preached a double sermon on John v: 9. Meetings thin. Propounded a man for the communion of the church. We had a contribution for the Education Society and collected \$14. I have received an addition of \$1.37 to our late Colonization Society contribution, making \$10. Preached at the evening meeting on Luke x: 47, 48. Wrote some. Feel the want of good water.

28. Rode early to Bedford. Breakfasted at Capt. Gibbs's. Did errands. The heat abates a little. Wrote and finished my long manuscript on the question for Association. Attended the Bible class. Pretty thin.

29. Cooler. The Association met here. Quite full. Three ministers,

<sup>1</sup> *Miriam Coffin* was a novel in two volumes, published in New York in 1834.

<sup>2</sup> Elder Charles Morgridge was pastor of the North Christian Church, New Bedford. He was pastor for the first time, 1826-1828, when he went to Boston, but returned after some years and was pastor again, 1833-1841. He was born in Litchfield, Me., in 1791, was educated at Bowdoin, and was a man much respected and esteemed.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William Cogswell, D. D., from 1832 to 1841 Secretary of the American Education Society. He was born at Atkinson, N. H., 1787; graduated at Dartmouth College, 1811; died at Gilmanton, N. H., 1850. From 1815 to 1829 he was settled as pastor at South Dedham, Mass., from which place he was called to be first Agent and then Secretary of the Education Society. He was afterwards professor in Dartmouth College.

agents, from abroad. Mr. Gould preached well. Our meeting not as full as I hoped for. In the evening Mr. Bliss<sup>1</sup> preached, from Boston. Meeting well attended. We had a light and refreshing shower. Am much fatigued.

30. The Association had a good deal of business. Mr. Bigelow<sup>2</sup> and I read each an elaborate dissertation on the question, pro and con, of limiting the exposition of Scripture to local and temporary application. Association adjourned at noon. Afternoon we had an interesting annual meeting of the Auxiliary Education Society. Well attended. Dr. Cogswell and others made good addresses. The Association was well accommodated.

31. Am much fatigued by my late labors. Wrote. Visited a school. Visited the sick. We have had a month of hot weather. The ground has become dry. Read late.

#### AUGUST.

1. Walked out. Very warm and languid. Read. Looked at materials for a new book-case. Visited. Louisiana<sup>3</sup> has done well.

2. Walked and visited. The ground is heated. Had company. Wrote to Hon. T. Burges,<sup>4</sup> of Providence. Had a payment from my collector. Paid a tax of ninety-one cents. Wrote. Find but little time or strength to prepare for the Sabbath. Had company.

3. Preached in the forenoon with notes on Col. ii: 6. Afternoon we received twelve persons, four men and eight women, by profession and seven by letter into the church. Five were baptized. We had the sacrament. A solemn and refreshing season. It is thought there were never so many communicants here before. At evening we had a full meeting; preached on Ps. ii: 12. I think I have indications of failure of memory.

4. Walked and visited. The effects of our revival are good. Had company. A ship was brought in here from Nantucket, towed by a steamboat, for repairs. Walked out. Quite warm, but not so oppressive as it has been. Attended the monthly concert. Rather thin. Read late. After meeting a couple came here and were married.<sup>5</sup>

5. Rode early to Bedford. Paid for repairing my watch, \$2.25. Paid for cherry boards, \$2.83. Had a bad job in getting them home. Engaged

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Seth Bliss, of the American Tract Society. Born in Springfield, Mass., 1793; pastor at Jewett City, Ct., 1825-1832; General Agent and Secretary of American Tract Society, Boston, 1832-1858. He died in 1879, nearly eighty-six years old.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow.

<sup>3</sup> This remark does not probably refer to anything special, but was made in view of the rapid growth of the State after it was admitted into the Union. In 1810 its population, white and black, was 76,556; in 1820, 153,407; in 1830, 215,739. It was admitted as a State in 1812, being the fifth added to the original thirteen.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. Tristram Burges, LL. D. This family name is commonly spelled Burgess. But Tristram Burges used but one s. He was a native of Rochester, Mass., born in 1770. He was graduated at Brown University in 1796. He was made Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island in 1815, and soon after was made a professor in Brown University. From 1825 to 1835 he was a Member of Congress, and notable for his rough strength in debate. His encounters with John Randolph were often occasions of great entertainment.

<sup>5</sup> The persons married were Samuel Yates and Emily D. Tripp.

a neighbor to make me a new book-case. Wrote. Attended my Bible class. Quite thin.

6. Wrote to H. Howe & Co., New Haven, and to W. Knight, New Bedford. Read Bancroft's new *History of United States*.<sup>1</sup> Very warm. Walked out and visited. Preached at the evening meeting on 1 John v: 1. Read late.

7. The heat severe and oppressive. Received a good letter from Dr. Sprague,<sup>2</sup> of Albany, and one from F. L. Alden. Read. Can do but little. Walked out and visited. Much oppressed with the heat.

8. Read in Bancroft's *History*. Wrote on a piece for the Boston Recorder. The heat abates a little. Visited. The ground is very dry. Finished my piece for the Recorder. Read. Yesterday wrote to Alden. Wrote. Read expositors.

9. Attended the Sabbath-school. Signs of rain fail. Expounded on F. L. Alden. Wrote. Read expositors. ii: 44 to xiv: 15, and preached a sermon on Rev. xxii: 9. At was called unexpectedly to perform a marriage.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Le Baron attended the evening meeting.

11. Had a solemn day.<sup>4</sup> Attended the Bible class. Very warm.

12. Rode early to Bedford. The heat severe. Vegetation begins to dry up. Read. Wrote.

13. Last evening we had a very grateful and refreshing shower, with a great deal of thunder. Wrote on my catalogue of books. Dined out. Read. Preached at the evening meeting on Acts xvi: 25, etc.

14. Worked at my library. Cooler than it has been. Rode with Mrs. Crosby to Fairhaven. There is a great supply of good whortleberries. Wrote on my library catalogue.

15. Worked at my library. Wrote. Walked out and visited. Received a letter from Rev. Thomas Williams,<sup>5</sup> of Providence. Read late.

16. Walked out. Wrote. Rode to Fairhaven to exchange with Mr. Gould. Crossed to Bedford. The cholera prevails some in New York and a little in some other places. Kept at F. L. Alden's.

17. Wrote a large addition to a sermon for the benefit of the Mother's Association in this place, and preached on Matt. v: 16, and Rev. xxii: 9. After meeting went home with Capt. Adams. The congregation quite large.

<sup>1</sup> This work, which has now been so long completed, was then in its early stages. The first volume was published in 1834, and the ninth in 1866. George Bancroft, LL. D., was the son of Rev. Aaron Bancroft, of Worcester, Mass., and was born Oct. 3, 1800; was graduated at Harvard College, 1817, and is still living, eighty-five years old, at this writing in Washington. He is one of the scholars who have done much to adorn and dignify American literature, and is yet active with his pen.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. William B. Sprague, who, as stated

in a previous note, had now become permanently settled in Albany.

<sup>3</sup> The persons united in marriage were Welcome Payne, of Freetown, Mass., and Louisa T. Bates.

<sup>4</sup> This was his birthday, and he was fifty-seven years old.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Thomas Williams has once or twice before been noticed in the diary. He was born in Pomfret, Ct., in 1779, was graduated at Yale in 1800, and died in 1876, at the age of ninety-seven. He was a man of remarkable brightness.

Preached at the evening meeting without notes on Acts xvi: 25, 26. Mr. Gould came home and attended. Rainy, and the meeting thin.

18. We have had a moderate and refreshing rain. Quite warm. On Saturday found Capt. Lovell<sup>1</sup> at Bedford with my book-case, etc., brought from Hartford. Afternoon rode home in the stage. Received a letter from H. Howe & Co., New Haven. Attended the Bible class.

19. Wrote on my library catalogue. Visited. Worked at my library, moving, etc. Visited at Uncle Le Baron's. Read late. Wet.

20. Wet and cold. Made a fire in my chamber. Wrote. Worked at my wood. Am very inadequate to any muscular labor. Visited. Rode to Dea. Hammond's<sup>2</sup> to attend the evening meeting. Prevented by the wet.

21. Visited. Read. The prospects of national affairs become more encouraging. May a good Providence be our helper.

22. Read in the *Life of Napoleon*.<sup>3</sup> Wrote to J. L. Belden, Esq., Wethersfield, and sent him an order of \$10 on E. W. Bull, as a donation to his wife and her sister, late sufferers by a great fire. Capt. Lovell came with my things from East Windsor; about a ton weight. Paid for freight, \$8.28. This brings the remainder of my library,<sup>4</sup> with stove, etc. Have kind assistance from men and boys. Visited. Made a donation, \$1. Read.

23. Labored, as far as I am able, at my things. They have come well. Very warm. Received a letter from my brother James, and one from Caleb Briggs. Wrote. Visited. By request attended the evening meeting and preached on Luke xii: 32.

24. Preached on Num. xxxv: 11, with notes, and a sermon on Luke xvi: 25. Baptized two children.<sup>5</sup> I think our meetings are not as full as in months past. Preached at the evening meeting on 1 John ii: 1. Rather thin.

25. Rode to North Rochester and married my neighbor, Mr. Jolls.<sup>6</sup> Had a very pleasant wedding. Rode down here with a company and dined.

26. Yesterday received a letter from H. Howe & Co., New Haven, with a bundle of books. Last evening had a good Bible class. Had a new book-case brought me. It is very well made. The whole cost is \$20. Paid towards it, \$5. Worked laboriously, with good help (three boys),<sup>7</sup> moving book-cases and arranging my library. Walked a distance and visited an aged man very low. Visited. Read in Dr. Mason's *Works*,<sup>8</sup> just purchased.

<sup>1</sup> Capt. Joshua Lovell, of Barnstable, by whom he had sent for his goods.

<sup>2</sup> Dea. Amittai Hammond.

<sup>3</sup> Probably in Sir Walter Scott's *Life of Napoleon*, which was first published in 1826.

<sup>4</sup> This settles the question about his library. It had never been wholly removed from East Windsor, where it was first gathered, until now.

<sup>5</sup> Emily Frances and Nathan Dexter, children of Mr. Abner Hall.

<sup>6</sup> The persons united in marriage were John F. Jolls and Julia Ann Brailey.

<sup>7</sup> A compliment to the boys.

<sup>8</sup> John Mitchell Mason, D. D., born in New York city, 1770, and died there, 1829. He was one of the most distinguished of American preachers, if he did not for a time occupy the foremost place. A collection of his works, edited by his son, Dr. Erskine Mason, in four volumes, was first published in New York in 1832.

27. Worked at my library. It is a hard task for my feeble state. Wrote. Received of my collector, \$80. Preached at the evening meeting on Ps. xci : 1, 2.

28. Am much oppressed with a cold. Wrote to Gen. Howe, of New Haven, and received a letter from him and one from Mr. Richmond,<sup>1</sup> of Dartmouth. Paid our market man for meat, etc., at the time of Association, \$2.56; and for work, forty cents. Visited. It grows cool. Have a fire.

29. Employed a part of the day at my library. Several of my books are left behind. I fear some are lost. Attended the funeral of the aged Mr. Noah Hammond. Rode with company to Fairhaven. Read.

30. Walked and visited. Warm. Public sentiment through our country seems to be slowly recovering from the delirium of Jackson Democracy. Mostly completed the arrangement of my books. My cold continues. Much fatigued. Took medicine.

31. Went into the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on 2 Peter i : 9, and a sermon on Amos iv : 12. Gave to deserving persons a Bible and Testament. Spoke with difficulty on account of my hoarseness. At evening we had the monthly concert. Very tired. The severe warm weather seems to have closed with the closing summer.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. A great caravan of animals came into our village this morning. A number of their baggage wagons came in yesterday afternoon. An abomination.<sup>2</sup> From Wareham through Rochester. Wrote. Afternoon set out on a journey to Providence. Rode to New Bedford. There are a few cases of cholera in this town. Tarried at a tavern.

2. Yesterday paid Dr. Mackie,<sup>3</sup> \$20. His bill for my last sickness is \$33. Called on Mr. Holmes, and at evening attended with him at the monthly concert. Rode early to Fall River in a stage, took the steamboat, and arrived before noon at Providence.<sup>4</sup> The sail was quite pleasant. Wet and cool. Called on Prof. Goddard.<sup>5</sup> Walked in a procession to the meeting-house and heard a good oration. Did errands. Paid for gloves, \$1. Called on Rev. Mr. Waterman.<sup>6</sup> Am kindly treated.

3. A pleasant day, but quite warm. Attended Commencement exercises. They were good; better than I expected. The audience was very regular. Dr. Wayland's presiding was middling. But one exercise.<sup>7</sup> Dined at the

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Richmond.

<sup>2</sup> A great caravan of animals is not apt to be very cleanly, physically or morally, though Mr. Barnum has the art of presenting it as a "moral show." With all its drawbacks, it has generally been deemed useful and instructive.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Andrew Mackie.

<sup>4</sup> This was Commencement week at Brown University.

<sup>5</sup> William G. Goddard, LL. D., Professor of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy in Brown University, 1825-1834, and Professor of Rhetoric and Belles-Lettres, 1834-1842.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Waterman, born in Windham, Ct., 1802; graduated at Yale, 1822; pastor of Third Church in Providence, 1826-1837.

<sup>7</sup> That is, one session. In old times, Commencements generally lasted all day.

college dinner. Afternoon heard from Mr. Senator Robbins,<sup>1</sup> of Newport, a fine oration, and from young Mr. Burgess<sup>2</sup> a good poem before the Phi Beta Kappa Society. At evening went with Mr. and Mrs. Goddard to a very splendid party at Mr. Ives's. Tired.

4. Saw Rev. Messrs. Waterman and Williams.<sup>3</sup> Went into the convention sitting to make a constitution for the State. Very warm. Am very languid. Paid for a book, sixty-three cents. Afternoon took the boat at three o'clock, got to Fall River at six, and to Bedford at nine. Much fatigued.

5. Wet and rainy the most of the day. Some hard showers; very grateful. Crossed early to Fairhaven. Afternoon rode home in the stage. Have had a prosperous journey. Read.

6. We have had a hard and refreshing rain. Received a letter from H. Howe & Co., and one from J. L. Belden, Wethersfield. Mr. Roberts, of Bedford, called on me. Read. Very warm. Visited. We have some sick. Wrote.

7. Expounded on Matt. xiv: 15 to xv: 10, and preached a sermon on Prov. xxix: 1. There was a Universalist meeting, with a considerable number of people. The evening meeting was prevented by rain. Read in the *Life of Wickliffe*.<sup>4</sup>

8. Read. Occupied with company. Wrote to H. Howe & Co., New Haven, and to Rev. Mr. Nott, of Wareham. The evening Bible class thin. Am quite affected with an ague in my face. Swollen and painful.

9. Wet and showery. Wrote. Read *Life of Wickliffe*. At evening married my cousin Eliza Le Baron<sup>5</sup> to Mr. Hubbard, of Brimfield. The dry ground had become well supplied with wet.

10. Walked out. My ague is better, but still troublesome. Visited a school. Rode to Fairhaven. Attended the evening meeting and preached on Ps. cvii: 13. Read.

11. Wrote. Dined out. Rode to the Neck and visited. At evening had a meeting and preached on Acts xvi: 25, 26. Tarried out. A good deal of fruit in this neighborhood. Quite cool.

12. Visited a sick man and other families. My long ill health has prevented my visiting as much as I would have been glad to. Toward

<sup>1</sup> Ashur Robbins, LL. D., born in Wethersfield, Ct., 1757; graduated at Yale College, 1782; tutor in Brown University, 1783-1790; a distinguished lawyer in Newport; Senator of United States, 1825-1839.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. George Burgess, D. D., afterwards Episcopal Bishop of Maine. He was son of Judge Thomas Burgess, of Providence, was graduated at Brown University in 1826. He was a man greatly distinguished. He was born in Providence, R. I., 1809, and died in 1866.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Thomas Williams.

<sup>4</sup> There was a *Life of Wickliffe* (spelled Wicliff, and now sometimes Wiclif) published in New York, in one volume, in 1832. There was a *Life of Wicliff* published in London in 1820. The name of Wickliffe grows greater with time.

<sup>5</sup> This Eliza Le Baron was his second cousin, daughter of his cousins William and Eliza (Le Baron) Le Baron. She was born in 1816. Her husband was Philip G. Hubbard, of Brimfield, Mass.

evening was carried home. Read. They have done rather poorly in Maine.<sup>1</sup> Visited.

13. This morning there was some frost. Attended to my library. A good many books are missing. It is long since it has been together. Wrote. Had company.

14. Preached with notes on Ps. i: 2, and a sermon on Ezek. xxxvi: 26. Full meeting. At the evening meeting reviewed the subjects of the day. Read late.

15. Worked at my library. The task is laborious. Read. At evening had a good Bible class. I am affected with habitual debility and can do but little.

16. The State of Maine cannot get rid of its yoke of Democracy.<sup>2</sup> Quite warm. Walked out and visited. Looked at our new burying-ground. It is a fine place and well laid out. Worked late at my books.

17. Walked and visited the most of the day. Quite warm. Am very languid. Had the evening meeting at Dea. Hammond's and preached on John i: 12.

18. Very warm and foggy. Read. Looked over my books. Received a letter from my sister Battell. My good brother Ammi is quite low, and she wishes me to visit them. May God show me the way of duty. Visited.

19. Visited a school. Took advice, and conclude on account of my feeble health not to attempt my proposed journey.<sup>3</sup> Visited a family severely afflicted with the sudden death of a little child. Wrote to sister Battell.

20. Wrote. Attended to my books. Read. Wrote notes for preaching. Very warm.

21. In the morning attended the funeral of Mr. Cannon's child. The first burial in the new burying-ground. Endeavored to consecrate the ground in the public service. Preached with notes on Job xiv: 2, and a sermon on Ps. lxxxix: 3, 4. Full meetings. Warm and dry. At the evening meeting preached on Matt. v: 20.

22. Worked at my books. Walked out. The Bible class quite thin.

23. Visited the ship-yard. Gave a Bible to a vessel. Rode to Bedford with company. Paid Dr. Mackie,<sup>4</sup> \$13, the residue of what I owed him. My rheumatic pains are something troublesome. Dined out.

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<sup>1</sup> The Maine election had just taken place, and the aspect of affairs was too Democratic. Hon. Robert P. Dunlap was re-elected Governor, and continued in office till 1838.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Robert P. Dunlap, who had just been elected Governor, was a well-known lawyer; graduate of Bowdoin College, 1815; had been President of the State Senate; was afterwards Member of Congress, 1843-1847, and President of the Board of Overseers of Bowdoin College.

<sup>3</sup> His brother Ammi was out in Central

New York, and the journey which would have to be made to reach him would not be less than two hundred and fifty or three hundred miles. In his state of health he wisely concluded that it would not be safe for him to undertake it.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Andrew Mackie, a physician of New Bedford, who has been several times mentioned, was a graduate of Brown University in the year 1814. Dr. Robbins was accustomed to call upon him when his illness was more than usually severe.



24. Am still putting up my books. About one hundred volumes are missing. Visited a sick man and others. Rev. Mr. Woodbury,<sup>1</sup> an agent for Oberlin Institute,<sup>2</sup> Ohio, came here. He preached at an evening meeting. His account of the efforts and calculations of the Catholics in the valley of the Mississippi is appalling. Was up late.

25. Mr. Woodbury went away. Gave him \$1. Wrote. Read. Wrote to Mr. Wolcott and Ursula. Am a good deal oppressed with debility.

26. Walked and visited the most of the day. Visited a sick man very low. Received a letter from H. Howe & Co., New Haven. A remarkably fine time for vegetation for the season of the year.

27. Have nearly completed my task with my books. Visited the sick man, and in the afternoon he died. He had lived a few days in a new house which he has been building. Rode to Fairhaven. Visited a sick woman.

28. Preached a double sermon on Eph. ii: 5. Cool. Baptized a child.<sup>3</sup> Did the same last Sabbath.<sup>4</sup> There was a Universalist meeting. Those who attend are seldom at any other meeting. Preached in the evening on Luke xvii: 17, 18.

29. In the forenoon attended the funeral at the meeting-house. An affecting scene. Preached on Ps. cxxvii: 1. Finished putting up my books. It has been a great task. Attended the Bible class.

30. Rode to Bedford. Did errands. Visited the sick and others. This morning we had a pretty hard frost.<sup>5</sup> The first that has injured vegetation.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Wrote to Mr. C. C. Baldwin,<sup>6</sup> of Worcester. Received a box of valuable books from New Haven. Looked them over. Read late. Had no evening meeting. Rainy. Visited the sick.

2. Warm and wet. Had rheumatic pains. Preached a preparatory lecture with notes on John i: 11. At evening attended the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. We have collected about \$34. Read Bancroft's *History*.<sup>7</sup> Received a letter from W. N. Ellis, of Sippican.

3. Wrote to Mr. W. N. Ellis, Sippican. Finished reading my Bible in course, which has been quite too long in doing. Walked a distance and

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Benjamin Woodbury, a graduate of Dartmouth College, 1817. He was settled in Falmouth, Mass., 1824-1833, when he went to Ohio, and died there in 1845. He was a native of New London, N. H.

<sup>2</sup> Oberlin Institute, as it was at first called, received its charter as Oberlin College in 1833, and no collegiate institution in the land has had a more wonderful history.

<sup>3</sup> The child baptized was Delia Eldredge, daughter of Rowland Howland.

<sup>4</sup> The child baptized the previous Sabbath was Sophia Allen, daughter of Benjamin Bacon.

<sup>5</sup> The first hard frost that injures vegetation is a very irregular event in our New England seasons. Sometimes it comes in the last of August or first of September, and sometimes not till the middle of October.

<sup>6</sup> Christopher Columbus Baldwin was a young man of much promise, the Librarian of the American Antiquarian Society of Worcester. Only a few months later, August, 1835, he was killed by the upsetting of a stage in Norwich, O.

<sup>7</sup> He was reading the first volume of Bancroft's *History*, as no other was then published.

visited a number of families. It is difficult for me to endure the evening air.

4. Began to read my Bible in course, and may God enable me to finish it in the enjoyment of his great mercies. Walked out and did errands. Mr. Ricketson, of Bedford, called on me and made a pleasant visit. Was occupied the most of the afternoon. Wrote. Preparing for the Sabbath.

5. Cool, but very pleasant. Last night we had considerable rain. Preached a sermon on 1 John iv: 20. Afternoon had no sermon. Spoke on the subject of the Sacrament of the Supper. Administered that ordinance. Mr. Le Baron was something unwell and did not assist. Baptized five children<sup>1</sup> belonging to two families. Full meeting. Preached at the evening meeting on Isa. i: 18, etc.

6. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Raymond,<sup>2</sup> of Assonet. This morning we had a pretty hard frost. Rode to Bedford with company. Did errands. Paid for ink, seventy-five cents. Donation, \$1.25. At evening attended the monthly concert; quite thin.

7. Have some cold. Wrote. My ink, procured yesterday, does well. It was a box containing eleven small bottles. Visited. Wrote an addition to a temperance address. Was up late.

8. Read. Quite warm for the season. Rode to Sippican and delivered an address in the evening to the Temperance Society. We had a good meeting. A number of our people, singers and others, were present.

9. Visited at Sippican. I hope the Universalist interest there is declining. Was brought home. Afternoon and evening rainy. Read on the subject of types. Wrote.

10. Wrote to my brother Francis. Visited a school. Dined out. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Raymond, of Assonet, and a valuable one from Mr. C. C. Baldwin, of Worcester. Visited. A fine crop of apples in this place and immediate vicinity. Quite cold.

11. A hard frost this morning. Walked out. Wrote to E. W. Bull, Hartford. Read the Bible. Read expositors.

12. Expounded on Matt. xv: 10 to the end, and preached a sermon on Rom. vi: 23. At the evening meeting spoke on the subject of the same sermon. Baptized two children.<sup>3</sup> Full meetings. My health of late, through the divine blessing, has evidently improved.

13. Walked out. Paid toward my new book-case, \$10. The whole cost is \$21.62. Read. Wrote to Howe & Co., New Haven. Attended the young women's Bible class, and closed at Luke xx: 9.

14. Last night we had a pretty hard rain. Read the Bible. Cold and

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<sup>1</sup> These children were: Jane Leonard, daughter of Leonard Hammond; Edward Francis, Joseph Cannon, Susan Amanda, Abigail Haskell—these four, children of Stephen Snow.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Stetson Raymond, a native of Mid-

dleborough, Mass., graduated at Brown University, 1814; pastor at Assonet Church, Freetown, 1829-1836.

<sup>3</sup> The two children baptized were Martin Luther and Samuel Thomas, sons of Ebenezer Cannon, Jr.

windy. The Connecticut election has succeeded,<sup>1</sup> but very close. Rode to the Neck, and preached in the evening on Job xlii: 5, 6. Tarried out.

15. The ground this morning was frozen. Visited several families. Had a long walk home. Had the evening meeting in Pine Island district and preached on Job xlii: 5, 6. I bear fatigue, through divine mercy, better than I have done.

16. Read the Bible. Received a good letter from Rev. Mr. Fairchild,<sup>2</sup> South Boston. He has given an infant son my name. Read. Accounts from the Middle States are favorable. Visited families.

17. Visited the sick. Finished reading Genesis. Dined out. Wrote. Have received of my collector this week, \$51.50. Had a valuable new surtout made. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Mason,<sup>3</sup> of Nantucket.

18. Prepared for my journey, and rode with Mr. Hammond to Assonet.<sup>4</sup> Met Mr. Raymond going to Mattapoissett. This is an old and pleasant village. Called on Mr. Hammond's friends with him. Riding gives me some pain. Paid for books, \$3. Donations, fifty cents.

19. Preached on Job viii: 13, and Luke ix: 30, 31. At evening it rained, and we had a thin meeting; preached on Matt. xv: 22, etc. This congregation is small; the Baptist is larger. Had Rev. Messrs. Andros<sup>5</sup> and Shaw<sup>6</sup> at meeting. Tarried at Dea. Burt's.

20. The forenoon quite wet. Made some calls. Treated with much kindness. About twelve o'clock took the stage and rode to Boston. Considerably hurt by the jar of riding.

21. Walked out. Called on my cousin Chandler Robbins.<sup>7</sup> Kindly received. Made calls and did errands. At evening walked to Mr. Fairchild's, South Boston. He has given my name to a little son.<sup>8</sup> Tarried there.

22. Walked about. The city has become large, and makes long walks. Took the railroad car at two o'clock and rode in seventy-five minutes to

<sup>1</sup> From the closing years of the last century to about 1829, the party acting in opposition to the Democrats (sometimes called Republicans) were Federalists. From 1829 to 1853 the successors of the old Federalists were called Whigs. Their successors down to the present day are Republicans. Connecticut in 1834 elected a Democratic Governor, but probably a Whig Legislature, with a small majority. The Governor was Samuel A. Foot, who was a very able and honorable man.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robbins, when at East Windsor, Ct., and Rev. Mr. Fairchild, at East Hartford, Ct., were very intimate and friendly.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Stephen Mason, before noticed.

<sup>4</sup> Assonet was the Indian name of Free-town, in Bristol County, Mass. The white settlement in this town began in 1659. It

lies about twelve miles northwesterly from New Bedford.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Thomas Andros, born in Norwich, Ct., 1759; settled in Berkley, Bristol County, 1788, where he had just been dismissed (June 19, 1834), after a ministry of forty-six years.

<sup>6</sup> Probably Rev. Philander Shaw, who was born in Marshfield, Mass., 1767; graduated at Harvard, 1792; settled in Eastham, Barnstable County, in 1795, where he died in 1841.

<sup>7</sup> Dr. Chandler Robbins, who had been settled over the Second (New Brick) Church of Boston, Dec. 4, 1833.

<sup>8</sup> He has one namesake in Windsor, Ct., but, as he had no children of his own, it was pleasant to have his friends testify their respect in this way.

Framingham; twenty-one miles.<sup>1</sup> The whole scene is a wonder.<sup>2</sup> Rode in the stage to Worcester. Heard from brother Francis; quite well. Bear riding well. Bad news from New Jersey and Pennsylvania.<sup>3</sup> Traded, \$3.

23. Went early to Dr. Bancroft's.<sup>4</sup> Treated very kindly. Went with the doctor to the Antiquarian Society's House, and was received cordially by Mr. Baldwin. Looked at the collection here, which is large and very valuable. Mr. Baldwin is the very man for his place. Afternoon we held the annual meeting of the American Antiquarian Society. Quite interesting. Gov. Davis and Gov. Lincoln were present. Considerable company in the evening at Dr. Bancroft's.

24. Rode by stage and railroad to Boston. From Framingham to Boston, twenty-one miles, in sixty-five minutes.<sup>5</sup> Did errands and made calls. Paid \$9.25 for books for a donation to my neighbor, Dr. I. N. Southworth.<sup>6</sup> He made me no charge for his long attendance during my sickness. Paid for books, \$6. Bought a number of second-hand books, towards which \$20 remains due. Took dinner at Dr. Chandler's,<sup>7</sup> and tea at cousin Peter's,<sup>8</sup> at Roxbury. Made calls. Procured a very fine German Bible. Cool.

25. Breakfasted at Boston, and rode by stage to Taunton and Fairhaven. Found Mr. Crosby there and came home. Have been favored of heaven with a very prosperous journey. Have had fine weather since Monday noon. Find things well at home among my people. I think my health is better for the journey. Great are the divine mercies. Received a letter from my sister Battell, one from Mr. Mason,<sup>9</sup> of Nantucket, and one from E. W. Bull,<sup>10</sup> of Hartford. Considerably fatigued.

26. Wet and rainy through the day, and afternoon and evening very hard. Preached with notes a double sermon on Gal. i: 8. Meetings very thin. Read. Called on Uncle Le Baron.

27. Wrote. Walked out. Rode to Bedford with company. At evening married H. Cannon<sup>11</sup> to my cousin Mary Hammond.<sup>12</sup>

28. Rode to Dartmouth and met with our Association. Mr. Holmes

<sup>1</sup> That was an astonishing rapidity in 1834—twenty-one miles in one hour and fifteen minutes. The same distance is traveled now by the rapid express trains in thirty-five minutes.

<sup>2</sup> This was his first ride on a railroad. The earliest regular railroad in England, between Liverpool and Manchester, was opened in 1830. The Boston & Worcester track was completed as far as Framingham in 1834. From Framingham to Worcester the journey was then by stage. The road was opened to Worcester in 1835.

<sup>3</sup> The October elections had come off, and the result was Democratic.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Aaron Bancroft, D. D., father of the historian. He was graduated at Harvard, 1778; was pastor of the Second Church,

Worcester, from 1786 to his death, 1839. He was born in Reading, Mass., in 1755.

<sup>5</sup> The time was ten minutes less from Framingham going in than when he came out, perhaps owing to the down grade. Framingham is more than a hundred feet higher than Boston.

<sup>6</sup> This was because Dr. Southworth took nothing for his attendance on Dr. Robbins.

<sup>7</sup> Chandler Robbins, M. D.

<sup>8</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. Stephen Mason.

<sup>10</sup> Eben W. Bull, M. D.

<sup>11</sup> Hallett Cannon.

<sup>12</sup> Mary Allen Hammond, daughter of Wyatt and Mary (Le Baron) Hammond. She was born Sept. 26, 1816, and was now eighteen years old.

preached, and Mr. Storrs<sup>1</sup> preached in the evening. The members attended well. Mr. Richmond appears to be doing good here. Last evening wrote to E. W. Bull, Hartford.

29. The Association did considerable business. I was appointed a delegate to next General Association. Afternoon we attended the annual meeting of the Auxiliary Domestic Missionary Society. I was chosen the secretary. Came home. Found at Bedford and brought home the box and bundle of books I sent from Boston. On Monday at Bedford took a view of J. A. Parker's splendid house. Attended our evening meeting and preached on Matt. vi: 9. Pleasant to be at home.

30. Walked out and made calls. Procured black cloth for a suit of clothes at \$6.25 per yard.<sup>2</sup> Read. Wrote eight days of diary. Paid for honey, fifty cents.

31. Had my stove put up. Paid for labor, eighty-eight cents. Read the Bible. Wrote. Looked over Sir W. Raleigh's *History of the World*,<sup>3</sup> and other books, lately procured.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Walked and made calls. Wrote to Mr. Nott,<sup>4</sup> of Wareham. Read the Bible. Cool for the season.

2. Preached with notes on Jer. xiii: 23, and a sermon on Deut. vi: 6, 7. Our Sabbath-school was closed for the season. The report much more favorable than any previous one since I have been here. Whole number of pupils, 154. Recommended our singing-school, just commenced. Full meeting. Preached at the evening meeting on Jer. xiii: 23.

3. Very pleasant. Did errands. Wrote. At evening attended the monthly concert. After which rode to Fairhaven and tarried at Mr. Gould's.

4. In the morning took the steamboat, with several ministers and many other passengers, and sailed to Nantucket. A pleasant day, but a good deal of wind and a rough sea. Suffered much with sea-sickness, and was unable to be up the most of the day. Very feeble. Kindly received by Mr. Mason<sup>5</sup> and his family. At evening preached in the old meeting-house to a large assembly on Luke ix: 30, 31. Spoke with considerable ease.

5. Am quite relieved from my stomach sickness. Looked at the new meeting-house. It is a very fine one, and stands on a commanding and beautiful site. Mr. Burt<sup>6</sup> preached in the forenoon, Mr. Richmond<sup>7</sup> in the

<sup>1</sup> Richard Salter Storrs, D. D., of Braintree, then acting for American Home Missionary Society.

<sup>2</sup> Nice cloth—and Dr. Robbins did not buy any other—was high in those years.

<sup>3</sup> In 1829 appeared the Oxford edition of Raleigh's *Works*, with biographies by Oldys and Birch, the whole in eight volumes. This is a work which Dr. Robbins would be likely to have in his library.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott, Jr.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Stephen Mason. They had gone to Nantucket for the dedication of a new meeting-house, and were going to make a great occasion of it, having it last for several days.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Daniel C. Burt, a graduate of Brown University, 1828, and settled in 1835 over the old, almost extinct First Congregational Church in New Bedford.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Richmond, of Dartmouth.

afternoon, and Mr. Mason<sup>1</sup> in the evening, taking leave of the old house. Took tea at Mrs. Dunham's, late of Mattapoissett.

6. The meeting-house was dedicated. A numerous and thronged assembly. Mr. Holmes<sup>2</sup> preached very well. Mr. Pratt,<sup>3</sup> of Barnstable, made the dedicatory prayer. Nine ministers were present from the main. A joyful day. The new house and the occasion seems to be gratifying to the whole town. The congregation are much pleased with the presence of so many ministers. They had fine music. Afternoon attended the auction sale of the pews. They sold about seventy; very well. Walked out. The town appears well. Mr. Fowler<sup>4</sup> preached in the evening, and we had a prayer-meeting at sunrise. I am well accommodated at Mr. Mason's.<sup>5</sup>

7. Attended the morning prayer-meeting. Mr. Cobb<sup>6</sup> preached in the forenoon, Mr. Burt in the afternoon, and Mr. Gould<sup>7</sup> in the evening. After the evening sermon we had a prayer-meeting, and an address to youth and children, separately. Meetings full and serious. Had a pleasant visit at Capt. Alden's. Paid for pamphlets, fifty cents. Up late.

8. All the ministers excepting me went off in the boat in the morning. Walked with Mr. Lincoln,<sup>8</sup> the former minister here, and visited places and persons curious and interesting. There are many curiosities here of articles procured by their ships, but few old books. Drank tea at Mr. Mitchell's. There is great frugality, industry, and neatness in this town. At evening we had a full meeting, and I preached without notes on Matt. xv: 22, etc.

9. Preached in the morning on Job viii: 13; afternoon on Luke xxii: 15. Mr. Mason assisted in the exercises. After the afternoon service we had the sacrament. About four fifths of this church are females, and a part of the men are at sea. Whole number about one hundred and fifty. Preached in the evening to a full house on Rom. ii: 4.<sup>9</sup> After which attended with Mr. Mason a stated meeting of the Sabbath-school teachers.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Stephen Mason, the Nantucket pastor.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Sylvester Holmes, of New Bedford.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Enoch Pratt, a native of Middleborough, a graduate of Brown University, 1803; pastor of First Church, Barnstable, 1807-1835.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Orin Fowler, native of Lebanon, Ct., 1791; graduate of Yale, 1815; settled in Fall River, 1831, where he remained in office till his death, in 1852. Meanwhile he was Member of Congress from 1848 to his death, which occurred in Washington, D. C.

<sup>5</sup> This whole occasion was, without doubt, a very pleasant and joyous one. The people of Nantucket were simple-hearted and hospitable, and the plan of public services was on a large scale.

<sup>6</sup> This may have been Oliver Cobb, D. D., of Rochester, Sippican village, or it may have been Rev. Asahel Cobb, of Sandwich; or it may have been Rev. Nathaniel Cobb, who from 1827 to 1829 had been pastor of this Nantucket church.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. William Gould, of Fairhaven.

<sup>8</sup> Many ministers have preached in Nantucket who were never settled there. There had been at that time no settled minister on the island of the name Lincoln. The man who walked with Dr. Robbins was probably Rev. Calvin Lincoln, a graduate of Harvard College in 1820.

<sup>9</sup> The same sermon heard by the writer of this in 1832, in Scantic parish, East Windsor, Ct., to which reference has been made in a previous note. It was evidently a favorite sermon with Dr. Robbins.

At noon went into the Sabbath-school. Large and well instructed. Not greatly fatigued.

10. The State election. Here it is an animated holiday. There were about six hundred voters, and seven eighths Whigs.<sup>1</sup> Made calls. Dined at Mr. Parkhurst's. Received some small and very acceptable presents. Went up the tower of the new meeting-house to the observatory. A fine prospect. Drank tea at Mrs. Coffin's. She is a daughter of Gen. Goodwin,<sup>2</sup> of Plymouth. At evening a meeting of the Bible class and the youth in the vestry. Spoke considerably. The pews of the meeting-house have sold well. Mr. Mason and his people think the visit of the ministers here has done them much good. Purchased of the church, through Mr. Mason, Baxter's practical *Works*, four folios, for \$16.<sup>3</sup> Paid towards them, \$5. It is a very valuable work. There has been no frost here this fall to kill vegetation.

11. Receive many thanks for my labors and visit here. Took the steam-boat in the morning and came to Bedford. My expenses are defrayed by Mr. Mason's people. The latter part of the passage the sea was rough and I was quite sick. I bless God that I have taken this journey. New York city and State have been unfortunate in their late election.<sup>4</sup> They are held in iron bondage. At evening rode home. Found in a vessel at Bedford a large bundle of books sent by Gen. Howe, of New Haven—Owen's *Works*, twenty-one volumes.<sup>5</sup> Find all things well, through God's great mercy. Mr. Holmes preached here last Sabbath at four o'clock.

12. On Monday the people of this town did very well at their election. About four hundred votes; three hundred Whig. Walked out. Wrote diary. Received letters and pamphlets from the office, a letter from Gen Howe, New Haven, and one from Mr. Nott, of Wareham. Visited a school. At the evening meeting spoke on Heb. iii: 19.

13. Read. Dined out. Walked and visited. Examined a female school-teacher. Warm.

14. Wrote diary. Visited Uncle Le Baron. Yesterday received a large addition, a lower part, to my small pine book-case. Visited a woman whose husband died in my late absence, a poor family recently from England. At evening went into our singing-school. It appears well. Read late. The

<sup>1</sup> Here the new name for the old Federalists first appears in the diary. The name had been gradually coming into use for four or five years, and Nantucket seems to have been very strong on that side.

<sup>2</sup> Gen. Nathaniel Goodwin, whose daughter, Mary Jackson, born in 1773, married Gardner Coffin.

<sup>3</sup> This was a work for which such a library collector as Dr. Robbins would have a natural longing.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. William L. Marcy, who was first

elected Governor of New York in 1832, continued to be re-elected until 1838, when Hon. William H. Seward followed for four years, 1838–1842.

<sup>5</sup> John Owen was one of the great thinkers and writers of the Commonwealth period in England. He was born in Stadham, Oxfordshire, in 1616. Like Jonathan Edwards in this country, a century later, he was of Welsh descent. He died in 1683, and was buried in Bunhill Fields, where reposes the dust of so many worthies.

late election in this State has gone very well.<sup>1</sup> In New York very bad. Holy is the Lord.

15. On Thursday morning Mr. Cobb,<sup>2</sup> of Sandwich, and his wife called on me. It has suddenly become quite cold. Visited. Two men have lately fallen in the ship-yard by the breaking of a stage, and are much hurt. Wrote. Read expositors.

16. This morning we had a considerable fall of snow. Thin meeting. Expounded on Matt. xvi: 1-20, and preached a sermon on 2 Chron. xxxiv: 3. At evening spoke in a full meeting on Rev. iii: 20.

17. Am considerably chilled by the cold. The most of the snow went off. Wrote to Homer Barrows,<sup>3</sup> preaching at West Middleborough. At evening attended the Bible class. Mr. Crosby had news that his father has had a paralytic shock and is very low.

18. A hard rainy day. Dined out. Wrote to W. Howe, of New Bedford. Filed letters. At evening attended our temperance meeting. Read.

19. Mr. Crosby and his brothers went off for Barnstable. Wrote. Paid for a book subscribed for, dear enough, \$1.88. Paid for sawing wood, \$1. The evening meeting thin. Preached on Ps. lxviii: 20.

20. Read. Paid my subscription for the American Home Missionary Society, \$2. Filed letters. We have an account that the buildings of the British Parliament have been consumed by fire.<sup>4</sup> Occupied with company.

21. Wrote. Dined out. Rode to Bedford with company. Paid for freight, \$1.37. Looked at the ruins of the late fire. Mr. Crosby came home. His father is living, and a little better.

22. Read. Wrote more than half of a sermon begun a good while ago, and finished it, on 1 John i: 7. Have neglected writing too much.

23. Preached with notes on Num. xiv: 8, and afternoon and evening the sermon on 1 John i: 7. Full meeting.

24. Visited Uncle Le Baron. Read Raleigh's *History of the World*. Wrote. Cold. At evening attended the Bible class. Not as attentive as I could wish.

25. Read. Received a letter from brother Francis. I conclude he is about as well as I am, but our complaints are different. This family had considerable company, who visited my chamber of course.<sup>5</sup> Visited. Read in Owen's *Life*.

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<sup>1</sup> Honest John Davis, as he was called, was chosen Governor of Massachusetts in 1834, and continued in office till 1836. He was Governor again, 1841-1843.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Asahel Cobb.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Homer Barrows, before mentioned, was graduated at Andover Seminary only three months before, in the class of 1834. He was a native of Wareham.

<sup>4</sup> The Houses of Parliament were burned Oct. 16, 1834. The present Houses of Par-

liament, on the banks of the Thames, began to be built in 1837, but were not finished until several years later. "The whole stands on a bed of concrete twelve feet thick; to the east it has a front of about 1,000 feet, and covers an area of nine statute acres. It contains 1,100 apartments, 100 stair-cases, and two miles of passages or corridors."

<sup>5</sup> Everybody who came wanted to see his great library. It was a far greater curiosity then than now, as libraries are so multiplied.



26. Received two small boxes of articles sent for from Hartford. Paid for the freight, sixty-four cents. Read Owen's *Life*, a valuable piece of biography. Wrote. Wrote a sermon for Thanksgiving on Ps. cl: 6. Began to write at one o'clock and finished at eleven. I have not written so successfully since my sickness. All of the rich mercy of God.

27. Thanksgiving. Cold, but pleasant. Preached the sermon written yesterday. Dined at cousin J. Le Baron's.<sup>1</sup> Meeting pretty well attended by men. We had our usual contribution for widows. Read. I think I have taken some cold; had considerable rheumatic pains.

28. Walked and visited. Began a letter to brother Francis, but was interrupted by company. Walked out and visited. Visited a sick woman. She died in the evening. A bad case of pneumonia.

29. Cold. Read. Walked and visited. At evening we had a hard rain. Got something wet.

30. Preached in the morning with notes on 1 Kings xiv: 6. Afternoon we had a convenient opportunity, with a clear sky, to observe the eclipse. At three o'clock attended the funeral of Mrs. Taylor. It was numerous and affecting. She has left seven young children, with a poor husband. At the evening meeting, in the meeting-house, preached a sermon on Ps. cvi: 23. Am considerably affected with rheumatic pains. One star was distinctly visible during the eclipse.<sup>2</sup>

#### DECEMBER.

1. Read. There is a terrific prospect of the spread of Popery in our country.<sup>3</sup> Rode to Bedford. My book-binders neglect my work. Wrote to E. W. Bull, of Hartford. At evening attended the monthly concert. Thin. Read late.

2. Last night had considerable pain. The Lord be my helper. Wrote and finished a long letter to brother Francis. Have got in a bad way of being late at night and in the morning. Wet and rainy.

3. Wrote to Mr. C. C. Baldwin,<sup>4</sup> of Worcester. Dined out. Rev. Mr. Cushman, of North Wrentham, came here and preached at our evening meeting. We made him some donations for his feeble people.

4. Had a fine duck floor-cloth made and put under my stove. Paid for

<sup>1</sup> James Le Baron, born in 1794, the youngest child of Rev. Lemuel. There was also in this family a John Allen Le Baron, born in 1782, but we suppose this and similar entries refer to James.

<sup>2</sup> This eclipse of the sun, described in the *Farmers' Almanack* of Thomas G. Fessenden, of that year, began at Newport, R. I. (which is nearly in the same range with Rochester, Mass.), at 1 o'clock and 21 minutes, and ended at 3 o'clock and 54 minutes. About 10½ digits were covered. The almanack says: "This remarkable eclipse will be total in some parts of Arkansas Territory,

and of the States of Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina; at Savannah, Beaufort, and Charleston the sun will be entirely obscured about a minute and a half."

<sup>3</sup> Popery has spread largely in our country since then, but the Roman Catholics do not make more than a tenth part of our population, and that proportion is not likely to be increased. The present influx from Germany and Northern Europe is Protestant.

<sup>4</sup> The Librarian of the American Antiquarian Society at Worcester, whose untimely death at the age of thirty-five has been already noticed.

it, \$3.75. Received of my collector, \$28.87, and gave him a receipt in full for my last salary. It has been well paid. Dined out. Preached a preparatory lecture on 1 Cor. v: 8. Visited. Cold.

5. Wrote. Read. Paid Mr. White for procuring castings for my stove, and labor setting it up, including \$5 paid before, \$9.65. He paid at the furnace, \$3.50, and charged for the patterns, \$2, which are now mine. Paid him for my new pine book-case, with drawers, \$9.35. For making the lower part, \$6; altering the upper part, \$2; knobs, \$1.37. I have yet to pay for lumber, \$2. The cost of the whole is \$19.50. This family had company. My room and library were much noticed.<sup>1</sup> Very pleasant.

6. A violent storm of wind and rain. Wrote. Afternoon walked out and visited a sick man. Read.

7. Very pleasant. Preached with notes on Rev. ii: 7, and a sermon on Phil. iii: 14, 15. Attended the sacrament; Mr. Le Baron assisted. Received a young man into the church by recommendation. At the evening meeting spoke on Ps. xxxvi: 1. All the meetings unusually full. Was up late. Read.

8. Rainy again. Read the President's long Message.<sup>2</sup> It is written with skill, but very deceptive and false. Attended the Bible class. Walked out. Wrote on a letter to brother James.

9. Wrote. Visited Mr. Randall's school. Walked out and visited. Read. Received a number of articles from the post office.

10. Cold. Walked a distance and visited a school. Feel my rheumatic debility. Dined out. Preached at the evening meeting on Acts xviii: 9, 10. Visited. Read late in Owen's *Life*.

11. Visited sick persons. I have fears that we shall be visited with a pestilence. The Lord be our helper. Visited a school. Wrote. Finished my long letter to my brother James. Wrote late.

12. Walked a distance and visited a school. Received a letter from Mr. H. Barrows. Read in *Miriam Coffin*.<sup>3</sup> Wrote to Dr. E. T. Foote,<sup>4</sup> Jamestown, N. Y. Visited.

13. It snowed considerably. Read. I think there is danger that the President will get us into a war with France. Wrote. Yesterday received a letter from E. W. Bull, Hartford. Read expositors.

14. In the morning it was warm and wet, but there soon came on a snow-squall, and it soon became very cold, which increased through the day. Had a thin, short meeting in the forenoon, but the stove-pipe got injured by the wind and the meeting-house was filled with smoke. Had no afternoon meeting. Had a small meeting in the evening in the vestry. Preached in the morning and evening a double sermon on Eph. ii: 12. Visited a sick man. In the evening the cold was very severe.

<sup>1</sup> Showing that, as his visitors took much interest in the library, he also had a natural pride in it.

<sup>2</sup> President Andrew Jackson's first Message to Congress on his second term of office.

<sup>3</sup> The novel in two volumes, before mentioned, published in New York, 1834.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins, it may be remembered, was compiling a Foot genealogy; not a full one, probably, but containing the heads.

15. My ink and other liquids in my chamber were entirely frozen. Thermometers last evening and this morning were below zero. My own has been with a mechanic for repairs. Kept my chamber. Read *Miriam Coffin*. Yesterday read the Bible. Towards evening walked out. In the evening it moderated and the mercury rose to 20°. Got my own thermometer home. Had no Bible class. Read.

16. Read. Walked and visited. The ground is hard frozen, but the cold is abated. My chamber needs a good deal of fire.

17. Began to write a dissertation on the doctrine of grace. I have too much neglected writing on important subjects. Preached at the evening meeting on Luke xiii: 24. Read late.

18. Walked and visited. Wrote on my dissertation. Am some affected with rheumatic pains.

19. Wrote to E. W. Bull, of Hartford, and drew an order on him for \$200. Walked a distance. Very good traveling. Wrote attentively on my dissertation. Mr. H. Barrows called on me.

20. In the morning had company. Rode to West Middleborough to exchange with Mr. Barrows. Called on Mr. Gould, at Fairhaven. Moderate weather. Very good riding. Had a hard task in taking care of my horse, etc.

21. Clear and cold. Rode a distance to meeting. The meeting-house is old and poor, but the society, living much scattered, appears to be a pretty good one. Preached on Ex. xxxii: 26, and Ps. x: 13. At an evening meeting preached on Luke xiii: 24. Tarried at Dea. Leach's.

22. Rode to New Bedford and home. The binder has not yet done his books. Mr. Barrows was well liked here. Read. Sent Mr. Crosby, \$200, the avails of my order on Hartford. Attended the Bible class and finished Luke. A fine day for the celebration at Plymouth.<sup>1</sup>

23. Wrote. Wrote on my dissertation. Read. Visited. My rheumatic pains are quite troublesome.

24. Walked considerably. Cannot study much on account of pain in my back. The Lord be my helper. Spoke at the evening meeting on Acts viii: 8. Received a letter from Mr. Fowler,<sup>2</sup> of Fall River, and one from my cousin S. P. Robbins.

25. It snowed considerably. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Fowler and put up some books for him. Painfully hindered by company.

26. Rode to Sippican and attended the funeral of an aged woman. Cold and some snow. Considerable sickness at Sippican—Mr. Cobb,<sup>3</sup> and others. At evening read. Not able to write much. I hope, through mercy, my rheumatic complaints are abating.

27. Walked out. Read. Wrote on my dissertation, but did not finish, as I hoped. Occupied with company. Am unable to write long at a time. Pretty steady winter weather.

<sup>1</sup> Forefathers' Day, and Plymouth always celebrates the day.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Orin Fowler.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Oliver Cobb.

28. Thermometer this morning at 18°. Preached my long dissertation. It occupied two exercises and evening meeting. Text, Eph. ii: 5, last clause. Meetings well attended; the last quite full. Much fatigued.

29. Visited three sick persons hard sick. Fevers prevail with us. May God be our helper. Dined and drank tea at Unce Le Baron's. Light snow and tedious. Had no Bible class. Wrote in the evening, copying my dissertation, nearly six hours, with but little intermission. Thermometer about freezing.

30. Last night and this forenoon had a severe snow-storm. Thermometer about freezing. Walked out. The snow is nearly a foot deep and very solid. Wrote and finished the first draft of my dissertation. Read Gov. McDuffie's<sup>1</sup> message; full of nullification. Read late.

31. Wrote on my copying. Good sleighing. Read. Have some rheumatic affections, but O how different from the close of last year. Great are God's mercies. Had company. Spoke at a thin evening meeting on John xiv: 1. Wrote late. Closed a year of great, very great mercies.

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<sup>1</sup> George McDuffie, Governor of South Carolina, 1834-1836.



## 1885.

### JANUARY.

1. Attempted early to commit my soul and all my interests and capacities and duties to God, and to the guidance and keeping of his grace for the coming year. I pray for health, for usefulness, and to see the prosperity of Zion. Dined at my cousin J. Le Baron's with company. Quite cold, and very good sleighing. Thermometer 18°. Read. Wrote. Have many hindrances.

2. Last night we had an addition to our heavy body of snow. Can do but little in the morning after writing late in the evening previous. Rode to the Neck and attended the funeral of an infant child. Wrote what I could in the evening, copying and improving my dissertation. Had company. Paid \$2.00 for the *Recorder* newspaper for this year.

3. Last evening the thermometer was at freezing, but this morning about 20°, and the cold seemed to increase through the day. Yesterday received a good letter from C. C. Baldwin,<sup>1</sup> of Worcester. Received a long and good letter from my brother James. He is, unfortunately, much of an abolitionist.<sup>2</sup> Wrote and completed in the evening my dissertation on the Doctrines of Grace, four sheets nearly of close writing. Directed to Rev. Seth Bliss,<sup>3</sup> No. 5 Cornhill, Boston, to be carried by Mr. Barstow,<sup>4</sup> our Representative. Visited a sick man hopefully convalescing. In the evening was requested to attend a funeral at Sippican tomorrow. The circumstances are peculiar, and I think it my duty to go.

4. Thermometer this morning at 4° in a back chamber, and did not exceed 14° through the day. Rode with Mr. Crosby to Sippican, and attended the funeral of Mrs. Holmes, and preached on 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57. A good many of our people were present. There was a meeting here in the forenoon only. Preached in the evening at the vestry with notes on Esther iv: 13, 14. Full meeting. Extreme cold day.

5. Thermometer last evening at 8°, this morning near zero. Wrote. Am mercifully preserved from hard rheumatic pains. Read. Afternoon we had a meeting, in connection with many others, of prayer for the conversion of the world. Spoke at length on prophecies and covenant promises. At evening met in the vestry, a continuation of the former meeting. Both well attended. Our harbor is fully frozen.

6. Thermometer about 10°. Rode to Bedford to attend Association. It

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<sup>1</sup> Christopher C. Baldwin, who has been before mentioned, the Secretary of the American Antiquarian Society.

<sup>2</sup> That language does not sound so well now as it did once.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Seth Bliss, of 5 Cornhill, was the

Boston Secretary of the American Tract Society, and this communication was doubtless intended for publication by that society.

<sup>4</sup> Capt. Zaccheus M. Barstow, who was the Representative from Rochester to the General Court.

snowed some in the morning, and soon came on a violent and tedious snow-storm, with severe cold. Mr. Crosby carried me over and returned. Dined at Mr. Ricketson's.<sup>1</sup> Went to Mr. Holmes's, and spent the night. No other came, and we did not go out in the evening. Mr. H. and I read a manuscript to each other.

7. Was cold all last night, but am less ill today than I feared. Three brethren came to our meeting, and we did a little business. Thermometer this morning at 8°. But little abatement of the cold, which is terrible. Kept at Mr. Ricketson's, and spent the night there. Not warm. In the evening preached a preparatory lecture for Mr. Holmes on Matt. v: 16. A very heavy body of snow on the ground.

8. A little more mild and pleasant. Walked with Mr. Ricketson, and made calls. Afternoon he brought me home. The harbors are frozen firm and far. At evening preached at Dea. Hammond's to a small meeting on John xiv: 1. A walk home in a poor path was very beneficial to me.<sup>2</sup> Brought a number of books from the binder's.

9. Thermometer 18°. Read. The frost has been hard in my chamber. Have to burn green wood. Was invited out, and spent a considerable part of the day. Do not perceive that my complaint is any worse for the severe season.

10. Read. Received pamphlets by mail. Wrote articles for a Female Fragment Society. Walked out. Much hindered by company. Pleasant. Thermometer up to 37°. The accounts of the cold last Monday are surprising. At Providence, where the mercury, at the same place, had not for thirty years exceeded 11°, was 15°. Sabbath, Monday, and Wednesday, were the coldest days. At New Bedford it was in the harbor, 17°. Taunton, 22°; New Haven 23°; Hartford, 27°;<sup>3</sup> Portsmouth, 20°; Saco, 28°. Paid and gave a poor man, .63. Wrote.

11. Pleasant and fine sleighing. There was a Universalist meeting here. Expounded on Matt. xvi: 21 to the end; and xvii: 14 to the end. Preached a sermon on Rev. iii: 2, 3. We have had but twelve deaths the year past. Preached to a full evening meeting on Phil. iii: 8. Quite tired. Read late.

12. Read. Wrote a petition respecting intemperance, to be presented to the General Court.<sup>4</sup> Visited. It thaws from day to day. Capt. Freeman paid me \$25.00, \$17.00 of which went to take up a note he held against me. Gave him an order on my collector. Attended the Bible class; rather thin. We have very pleasant days and nights. Read late.

13. Mr. Fowler,<sup>5</sup> of Fall River, came here early, and read me the most of

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Joseph Ricketson, a prominent man in New Bedford, and one of the trustees of the Seamen's Bethel.

<sup>2</sup> It exercised him thoroughly, and set his blood, chilled by cold, flowing freely.

<sup>3</sup> When the thermometer at Hartford falls 20° below zero, it is very cold. When it goes 27° below it is very extraordinary.

<sup>4</sup> If petitions to the General Court could have availed to stop intemperance in Massachusetts, we should have been a happy people long before this present time.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Orin Fowler, pastor at Plainfield, Ct., 1820-1831, and at Fall River, 1831-1852. Member of Congress, and died at Washington, 1852.

five lectures on baptism, which he intends to publish. They are written with much ability and labor. I gave him a recommendation. Wrote a constitution for our Ladies' Fragment Society. Attended the singing-school.

4. Walked out. It rained some. For two or three days the thermometer has risen between 40° and 50°. Paid my post office bill for a year, \$14.78. My newspaper and pamphlets cost a good deal. Had but a short meeting in the evening. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Fowler. Received a letter from Dr. E. T. Foote. Wrote.

5. Thermometer above 50°. The most of the snow is gone. The ground very wet. Read. Walked out. Read a long piece on abolitionism. A poor business.<sup>1</sup>

6. Wrote on my library catalogue. Walked and visited. Bad going. Read the Bible. The mercury at Bangor is said to have been 39°.<sup>2</sup> Rode in the stage to Fairhaven to exchange with Mr. Gould.<sup>3</sup> The snow is mostly gone. Crossed to Bedford and returned. Kept at Capt. Gibbs's.<sup>4</sup> He is quite feeble.<sup>5</sup>

MAY.

1. Wrote. Warm. Am quite languid. Visited Mr. Randall's school. Received a letter from Mr. Whittlesey, of Danbury. Visited.

2. Began to write a tract. Read. My periodicals come irregularly. Occupied with company.

3. Read expositors. Expounded upon Matthew xviii: 19 to xix: 16. Preached a sermon on Isa. v: 4. Full meeting. Our Sabbath-school commenced for the season. We had a contribution for its library. Spoke at the evening meeting on Acts xiii: 38. Quite tired. Read.

4. Walked out. Worked a little. Am feeble. Received a good hat<sup>6</sup> from Danbury by New York, for which I paid \$7.00. Attended the monthly concert. Something rainy, and the meeting quite thin. Read.

5. Wrote. Last Sabbath baptized a child. Wrote on my tract. Advance but slowly. At evening had a Bible class. Mr. Crosby and his company have a good job at Wareham.

6. Wrote. Worked some, but am weak.<sup>7</sup> Dined at Capt. Le Baron's.<sup>8</sup> His youngest son has returned from a whaling voyage of near three and one half years.<sup>9</sup>

7. Rode with company to Fairhaven and Bedford. Could not find Mr. Holmes as I wanted. Capt. Gibbs is quite low. Probably near his grave. Wrote.

<sup>1</sup> The Lord, and not man, at last abolished American slavery.

<sup>2</sup> That is, 39° below zero.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William Gould.

<sup>4</sup> Capt. Anselm Gibbs.

<sup>5</sup> Here occurs a break in the diary reaching from January 16 to May 1st, occasioned by severe sickness.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. Robbins first had a hat made in

Danbury at the beginning of the century. He liked the Danbury hats so well that he generally had his hats made there, but they cost him more than good hats do now.

<sup>7</sup> These expressions recurring indicate that he was slowly recovering from sickness.

<sup>8</sup> Capt. William Le Baron.

<sup>9</sup> This was an old-fashioned whaling voyage to the South Seas.



8. Finished my tract. I hope it may be useful. The season is considered unusually backward. Had a meeting with the Sabbath-school teachers. Worked some.

9. This morning there was some frost. Received of Nathaniel Freeman, \$10.00, which I let him have three years ago for a sea venture.<sup>1</sup> Last evening met with the Sabbath-school teacher. Afternoon rode to Bedford. Met with Mr. Holmes on the way, and he returned with me. Attended to their church matters. Got home too late.

10. Preached with notes on 2 Kings vii: 3, and a sermon on 1 Cor. ii: 9. At five o'clock the Universalist Taylor had a meeting, and preached on the same text that I have lately, Ezek. xiii: 22. Tuesday evening received a note from Dr. Southworth, requesting me to attend and assist at the meeting.<sup>2</sup> Yesterday wrote to him and declined. At the evening meeting reviewed the sermon of the day. Well attended.

11. Walked and visited the sick. Spring advances. Had my room white-washed. Read. Am much debilitated. At evening attended the Bible class.

12. Wrote. Visited a school. Attended the funeral of a young child. Visited.

13. Received a letter from brother Francis, and one from cousin S. P. Robbins. Wrote to brother Francis. Attended the evening meeting. Read from the *Home Missionary*. Meeting very thin. Read.

14. Worked some. People are planting. Wrote. Wrote on past diary. Van Burenism<sup>3</sup> prevails dreadfully in our country. Read.

15. Rainy. Walked a distance. Visited. Received of my collector, \$75.00. At evening met with the Sabbath-school teachers. Read late. Paid for my lot in the burying-ground, \$5.95. A subscription for a bass-viol, \$2.00. For lumber for my last book-case, \$1.96.

16. Wrote. Paid Mr. Crosby, \$15.00. Gave, to be contributed tomorrow for our singing, \$1.00. Rode to New Bedford. Paid my book-binder, \$10.00. Made some calls. Rode in a small stage to Dartmouth to exchange.<sup>4</sup> Kept at Capt. Bayley's. In the evening attended a prayer-meeting.

17. Preached on 1 John i: 7, and Job viii: 13. Instructed a class in the Sabbath-school. Preached at the third meeting without notes on 2 Kings vii: 3. This congregation is small, but apparently improving. The village is considerably large and ungodly. Spent the night at Dr. Kingman's.

18. Yesterday and day before I got cold, and am quite unwell. Rode to Bedford. Spent the most of the day in conversing with persons of Mr. Roberts's and Mr. Holmes's churches, trying to reconcile them, and

<sup>1</sup> That sea venture in the three years it had been out seems to have caught nothing.

<sup>2</sup> This Mr. Taylor, as we understand it, was to take a text which Dr. Robbins had just preached upon, and show what different conclusions he could reach; and Dr. Robbins was asked to assist in the service. That was a singular kind of politeness.

<sup>3</sup> This was the latest form of the Democratic disease which had been so long troubling Dr. Robbins. Martin Van Buren was then Vice-President, and two years later was elected President.

<sup>4</sup> The settled minister at Dartmouth was Rev. Thomas T. Richmond, pastor there from 1832 to 1837.

remove their difficulties.<sup>1</sup> Saw Rev. Mr. Hunn,<sup>2</sup> of Wapping, East Windsor. Blossoms are plenty. Quite warm. Rode to Fairhaven. Went to bed quite ill.

19. Am, through mercy, a little better of my cold. Capt. Gibbs continues very feeble. Saw Mr. Breed,<sup>3</sup> about to be settled at Nantucket. He preached at Mattapoisett last Sabbath, and Mr. Richmond went to Nantucket. Rode home in the stage. Kept house. Read. Had company.

20. Am very hoarse. Looked over and filed letters. At evening a shower, with much thunder. Had no evening meeting. Cough a good deal nights.

21. Quite cool. Wrote on a paper for the Massachusetts Convention of Ministers. Occupied with company. A small difficulty in our Sabbath-school. Read. Connecticut has a miserable Legislature. I suspect more vile than ever.<sup>4</sup>

22. Wrote. Walked and visited. Consulted historic documents. Met with the Sabbath-school teachers in the evening. This morning there was some frost. Yesterday received of Dea. Crosby, on my last year's salary, \$12.00.

23. Still quite cold. Visited Uncle Le Baron. Some frost this morning. Wrote. Preparing for my journey.

24. Full meeting. Preached on Ps. cxxx: 3, and Ps. cxxx: 4. Capt. Freeman carried me to Bedford. Heard in the evening Rev. Mr. Cox, a Baptist minister from England. Tarried at Mr. Holmes's. Was up late. Am considerably hoarse.

25. Rode in the stage with Mr. Holmes, Dr. Cox,<sup>5</sup> Mr. Hobby, and others, to Boston. Quite warm and dusty. Apple-tree blossoms appear. Am accommodated at Mr. Monroe's, near Park Street Church. An excellent place.<sup>6</sup> At evening attended the annual meeting of the Education Society. A very important and prosperous institution. Much fatigued.

26. Called on my cousin Chandler<sup>7</sup> and breakfasted. Treated kindly. Very warm. Did errands. Attended various meetings. The abolitionists make a good deal of noise.<sup>8</sup> Dr. Skinner preached before the Pastoral

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Rev. Sylvester Holmes and Rev. James A. Roberts, pastors of the North and the Trinitarian Churches in New Bedford. The difficulty seems to have been more with the members of the two churches than with the pastors, though both were very likely involved.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. David L. Hunn, who had not been settled at Wapping, but had supplied the pulpit there from 1832 to 1835. He had just closed his labors there.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William J. Breed, a graduate of Yale, 1831, and of Andover, 1834, settled at Nantucket 1835-1839. Afterwards for some years financial agent of Yale College.

<sup>4</sup> Oliver Wolcott, the younger of that name, was still the honored Governor of Connecticut, and a majority of the Legislature were Democrats.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. F. A. Cox, D. D., an English Baptist divine, author of several religious works, who died at the age of seventy-three in 1853.

<sup>6</sup> At that time families of Boston opened their houses to entertain people coming from the country to attend the anniversaries.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Chandler Robbins, D. D., was settled over the Second Congregational (Unitarian) Church in Boston in 1833.

<sup>8</sup> The New England Anti-Slavery Society was organized in 1832, and it soon began to

Association pretty well;<sup>1</sup> very long. Assisted at the evening missionary meeting. The business is very fatiguing.

27. Assisted at the morning prayer-meeting. A fine season. A great number of ministers in the city. The public charities have done well the year past. Attended the meeting of the American Antiquarian Society.<sup>2</sup> Gave Mr. Baldwin a copy of the *Christian History*. Dined at Gov. Winthrop's<sup>3</sup> with the first company on salmon. Mr. B. Russell<sup>4</sup> informed me of the grateful news that the French Chamber has passed the American Indemnity Bill by a large majority. Attended the Convention of Ministers. Visited with Mr. Holmes.

28. Attended and assisted at the morning prayer-meeting. Mr. Cobb<sup>5</sup> preached before the Convention very well. The contribution was short of \$70.00, and the meeting was rather thin. Paid the bookseller, Burnham, \$10.00. Walked to South Boston and visited Mr. Fairchild, and at Mr. White's. Mr. Fairchild has lately lost his promising little son, Thomas Robbins.<sup>6</sup> Am quite feeble. Spoke at the Foreign Missionary meeting in the evening. Cooler than it has been. Contributed \$1.00.

29. Did errands early. Dana, .69. Took the stage and rode to Fairhaven. Vegetation has advanced very rapidly this week. The apple-trees are in full blossom. Much fatigued with labor and want of sleep. Tarried at Capt. Gibbs's. He is quite low. My cousin, F. L. Alden, is quite unwell. Much rejoicing in this quarter at the French news.<sup>7</sup>

30. Rode home. The whole country is very beautiful. Am feeble and fatigued. Received a letter from the church in Nantucket, and one from Rev. Mr. Storrs.<sup>8</sup> Visited four sick persons. Read.

31. Quite warm. Expounded on Matt. xix: 16, to the end, and preached a sermon on Rom. iii: 3. At the evening meeting reviewed the subjects of the day. Read the Nantucket letter to the church, and they chose a delegate. Our evening meetings are late.

#### JUNE.

1. Am languid, and can do but little. Wrote nine days of diary. Read.

hold meetings in Boston during anniversary week in May. Doubtless this remark was called out by the fact that such a meeting was in progress during anniversary week in 1835.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Harvey Skinner, D. D., born at Harvey's Neck, N. C., in 1791, a prominent Presbyterian minister, and from 1848 to 1871 professor of rhetoric and pastoral theology in Union Theological Seminary. He was a graduate of the college of New Jersey 1809. He died Feb. 1, 1871.

<sup>2</sup> Its home, as before stated, was Worcester, but it was then customary to hold the annual meeting of the society in Boston during anniversary week.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Thomas Lindall Winthrop—from 1826–1832 Lieut.-Governor of Massachusetts.

<sup>4</sup> Col. Benjamin Russell, from 1784 to 1828 editor and publisher of the *Columbian Centinel*. He died in 1845.

<sup>5</sup> Oliver Cobb, D. D.

<sup>6</sup> This was a child by Rev. Mr. Fairchild's second wife, whom he married in Philadelphia, while he was settled at East Hartford, Ct.

<sup>7</sup> They might not have rejoiced quite so heartily if they had known how long time it would take to get back their money. Governments move slowly.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Richard Salter Storrs, D. D., of Braintree.

At evening attended the monthly concert. Gave some account of the anniversaries last week. The meeting was late.

2. Walked a distance, and visited a sick man and others. Quite warm. Removed my flannel one grade. Dr. Sawyer and Mr. Briggs,<sup>1</sup> of Fairhaven, called on me. Mr. Holmes came from Bedford to see me, relative to the difficulty between their two churches. Towards evening Dea. Burgess<sup>2</sup> came for me. I went with him and attended a meeting of a number of the two churches, and we had an unpleasant and late discussion. Tarried at Dea. Burgess's.

3. Called on Mr. Holmes. Deacon B. brought me home. The season is very fine. Wrote. Mr. Blanchard,<sup>3</sup> an agent for an institution in Indiana, called on me. Walked with him to Uncle Le Baron's.

4. Walked and visited. Read. Attended our preparatory lecture; pretty thin. Mr. Blanchard preached, and afterwards made a statement of his object. I left the meeting before it was concluded, and rode to Bedford. Attended a long meeting of the committees of the two churches till near twelve o'clock at night. We got through the business, but I fear there is no great reconciliation. Tarried at Mr. Holmes's. Wrote to Zechariah Eddy,<sup>4</sup> Esq., of Middleborough.

5. Am quite overdone. The church paid my expenses. Rode home. Mr. Blanchard is here. Found Capt. Gibbs very low. Read. At evening a very grateful shower prevented our meeting.

6. Mr. Blanchard went to Bedford. Wrote. Quite warm. Visited the sick. Wrote on an ordination charge. Received of my collector, \$18.26. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Utley.<sup>5</sup>

7. Am but poorly prepared for the duties of the Sabbath. Preached with notes on Ps. li: 12, and a sermon on Heb. iv: 15. At evening spoke on Matt. ix: 13. Assisted in administering the sacrament. During the day was hoarse, and spoke with labor. We made a collection of five dollars and a half<sup>6</sup> for Mr. Blanchard.

8. Yesterday and last night quite cool. This morning there was some frost.<sup>7</sup> Wrote. Finished writing an ordination charge. At evening attended a meeting of the Sabbath-school teachers. Preparing for my journey.

9. Rode early with cousin J. Le Baron<sup>8</sup> to Fairhaven. Capt. Gibbs is apparently in a dying state. Capt. Dexter and his wife are with us. He and Capt. Le Baron<sup>9</sup> are my delegates. Took the steamboat, with several ministers and others, for Nantucket. Was sick nearly the whole passage.

<sup>1</sup> All these calls seem to have had reference to the church difficulties in New Bedford.

<sup>2</sup> Dea. Cornelius Burgess.

<sup>3</sup> Jonathan Blanchard, D. D., who has since been President of Knox and Wheaton Colleges in Illinois, and is still living.

<sup>4</sup> He probably wrote to Mr. Eddy about these church troubles at New Bedford. Mr. Eddy was for many years regarded as one of

the wise men touching the rights and duties of Congregational churches.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Samuel Utley, before noticed.

<sup>6</sup> Not a great collection for college building.

<sup>7</sup> This was the 8th of June, and very late for frost, especially upon the south shore of New England.

<sup>8</sup> John A. Le Baron.

<sup>9</sup> Capt. William Le Baron.

Had some severe vomiting. Kindly received. Am quite feeble. Mr. Breed and his new wife went with us. The council was organized. I was senior and moderator. Mr. Breed appeared well on examination. The parts were assigned. The people appear to be much animated with their prospects. Capt. Le Baron kindly paid my passage.

10. The council met in the morning; after which we attended the ordination. I gave the charge. Mr. Fairchild<sup>1</sup> preached very well. The house was very full. We had a public dinner at which most of the members of the society and several guests were present. It was in high style, but no drink but water.<sup>2</sup> Made calls. Preached in the evening on Ps. x: 13. Much fatigued.

11. Walked out. The season here is dry, and the roads are very dusty. Business here is in a good state. In the forenoon attended a prayer-meeting. My delegates left here on their return. Dined and had an agreeable visit at Capt. Allen's. Took tea with Mr. Dunham's family. Mr. Nott<sup>3</sup> preached in the afternoon, and Mr. Fairchild in the evening. Was out late.

12. Rode with a party to Siasconset.<sup>4</sup> Had a fine view of the island. That little village is a curiosity. Saw some antiquities. Dined at Mr. Clapp's, formerly of Hartford. Very warm and dusty. Mr. Gould preached in the afternoon, and Mr. Holmes in the evening. We had a supper at Dea. Rawson's. Took tea at Mrs. Coffin's. Mr. Breed appears well. His people are much united and attached to him.

13. Was up early. Quite misty. Paid Mr. Breed \$11.10 in addition to \$5.00 paid last fall for Baxter's *Works*, bought of that church. Took the steamboat, with others, and came to New Bedford in six and one half hours. It was a good time, and I was but a little sick. Have been treated with much attention and kindness in my absence. Paid for my home passage, \$2.00. My cousin Le Baron paid the other. Mr. L. Hammond sent his chaise, and brought me home. Called at Capt. Gibbs's.<sup>5</sup> He died on Tuesday night. Mr. Roberts<sup>6</sup> attended his funeral yesterday. Am fatigued with my journey and want of rest. Mrs. Dea. Crosby is very low. Mr. Mather,<sup>7</sup> an agent for the Education Society, called on me. Wrote. Received a letter from Z. Eddy, Middleborough. Last night there was a refreshing shower here. A very neat cane was given me at Nantucket by Mr. William Mitchell, marked 1735.

14. Am pretty feeble. Attended the Sabbath-school. Mr. Le Baron<sup>8</sup> does much good in it. Preached with notes on Ps. lv: 16, and a sermon on

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Joy H. Fairchild, of South Boston.

<sup>2</sup> The temperance cause had taken hold of Nantucket.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott, of Wareham.

<sup>4</sup> Now, for short, called Sconset, but written on the map Siasconset.

<sup>5</sup> Capt. Anselm Gibbs.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. James A. Roberts.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. William Loomis Mather, a native of New Britain, Ct., graduate of Hamilton College, 1828, a pastor in several parishes East and West, and an agent of the Education Society. He died in Andover, Mass., April 15, 1868, in his sixty-second year.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, the senior pastor, then eighty-five years old.

Rom. xi: 22. Baptized a child.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Mather came and preached at our evening meeting.

15. Mr. Mather went away. Wrote considerably. Visited Mr. Le Baron and others. At evening had a good Bible class.

16. Rode with company to Bedford. Cool. Purchased a pair of black buckskin shoes. The late difficulties here seem to be little benefited by the late meetings. Carried a volume of Flavel's *Works* to Fairhaven, sold to Mr. Breed, of Nantucket. Visited. Donation, \$1.25.

17. Walked and visited the most of the day. Read. Wrote. Yesterday received a letter from S. Bailey, of Bedford. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Job xvii: 9.

18. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Holmes. Prepared a report for General Association. Walked out a distance. Am much troubled with a corn.

19. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Richmond, of Dartmouth, and Dea. Bailey, of Bedford. Visited the sick. We have steady and fine weather. At evening and in the night we had a hard thunder-shower. No evening meeting.

20. Visited the sick. Am concerned about leaving home. Wrote. Set out on my journey. Rode with Capt. Freeman to Fairhaven. Crossed to Bedford and returned. Very cool. Visited at Capt. R. Gibbs's. Received \$4.00 for my Flavel's *Works*, sold to Mr. Breed, of Nantucket. Tarried at Mrs. Gibbs's.

21. This morning a little frost.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Gould went to Mattapoissett, and returned in the evening. Preached on Heb. vii: 25, and 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57. At evening without notes on Matt. ix: 13. Called at Capt. Adams's.

22. Mr. Holmes called for me in the morning, and we rode in a chaise to Taunton. Dined with Mr. Maltby.<sup>4</sup> Rode to Norton. Kindly accommodated at Mr. Wheaton's.<sup>5</sup> Visited the Female Academy; in good order. At evening preached in the Orthodox church on Rom. ii: 4.<sup>6</sup> They are soon to settle their first minister, a Mr. Allen.<sup>7</sup>

23. Rode to Framingham. From Taunton to this place there is a great population. At Franklin called on Dr. Emmons, and had an interesting visit. He was ninety years old in May, and is active in body and mind.<sup>8</sup> The Gen-

<sup>1</sup> Edward Watson, a son of Edward Buell.

<sup>2</sup> John Flavel, an English divine, who died 1691.

<sup>3</sup> Frost on the south shore of New England, June 21, was altogether strange and extraordinary.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Erastus Maltby, a native of Northford, Ct., a graduate of Yale, 1821, was then preaching at Taunton, but was not installed there until January, 1826, where he remained until his death in 1883. In his old age he had a colleague.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. Laban Wheaton, founder of the Wheaton Female Academy. This institu-

tion went into operation in this summer of 1835.

<sup>6</sup> Mention is made of this sermon in a previous note. The writer heard it when a youth, and is glad to find that Dr. Robbins regarded it as a sermon to be preached on special occasions.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Cyrus W. Allen, a native of Taunton, 1806, graduate of Brown University, 1826, settled at Norton, 1835. He died recently at West Roxbury, after following to the grave two sons in the ministry, of superior ability and worth, one of whom bore the name of Laban Wheaton.

<sup>8</sup> Dr. Nathanael Emmons, a native of

eral Association convened at five o'clock.<sup>1</sup> There are twenty-two associations in the connection. Mr. Holmes moderator. Mr. Condit<sup>2</sup> preached in the evening. Received a letter from my brother at Enfield. The Connecticut General Association sat there last week. Find many acquaintance.

24. Am well accommodated at Mr. White's, near the meeting-house. Mr. Trask is the minister. This town abounds in various religious societies. Mr. Dickinson,<sup>3</sup> of Newark, preached in the morning. The Association had a good deal of business. We have to hear a number of agents. I am on several committees. At evening Mr. Withington,<sup>4</sup> of Newbury, preached. Was up late. Paid my Association tax, .50.

25. Am able to get but little sleep. Attended the morning prayer-meeting. The Association had an elaborate discussion on temperance. We all dine together at a public house. Afternoon we had the sacrament. Dr. Chapin<sup>5</sup> and I administered. A great number of communicants. Eber L. Clarke and his wife are here. The session was closed. Very warm. Mr. Holmes and I rode rapidly through a fine country to Boston. Arrived late. I tarried at a public house.

26. Called early on my cousin C. Robbins, and breakfasted. I hope he is improving. Weather dark and misty. Did errands. Rode to Roxbury, visited cousin Peter, and dined. Rode with him, and visited East Boston. Great works are going on at that place. Mr. Holmes, by urgent request, concludes to remain at Park Street for the next Sabbath.<sup>6</sup> Left Boston and rode alone to Randolph. In the evening saw Mr. Storrs, of Braintree; quite unwell. Tarried at a tavern.

27. Rode early. Wet and dark. A fine road to New Bedford. Had a very good horse. Rode home in a wagon. Have had a very prosperous journey. Two young women, one of them belonging to Nantucket, have died here this week. Much fatigued. Visited Mrs. Crosby; remaining very low.

28. Wrote notes and preached in the afternoon on Eccles. xii: 1. Capt. Southworth and his family are greatly afflicted with the sudden death of his daughter, a promising young woman of seventeen. I pray that his family and all our youth may be profited by it. Preached in the morning a sermon on Matt. xxi: 28. There was a Universalist meeting. Had a full evening meeting. Spoke on Luke xviii: 38. Yesterday received a church letter from Head-of-the-River<sup>7</sup> to attend the ordination of Mr. Burt, and one from Homer Barrows. Today our church chose two delegates, as in the case of Nantucket.

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East Haddam, Ct., a graduate of Yale College, 1767, pastor at Franklin, Mass., 1773-1827, when he retired from the ministry. He died in 1840, aged ninety-five.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. George B. Trask was at that time pastor in Framingham.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Jona. B. Condit, of Longmeadow.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Baxter Dickinson, graduate of Yale, 1817, professor in Lane and in Auburn Theological Seminaries, died in 1876.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Leonard Withington, who has only very recently passed away in extreme age. He was a graduate of Yale, 1814.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Calvin Chapin, of Rocky Hill, Ct.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. Joel H. Linsley was then about to leave the pastorate of Park Street Church, to be President of Marietta College, Ohio, and they probably wanted to hear Mr. Holmes as a candidate.

<sup>7</sup> Head-of-the-River is now Acushnet, about

29. Much fatigued and languid. Read. Walked out. A committee called on me about Independence. They have made good arrangements. Gave a notice on the subject yesterday. Wrote. Rode and visited Capt. Southworth and family. Their affliction is severe. Attended the Bible class. Cool for the season.

30. Wrote on my diary. Did not get it up yesterday. Received a letter yesterday from Mr. Burt, Head-of-the-River, and wrote to Mr. Roberts, Bedford. Wrote an ordination charge. Mr. Holmes, of Bedford, called on me with two ladies. Cool.

July.

1. Rode in company with Capt. Freeman and cousin Laz. Le Baron,<sup>1</sup> delegates to the Head-of-the-River, and attended the ordination of Rev. Daniel C. Burt. The congregation and church are feeble, but they are ancient, and I hope reviving. I gave the charge. Mr. Maltby,<sup>2</sup> of Taunton, preached well. Returned home. The weather very cool for July. Attended our evening meeting.

2. Yesterday we had at dinner green peas. Wrote. Our people are preparing for Independence. Wrote to Dr. Pierce,<sup>3</sup> of Brookline. A brig has been out from here two and one half months, and returned with about two hundred and seventy barrels of sperm oil. Visited Uncle Le Baron. Tried to work a little, but am quite feeble.

3. Visited. Afternoon rode to New Boston, and attended the funeral of Capt. Wallis, a Revolutionary soldier. Several objects prevented our Sabbath-school teachers' meeting.

4. We had a great deal of firing. We had a public meeting, with a very handsome procession, military, Sabbath-school, Revolutionary soldiers, etc. Mr. Bigelow<sup>4</sup> delivered an excellent address. Mr. Leonard Hammond gave a very hospitable dinner. Six ministers were present. Very warm and dusty. Some of our young people went a sailing. Preached at the funeral yesterday on Gen. xv: 15. Wrote. Received of my collector, \$53.50.

5. Expounded on Matt. xx: 1-20, and preached a sermon on John iii: 3. Had a good meeting in the evening, and reviewed the discourses of the day. Baptized three children<sup>5</sup> of one family. The green things remaining in the meeting-house give it a sombre and solemn appearance. We had our contribution for the Colonization Society, and collected \$10.35.

three miles from the present center of New Bedford. This was the ancient center of the town where the first church was organized. Rev. Daniel C. Burt was to be ordained July 1, 1835, over the old church in New Bedford.

<sup>1</sup> Lazarus Le Baron, son of Rev. Lemuel, was born in 1789, and was now forty-six years old.

<sup>2</sup> In the ancient New England days, a church might send *one or more* delegates to a council, according to its own pleasure. Now

usage gives a church only one delegate to accompany the pastor, or, if there is no pastor, to go alone.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Erastus Maltby.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. John Pierce, D. D., pastor of First Church of Brookline from 1797 to his death in 1849. He was a native of Dorchester, and a graduate of Harvard, 1793.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, of the First Church, Rochester.

<sup>6</sup> Helen, Caroline, and Elizabeth Penn, daughters of Nathan Barstow.



6. Visited. Very warm and dusty. Afternoon we had a moderate and a very grateful shower. Read. Attended the monthly concert. People are beginning to mow.

7. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. Read on the Doctrine of the Trinity. Visited a school. At evening attended the Bible class. Paid my merchant tailor, \$7.00.

8. Wrote to H. Barrows.<sup>1</sup> Visited a sick child. Quite warm. Rode to the Neck, and attended a meeting in the afternoon, and preached on Ps. cxix: 67. Capt. Southworth is much afflicted with his late loss. Showery.

9. Read on the Doctrine of the Trinity. Walked a distance and visited. We have a number of sick. Saw a large ship finely launched. Visited. Mr. Crosby returned from Wareham, having finished his job there.

10. Began to write a sermon on 1 John vi: 7. Read. Wet, but little rain. Visited. Paid Mr. Crosby, \$11.68, and balanced my last year's account.

11. Wrote. Mrs. Dea. Crosby is very low. Attended to the subject of the holy trinity. Read. One of my feet is quite sore. We have an account of the death of Judge Marshall.<sup>2</sup> A great and good man.

12. Preached a double sermon on 1 Pet. ii: 7. Attended the Sabbath-school. People appear to be much wearied with labor. Had a good evening meeting, and spoke on Mark i: 40.

13. Walked out. Warm and faint. Wrote and finished the additions to my little catechism,<sup>3</sup> and carried it to the printer. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Did errands. Saw the menagerie; a great curiosity. Paid for horse hire on my late journey, \$4.00. Paid merchants, \$5.50. Came to Fairhaven in a fine new steam ferry-boat.

14. Rode home. Very warm, dry, and dusty. Thermometer yesterday 86°; today 88°. Received valuable pamphlets. Attended the Bible class. Read late.

15. Am too much debilitated for much labor. Moved a book-case, etc. Have got off all my flannels. Not before since my sickness.<sup>4</sup> Rode out and visited a school and a sick man. At evening had a small meeting.

16. Quite unwell through the day. Wrote a little on my long sermon. Mr. Homer Barrows called on me. Am very weak.

17. Though quite feeble rode with Mrs. Crosby to Bedford. Procured some Port wine. Very steady warm weather. People have a good time for getting hay. A great supply for cherries. My complaint continues. Visited.

18. Wrote. Yesterday received of my collector, \$38.75. Walked and made calls. My complaint returns, and I am very weak; poorly able to go

<sup>1</sup> He was graduated at Andover, 1834, and was seeking a place of settlement.

<sup>2</sup> John Marshall, LL. D., born in Germantown, Va., Sept. 24, 1755, died in Philadelphia July 6, 1835. On the resignation of Chief-Justice Ellsworth, he, Jan. 31, 1801, was elected to fill the office, and retained it

until his death. He is universally regarded as one of the truly great men of the Republic.

<sup>3</sup> His catechism on the books of the Bible.

<sup>4</sup> This confirms the suggestion made that the long silence of his diary was occasioned by severe sickness, though he does not in any place expressly say so.

from home. Afternoon rode to West Middleborough<sup>1</sup> to exchange with Mr. Barrows.<sup>2</sup> Hot and dusty. Thermometer 88°.

19. Mr. Barrows has a pleasant place, Mr. Richmond's. Meetings were in a private house. Their new meeting-house is not yet up. Preached on Job viii: 13, and Ezek. xxxvi: 26. My illness is abated, but did not feel able to attend a third meeting. The season is earlier here than with us. Yesterday saw some harvesting. Read.

20. Read Dwight's *Theology*.<sup>3</sup> Looked over my manuscript. Mr. B. returned. Toward evening he rode with me to the Four Corners.<sup>4</sup> Made calls. Saw Mr. Pratt,<sup>5</sup> now preaching here. At evening delivered my lecture on the Middle Ages, to a large audience in the academy chamber. Spoke ninety minutes. Tarried at Judge Wood's.<sup>6</sup> Much fatigued.

21. We had a little wet in the morning. More is much needed. Rode to Bedford. My horse fell, and broke the harness some. I was not injured. Have had the title-page of my German Bible finely translated. Rode home. Am quite feeble. At evening attended the Bible class. Read.

22. Read. Thermometer 86°. Wrote. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Thin. Moved books.

23. Wrote to D. Appleton & Co., New York.<sup>7</sup> Looked over his valuable collection of old books, and conclude to order some of them. Had some talk with Dr. Southworth. Worked at my library. A Belgian gentleman, musician, called on me. At evening I attended his performance. Great perfection in the art. Thermometer 86°.

24. Worked at my books and pamphlets. The heat oppressive. Thermometer 88°. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, of Hartford. Visited. My health, through divine favor, appears to be improving. Read.

25. Worked at my library a good deal with my coat off. I think I have lost some periodical pamphlets unaccountably. Wrote. Thermometer 84°.

26. Last night we were favored with a light shower, and it is cooler. The ground is much parched. Expounded on Matt. xx: 20 to xxi: 12, and preached a sermon on Rev. iii: 17. Had a full evening meeting, and spoke on Phil. iv: 9. We had a second contribution for our Sabbath-school library and collected \$8.06. I did not contribute. Mrs. Dea. Crosby<sup>8</sup> died in the evening. Was up late.

27. Did errands. Read. Wrote to Mr. Lindsley, and to D. Ricketson, of Bedford. Cooler than it has been. Attended the Bible class.

28. Wrote notes of a sermon, and preached in the afternoon at the funeral

<sup>1</sup> Now known as Lakeville.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Homer Barrows.

<sup>3</sup> In four volumes.

<sup>4</sup> Middleborough Four Corners.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Levi Pratt, born in Cumington, Mass., 1799, graduated at Amherst College, 1826, and at Andover, 1829. First settled, 1830-1835, in Hatfield, Mass. In 1835 set-

tled in Malden, Mass., where he died Aug. 9, 1837.

<sup>6</sup> Judge Wilkes Wood, of Middleborough.

<sup>7</sup> Publishing and book-selling firm, which continues with new names to this day.

<sup>8</sup> This Mrs. Crosby was the wife of Dea. Nathaniel A. Crosby, with whom Dr. Robbins was boarding.

of Mrs. Crosby on Phil. i: 21. The funeral was large and solemn. Toward evening rode to Mr. Cobb's, Sippican, and met with our Association.<sup>1</sup>

29. Attended the associational business. Afternoon we had the annual meeting of the Auxiliary Education Society.<sup>2</sup> Rainy and wet, and the meeting thin. The rain a great blessing. Rode home. Much fatigued.

30. Rode to Bedford. Very warm. Did errands. Looked over the proof-sheet of my little catechism. The printer is very dilatory. Paid for bed furniture, \$6.90. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture on Rom. viii: 14. Examined before the church a man of feeble intellect, to be received as a member. Visited.

31. Occupied almost the whole day with visitors. Two Ricketsons<sup>3</sup> from Bedford spent some time here. Read. Received many papers by the post office. Yesterday received a letter from D. Appleton & Co., New York. Their books are high in price.

#### AUGUST.

1. An oppressive heat. Thermometer 89°. Attended the funeral of an infant child. Dined out. We begin to have whortleberries. Wrote. Read.

2. Preached with notes on Job v: 19, and a sermon on Micah vi: 8. Attended the sacrament. Received Lathrop Hammond, with his feeble intellect, a member of the church. The church full. Had a full evening meeting, and reviewed the sermons of the day.

3. Visited. Cool. Read periodicals. They abound upon me. Received a letter from F. L. Alden, now at Enfield, and began one to my brother in return. A light rain prevented our monthly concert. Visited.

4. Finished my letter. Walked out. Wrote on the subject of the fast. At evening heard a temperance lecture from Mr. Taylor,<sup>4</sup> the Universalist at Sippican, in our Baptist meeting-house. A future state of being, or the soul's immortality, or the judgment, were not intimated.

5. Last night was quite cool, but I believe there was no frost. Rode to Bedford with company. Paid for bed furniture, \$3.00. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting. Pretty full. Read.

6. Walked out. Wrote on my report about the fast. Had company here. Quite cool.

7. A moderate steady rain through the day. A great mercy. Disappointed of attending a meeting appointed in an out neighborhood. Wrote diligently on my report. Had a steady fire.<sup>5</sup>

8. The publications of the abolitionists are making bad work at the

<sup>1</sup> The Old Colony Association.

<sup>2</sup> At that time no one of the Benevolent Societies received more attention than the Education Society.

<sup>3</sup> Ricketson was one of the New Bedford family names. We have fallen in with two, Joseph and D. Ricketson.

<sup>4</sup> We do not find this Rev. Mr. Taylor's

name reported in the State Register for the year 1835, or the years before and after. He could hardly have been a settled minister at Sippican, probably only a resident there, supplying pulpits in that region.

<sup>5</sup> The reports about the weather, during this summer of 1835, indicate that it must have been a remarkably cold season.

southward. Wrote. Had to ride to Bedford to get my small catechisms. They are at last well done. Visited.

9. Expounded on Matt. xxi: 12-28, and preached on 1 Cor. ii: 9. Attended the Sabbath-school, and distributed my new catechisms. I think they may be useful. Had a full evening meeting, and reviewed the subjects of the day. Two Baptists preachers were present and assisted.

10. Our Universalists applied for our meeting-house to hold their Association two days, the latter part of this month. It is evidently appointed here to make an impression. Our committee have granted their request, and they are evidently disappointed.<sup>1</sup> Had some shelves for books put up in my chamber. Read. At evening attended my Bible class. Pretty thin. Had company.

11. Sultry hot. Thermometer 87° or more. Had my new bedstead set up. Paid for furniture and labor, \$1.00. Wrote. The hot weather seems to affect my rheumatic complaints. Visited.

12. Finished the first draft of my report. The heat is so oppressive that I can do but little. Thermometer 89°. Looked over pamphlets. Attended the evening meeting. Read.

13. Began to copy my report. Rode to Arcoot, and attended a meeting at the house of an aged family. Preached on John ix: 4. Visited. Cooler. Thermometer 84°.

14. Read. Had work done in my chamber. Occupied with company. Visited. Read the Bible.

15. Rode to Fairhaven and saw Rev. Mr. Jenney,<sup>2</sup> from the Mississippi. Called on Mr. Gould. Crossed and saw Mr. Holmes. Wrote. Ladies from Fairhaven called on me. Thermometer 83°.

16. Wrote the concluding part of a sermon on Ps. i: 2, and preached it on both parts of the day. Something wet, but warm. At evening had a full meeting, and preached on Rev. xvii: 14. Yesterday Mr. White,<sup>3</sup> the young Baptist here, called on me. He is a Unitarian.<sup>4</sup>

17. Am very languid. The hottest part of the day here is before noon usually. Thermometer 87°. Paid my merchant tailor, \$4.27. Paid for a board, and work in my room, .75. Wrote on my report. Had a thin Bible class.

18. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Holmes. Hot and dry. Wrote. Rode to the Neck and attended the funeral of a child, and preached on Job xiv: 10. Rode to Fairhaven, saw Rev. Mr. Jenney. Crossed over to see Mr. Holmes; not at home. At evening we had a pretty hard and grateful shower, which prevented my coming home. Attended a meeting at Fairhaven

<sup>1</sup> The charge here seems to be that they supposed their request would not be granted, and they expected to make capital out of what they would then call Orthodox illiberality.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Elisha Jenney, a graduate of Dartmouth, 1827, and a very able and valuable

Christian worker in the West. He was living at Galesburg, Ill., only a year or two since.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Mr. White is not reported in the State Register under the head of churches and ministers.

<sup>4</sup> That is, in sentiment.

in the evening on the subject of the present great excitement in the country respecting mobs and slavery.<sup>1</sup>

19. Rode home. The ground much refreshed by the rain. Finished copying my report. Thermometer 83°. Preparing for my journey. Looked at a collection of books for sale at auction; pretty poor. Had our evening meeting at our house; quite solemn.

20. Rode early to Fairhaven. Took the stage and rode to Boston. Have some rheumatic pain. Called at Dr. Robbins's.<sup>2</sup> My other cousin, Chandler,<sup>3</sup> is out of town. Tarried at a tavern.

21. Breakfasted and dined at Dr. Chandler's. Did errands. Afternoon attended the great city meeting on the subject of anti-slavery proceedings.<sup>4</sup> The speaking was very fine. Paid out collection for the Colonization Society to the treasurer, \$11.35. Traded, \$3.50. At evening rode to Dr. Robbins's,<sup>5</sup> Roxbury. In the morning we had a thunder-shower. Cool.

22. Looked at a most splendid painting of Belshazzar's Feast. My cousin Peter rode with me to Lynn. He returned while I stayed at cousin Samuel's.<sup>6</sup> This town is flourishing. Quite cool.

23. Wrote in my diary, which I have seldom done on the Sabbath. My cousin preached a funeral sermon in the morning. I preached in the afternoon on Rom. ii: 4.<sup>7</sup> This is a respectable and increasing congregation.

24. Returned to Boston by stage on the Salem turnpike over Maverick's Island. A great work. Did errands. Paid Burnham for books, \$12.50, and balanced his account. Procured other books. Took the stage and rode to Andover. Kindly accommodated at Mr. Emerson's.<sup>8</sup> Attended the evening prayers at the Seminary.

25. Last evening read my report on the subject of the fast to Dr. Woods.<sup>9</sup> I tried to do the same with Mr. Pierpont<sup>10</sup> when I first came to Boston; he has been absent, and has been unwell the most of the summer. Mr. Emerson appears to be useful here. Returned to Boston. Made calls. Had some

<sup>1</sup> This was the year of mobs here and there on the exciting subject of slavery. Multitudes would not allow any full and free discussion of that subject. Anti-slavery documents were sent South, and the post office in Charleston, S. C., was broken into by a mob, to seize and destroy all such matter. The famous mob which beset Mr. Garrison in the streets of Boston was in October, 1835, two months later than this entry.

<sup>2</sup> Chandler Robbins, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> Chandler Robbins, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> This meeting, which Dr. Robbins sets down as occurring August 21, would seem to be the same meeting which Oliver Johnson, in *Garrison and his Times*, assigns to August 15. The abolitionists had asked for Faneuil Hall. Mr. Johnson says (p. 195), "Their request was rudely denied; but on the 15th

of August the doors of the 'Old Cradle' were opened to their enemies, and made to echo with their misrepresentations and calumnies. The mayor took the chair, and the blood of Boston, already at fever heat, was still more inflamed by intemperate harangues from the lips of Harrison Gray Otis, Richard Fletcher, and Peleg Sprague."

<sup>5</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Samuel Dowse Robbins, son of Peter Gilman, and brother of Rev. Chandler.

<sup>7</sup> Here is another repetition of the sermon already several times referred to.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Ralph Emerson, D. D., formerly pastor at Norfolk, Ct., was then professor in Andover Seminary.

<sup>9</sup> Dr. Leonard Woods.

<sup>10</sup> Rev. John Pierpont, of Hollis Street Church.

valuable books of Burnham amounting, with those taken yesterday, to about thirty, charged on his book. Took tea at Mr. Willis's.<sup>1</sup> Late in the afternoon and evening there was a terrible fire at Charlestown. Rode to Roxbury and tarried. At Andover paid for a book, \$1.75.

26. Rode with Mr. Holmes and others to Cambridge, and attended the Commencement for the first time. A wet and rainy day. Kindly treated by acquaintance and others. The exhibition was good, better than I expected. We were in the house about six hours. The public dinner good, with many guests. Walked to Dr. Lowell's<sup>2</sup> and met our fast committee.<sup>3</sup> Read my manuscript. But five were present; a bare majority. I was directed to complete the report. Returned to Boston. Tarried at a tavern.

27. Left Boston early in a chaise with Mr. Holmes, and rode home. The roads wet. Quite warm. Breakfasted with Mr. Hitchcock,<sup>4</sup> of Randolph, and dined with Mr. Gay,<sup>5</sup> of South Bridgewater. Mr. Holmes brought me home. Yesterday and today there has been a public Universalist meeting held here in our meeting-house. Few of our people have attended. Am much fatigued, but have been favored with a very prosperous journey.

28. Worked some at my books. Last evening received a letter of thanks from C. Wood for my late lecture delivered there. Afternoon rainy. Wrote. A fine time for vegetation. Mr. Jenney came from Fairhaven and preached here very acceptably. Read. I think my journey has been beneficial to my health.

29. Wrote a part of a sermon on Luke xv: 18, 19. Am so feeble and languid as to be unable to finish it. Thermometer at 83°. The Rhode Island election has gone sadly. The wicked must reign for a season.

30. The Universalists had a meeting; our people say very little about them. Preached with notes on Rom. v: 6, and a sermon on John xi: 42. This last appeared much better than I expected. At evening reviewed those two sermons. Meetings full. Thermometer 84°.

31. Rode out and visited the sick and others. Cooler. Read the anti-slavery *Emancipator*. A base thing. May the Lord save our country.<sup>6</sup> Had a full Bible class. Wrote to Rev. Dr. Chapin,<sup>7</sup> Connecticut. Yesterday baptized a child.<sup>8</sup>

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Wrote. Received the books I procured at Boston. They make a valuable addition to my library. Looked them over. Cool. Had a fire in my chamber. Walked out and visited. Paid for the transportation of my books, .75.

<sup>1</sup> Dea. Nathaniel Willis.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Charles Lowell, of the West Church, Boston.

<sup>3</sup> This committee had been appointed by the Convention, so-called, and consequently consisted of Unitarian and Orthodox ministers.

<sup>4</sup> Calvin Hitchcock, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Ebenezer Gay.

<sup>6</sup> He saved it in a different way from what Dr. Robbins anticipated, but his prayer was answered.

<sup>7</sup> Calvin Chapin, D. D., Rocky Hill, Ct.

<sup>8</sup> Samuel Nye, son of William Merrithew.

2. Rainy. The season has become wet. Read. Wrote on my library catalogue. Wrote on a sermon. Rode out and visited. Had a good evening meeting, and spoke on Acts xxiv: 25, first part. Read Ireland's<sup>1</sup> *Life of Napoleon*, quite late. Received the contribution taken here in my absence for the Education Society, \$13.00, added to it \$1.00 = \$14.00.

3. Rode to Fairhaven and Bedford. Carried books to the binder. Quite warm. There is a great supply of fruit. Rode to the Neck, and preached in the evening on Rev. xvii: 14. Tarried out.

4. Received of my collector, \$19.00. Visited. Read. Rode out.

5. Wrote on my sermon on Luke xv: 18, 19. Hindered by company. Am languid and not able to study as I could wish. A fine season for the crops.

6. Warm. Wrote and finished and preached the sermon on Luke xv: 18, 19. Expounded in the morning on Matt. xxi: 28 to xxii: 15. Full meeting. Baptized two children.<sup>2</sup> Spoke in the evening on Acts xvii: 31. Much fatigued.

7. Walked out. Much debilitated. Read. I think the anti-slavery excitement is alarming. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. Attended the monthly concert.

8. Read. Wrote to brother Francis. Walked a distance, and visited an aged sick woman. A fine season. Visited Uncle Le Baron and others. At evening a small balloon was sent up here, with other exhibitions.

9. Wrote. Walked out. Dined out. Rode to the Neck. Read. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Eph. vi: 17, 18.

10. Wrote and examined authorities on the Doctrine of the Trinity. A young company, quite respectable, came here, and two were married.<sup>3</sup> Walked and visited. Our mechanics are very busy. Paid towards furniture, \$2.00.

11. Wrote on my sermon. It requires much research. Unexpectedly hindered. Rode out and dined. Occupied with company. Cool, but we have no frost.

12. Rode to the Neck and visited a sick woman, and rode to Bedford. Dined with Mr. Choules.<sup>4</sup> Did errands. Gave Mr. Choules money to procure books in England, \$25.00.

13. Wet. Preached in the morning with notes on Job vi: 4. Afternoon the first part of my sermon on 1 John i: 46. Read late on a library catalogue.

<sup>1</sup> William H. Ireland, probably an English writer, son of Samuel of Shakespearian notoriety. The son was a prolific author, and died in 1835.

<sup>2</sup> Frederick Allen and Mary Ann, children of Mr. Prentiss Crosby.

<sup>3</sup> The parties united in marriage were Josiah Sears, Jr., of Dartmouth, and Sarah Barrows, of Rochester.

<sup>4</sup> John O. Choules, D.D., a celebrated Baptist minister, born in Bristol, Eng., in 1801. He came to this country in 1824, where he distinguished himself both as a preacher and a teacher of youth. He preached in Newport, R. I., New Bedford, Buffalo, N. Y., and Jamaica Plain. He had a school for boys in Newport, R. I., which was quite popular. He died in New York in 1856.

14. Read *Life of Napoleon*. Rainy. Walked and visited sick persons. Attended the Bible class. Made out an additional list of books to be sent for to London.

15. Visited the sick and others through the day. Walked a distance. The productions of the season are abundant. Cool.

16. Wrote on my long sermon on the Trinity. It requires much research, and I make small progress. Have a fire in my chamber. Attended the evening meeting.

17. This morning there was a light frost. Engaged on my writing. Received a letter from F. L. Alden. Visited an afflicted family in which a child has just died. Read. My eyes are weak.

18. Have taken a cold. Rode with Capt. Freeman to New Bedford. Carried a letter to Mr. Choules, which I wrote for him last evening, with orders for a few more books to be procured in England. He was absent. Left with his wife \$10.00, which, with the sum I gave him on the 12th instant, makes \$35.00. Paid Mr. Howe, my bookbinder, \$10.00. Saw F. L. Alden, lately returned from Connecticut. My poor brother Ammi has become quite helpless with rheumatism. Afternoon attended the funeral of the child deceased yesterday. Read. My room smokes some.

19. Wrote to Dr. Bancroft,<sup>1</sup> of Worcester, and to Mr. Underwood, of Bedford. Last evening received a letter from North Wrentham, requesting me to attend an ecclesiastical council there. Wrote on my long sermon. Judge Davis,<sup>2</sup> of Boston, called on me.

20. Wet. In the morning wet and a thin meeting. Expounded on Matt. xxii: 15 to the end. Preached on 1 John v: 7. Am quite hoarse with my cold. At the evening meeting had a sermon read. Read late.

21. Warm. Wrote to Dr. Bull,<sup>3</sup> of Hartford. Walked to the Neck and visited. At evening had a meeting, and preached on Acts xxiv: 25. Tarnied out.

22. Visited. Had a ride home. Read. At evening attended the launching of a good ship. It went off well. Yesterday broke the crystal of my watch, which I have seldom done.

23. Yesterday received of my collector, \$31.00. Wrote on my sermon on 1 John v: 7. Have many hindrances. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Matt. xxii: 42. Wrote to Messrs. H. Howe & Co., New Haven.

24. Mr. H. Barrows called on me. Afternoon two gentlemen of Fairhaven were here. Hindered from my writing the most of the day. Read *Life of Napoleon*. Walked out and visited. Read late. This morning there was some frost.

25. Rode out. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott. Read. My friend<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Aaron Bancroft, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> John Davis, LL. D., born in Plymouth, 1761, district judge for Massachusetts from 1801, to his death, 1847.

<sup>3</sup> Eben W. Bull, M. D.

<sup>4</sup> His friend, Samuel Tudor Wolcott, of East Windsor, Ct., who was a boy of nine years when he first knew him, was now thirty-six years old, and one of the selectmen in his town, and a military major.



is a selectman and a major. Visited a young woman very low. Walked out and visited. Yesterday morning saw a fine new ship launched here. Rode out.

26. Wrote the most of the day on my long sermon. Cannot study as I used to do, but would be thankful for what I can do. Paid for a gold coin, \$4.00. Visited the sick young woman, who died in the evening.

27. A pleasant day and full meeting. Preached with notes on Mal. iii: 2, and 1 John v: 7. I think the subject increases in interest as we advance. Spoke at the evening meeting on Rom. x: 1. Baptized a child.<sup>1</sup> Read late.

28. Read *Napoleon*. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. Attended the funeral. Visited. Had visitors. Attended the Bible class.

29. Wrote. Dined out. Wrote a recommendatory letter for Mr. Randall<sup>2</sup> to Dr. Beecher, of Cincinnati. Read *Napoleon*. At evening had a pretty hard rain.

30. Wrote on my long sermon. Walked and visited. Had our evening meeting at Pine Islands, and preached on Acts xxiv: 25.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Afternoon attended the sacramental lecture and preached on John xv: 3. Yesterday visited a family who have just heard of the death of the man at sea, a very valuable man; and in the evening after meeting visited a young man hard sick, and very stupid. This morning there was some frost. Wrote to William Pierce,<sup>3</sup> of Boston. Wrote on my long sermon. Occupied with company. Read.

2. Wrote. Dined out. Quite warm. Am considerably nervous. Close thinking seems to affect my physical system. Read. We have a very fine season.

3. Walked and visited the sick, afflicted, and others. Wrote a good deal. Finished in the evening my long discourse of four sermons on the Doctrine of the Trinity. It has cost me much more labor and research than I expected. I thank God that I have been enabled to write it.

4. Preached with notes on Joel ii: 17. Attended the sacrament in our usual manner. The church quite full. Afternoon preached the last of my sermon on 1 John v: 7.<sup>4</sup> These have been heard with much attention, and I

<sup>1</sup> Priscilla Cushman, daughter of Calvin Cannon.

<sup>2</sup> George Maxwell Randall, D. D., a native of Warren, R. I., and a graduate of Brown University, 1835, *i. e.*, he had just been graduated, and wished to see the West, and Dr. Robbins gave him a letter of introduction and recommendation to Dr. Lyman Beecher, then of Lane Seminary. This Mr. Randall was the Rev. George M. Randall, D. D., for some twenty years or more the able and successful rector of the Church of the Messiah, Boston, until in 1865 he was made missionary bishop of Colorado, and

new countries adjacent. He died in 1873. His early journey to the West had thus a significance.

<sup>3</sup> William Pierce, then a bookseller at 9 Cornhill. He has recently passed away, a man much beloved.

<sup>4</sup> This is the passage containing the words, "There are three that bare record in heaven," etc. It is now generally agreed among Biblical scholars, of all denominations, that those words are an interpolation, and do not belong there. They will not be found in the revised edition of the New Testament, lately published.

hope they may do good. At evening rode to Bedford, and attended a meeting of the New Bedford Bible Society, the third centennial anniversary of the first publication of the Bible in the English language, Tyndal, and Coverdale's<sup>1</sup> edition, Oct. 4th, 1535. Spoke and exhibited two of my old Bibles. Returned late.

5. At the preparatory lecture on the 1st Mr. Le Baron and I suggested to the church the expediency of improving our communion furniture, particularly the cups.\* A committee was appointed to attend to the subject. Walked out. Am quite languid. Dined at Uncle Le Baron's. Quite warm. At evening attended the monthly concert. Quite thin.

6. Wrote. Dined out. We had a pretty hard rain. Read *Life of Napoleon*. Visited considerably.

7. Walked to Pine Islands<sup>3</sup> and visited families. Read. Walked out and visited. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Phil. iii: 4. Read late in *Napoleon*. Had my canvas floor cloth, finely painted anew, put down. Paid for the painting, \$1.50. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow.<sup>4</sup>

8. Wrote in a lady's album. Walked to Pine Islands, visited and attended a meeting in the evening, and preached on Ps. cxxxix: 1-5. Much error and ungodliness in that neighborhood.

9. A good deal of frost. Till now common vegetables here had not been killed. Read *Life of Napoleon*. Walked and visited. Was out late.

10. Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow. Rode to Rochester and met with the town school committee. Found much to do in making the returns for the State. Did not finish. Mr. Bigelow rode to Mattapoisett.

11. Preached on Ps. cxxxvii: 1 and on John xi: 42. This society is evidently improving. Mr. Crosby brought up Mr. B. and me home. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Prov. iii: 1, 2. Read quite late.

12. Received a letter from Mr. J. Ruggles, of Rochester. Read. Walked out. Cool. Mobs are easily got up in the country. F. L. Alden and his family called on me. At evening attended the Bible class. Wrote.

13. Wrote. Began to write anew on a tract on the Doctrines of Grace. Have to begin with a good deal of research. Visited. Read late.

14. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. All crops come in well, and a very fine season for gathering them. At evening visited two persons very sick.

15. The sick man and woman, two of our best folks, are a little better. Read. Walked a distance and visited a school. Warm. Mrs. Crosby is

<sup>1</sup> William Tyndal, the martyr, and Miles Coverdale. Their Bible was published on the continent of Europe, but Tyndal was betrayed, and had to die for being, according to the Christian philosophy of that age, such a wicked man as to publish the Bible in English.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robbins, while at East Windsor,

had interested the church there to do the same thing. He was a man of nice tastes in all such matters.

<sup>3</sup> Pine Islands was one of the localities of Rochester, as Pine Meadow was one of the localities of Windsor, Ct., where Dr. Robbins used often to visit.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow.

quite feeble. Visited. Received of my collector, \$16.75. Capt. Freeman<sup>1</sup> has given me a bushel of winter apples.

16. Wrote. The thermometer was at 69°. Dined out. Visited.

17. Wrote a sermon on Matt. x: 32. Found my nervous system somewhat affected. Have not written a sermon in a day before this since previous to my sickness. We have a very warm month.

18. Preached with notes on Job xxi: 14, and the sermon written yesterday. At evening reviewed these two sermons. Much fatigued.

19. Walked out. Warm, and am very languid. Rode to the east part of the parish and attended a funeral; a distressing case. At evening attended the Bible class. Received a letter from brother Francis. Read.

20. Rode to Bedford and Fairhaven. Saw Mr. Holmes, returned from his tour. Purchased some very valuable blue cloth for a cloak. Saw Mr. Gould. Rode home in a foggy dark evening.

21. Received a letter from Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven, and wrote him in reply. Read. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Ps. xxxvii: 37. Read in the *Life of Col. Burr*.<sup>2</sup>

22. Walked and visited. Had company. Wrote on my tract on the Doctrines of Grace. Gave to our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society, \$2.00.

23. A good new ship was launched in the morning, and went off well. Wrote. Walked out and visited. Wrote on my tract.

24. Last night we had a hard and refreshing rain. Wrote a sermon on Matt. v: 5; nearly one half of it in the evening. Walked a distance and visited a sick woman. Received of my collector, \$20.50.

25. Expounded on Matt. xxiii: 1-27, and preached the sermon written yesterday. I believe I never preached on the subject of meekness before. At evening spoke on 2 Sam. vii: 27. An animating subject. After the afternoon meeting we had the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. We have collected for the past year above \$47.00. Read late. Quite cool.

26. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Holmes. Received a long letter from Hez. Howe & Co., and one from George Loomis,<sup>3</sup> of Albany. Rode with company to Fairhaven. At evening attended the Bible class. This morning there was considerable frost. We have had but little before. Wrote.

27. Rode early to Bedford. Warm again and very pleasant. Did errands. Paid Ellis for furniture, bedstead, toilet-table, wash-stand, etc. Went to Fairhaven and met with the Association. Some of our members are

<sup>1</sup> Capt. Seth Freeman, where he first boarded.

<sup>2</sup> This *Life of Col. Aaron Burr* was written by Col. Samuel Lorenzo Knapp, before Burr's death, and was published in 1835. Burr died at Staten Island, Sept. 14, 1836, and his life by Mathew L. Davis, in two volumes, appeared in 1836-7. Mr. Knapp, the

author of the 12mo volume of 1835, was a rapid and prolific writer. But any memoir of Aaron Burr, written during his natural life, would be likely to tell only a part of the truth.

<sup>3</sup> Geo. Loomis, of Albany, was the oldest son of Dea. Amasa Loomis, of East Windsor, Ct., and brother of Rev. Amasa Loomis.

absent to attend the installation at Middleborough<sup>1</sup> tomorrow. In the evening Mr. Richmond<sup>2</sup> preached. Tarried at Mr. Jenney's.

28. Attended to associational business. I was appointed a delegate to General Association at Worthington next June. Afternoon crossed the river and returned, attending to the business of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society, the annual meeting of which we attended in the evening in Mr. Gould's meeting-house with a large audience. An interesting occasion. After meeting rode home with Mr. Cannon.

29. Am quite fatigued. Wrote to Esq. King and Col. Hathaway of our school committee. Read. At evening visited. Quite warm.

30. Wrote on the records of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. Had company. Mr. Armstrong, of Bedford, called on me. Received on Wednesday some valuable triennial Yale College catalogues from Howe & Co. Received of my collector, \$40.00. Paid for wool, \$1.00. At evening walked and visited. Carried up wood. Wrote to Esq. Charles Holmes, of this town, and to Thomas Burnham, bookseller, Boston, and sent him \$10.00.

31. Walked out. Rode to Bedford to preach to Mr. Choules's people. Paid for wine, a part of which goes to Mrs. Crosby, \$5.50. Found at Mr. Holmes's, providentially, Rev. Mr. Darling, of New Haven,<sup>3</sup> who kindly engages to go and preach to my people tomorrow. Was measured for my new cloak. Did errands. Tarried at Mr. Pope's; a very fine situation.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Mr. Darling rode to Mattapoisett, and preached and returned after meeting. Cold. There was a pretty hard frost. Preached in Mr. Choules's meeting-house on Ps. cxxxvii: 1, and Luke ix: 30, 31. This congregation is not very large. They have good singing, but a dreadful psalm book. Mr. Barstow brought me home. Attended our evening meeting, as monthly concert, and preached on Ps. ii: 8. Mr. Darling has performed quite acceptably.

2. Rode to Rochester, and with the committee examined three school-teachers. Early in the evening set out on a journey. Mr. Crosby carried me to Bedford. Assisted at Mr. Holmes's monthly concert.<sup>4</sup> Many of my people were engaged for the evening in a school meeting. Tarried at Mr. Holmes's.

3. Took the stage early and rode to Fall River, and went by steamboat to Providence. Expected to have attended a public meeting here in favor of the observation of the Sabbath; but found it in poor hands, and concluded to

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Israel W. Putnam, D. D., a minister of conspicuous ability, was installed pastor of the First Church in Middleborough, Oct. 28, 1835, where he remained till his death in 1868. He was a graduate of Dartmouth College, 1809.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Richmond, of Dartmouth.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Charles C. Darling, whose home was in New Haven, and who was graduated at Yale in 1820.

<sup>4</sup> The monthly concert for foreign missions was, for many years, held on Monday evening. Now, for more than forty years, the monthly concert, by general usage in our churches, has been on Sunday evenings.

let it alone.<sup>1</sup> Called on Mr. Waterman<sup>2</sup> and Mr. Lewis.<sup>3</sup> Visited President Wayland,<sup>4</sup> and some of the professors. Kindly treated. Slept at the tavern.

4. Walked out. Paid for books, *American Preacher*, \$2.00. This town appears very busy. Took the stage and rode to New Bedford. The weather is very fine. At evening preached Mr. Holmes's sacramental lecture on Luke xxii: 15. Quite full. Paid for horse and chaise for Mr. Darling last Sabbath, \$1.75. Tarried at F. L. Alden's.

5. Rode home in the morning stage. Am much fatigued. Saw in the Hartford *Courant* the death of Rev. D. L. Perry,<sup>5</sup> of Sharon, and D. Deming,<sup>6</sup> of Litchfield. Holy, holy is the Lord. At evening we had a temperance meeting, and Mr. Holmes came and delivered a very good address.

6. Wrote. Carried up wood. Visited. Had company. Wrote to Mr. Deming, of Litchfield, Conn.

7. Read. Wrote to Hez. Howe & Co., New Haven. Wet. Walked and visited. Read in Reed's and Matheson's *Visit to the American Churches*.<sup>7</sup>

8. Preached a double sermon on Ps. xlviii: 12, 13, 14. Had a full evening meeting, and spoke on Rom. ix: 18. Read late.

9. Rainy. Finished my letter to Mr. Deming begun on the 6th. At evening attended the Bible class. The people had their town meeting for the State election. They did well, though few went from this quarter.

10. Began to re-write my long discourse on the Trinity. It needs abridging and improvement. Afternoon rode with company to Fairhaven with Mr. Crosby's unbroke colt. Did not get hurt. Crossed to Bedford. My new cloak is nearly finished, and a very fine one. Read Reed's *Narrative*. An elegant writer, and about as correct as foreign travelers usually.

11. A steady and pretty violent rain through the day. Wrote copying my sermon. A few attended the evening meeting. Many of our brethren appear very well. Worked some at my books. Visited.

12. Wrote diligently copying my sermon. I do not abridge it as much as I could wish. Cold and windy. My tremor affects my writing but little. Walked out.

13. Carried up wood. Wrote on my sermon. Visited two schools; short.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins had a strong regard for dignities and proprieties.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Waterman, a native of Windham, Ct., a graduate of Yale, 1822, who was pastor of the Richmond Street Church, Providence, 1826-1833.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William B. Lewis, a native of New York City, a graduate of Yale, 1831, pastor of the Fifth Congregational Church, Providence, 1835-1837.

<sup>4</sup> Francis Wayland, D. D., LL. D., then in the eighth year of the presidency of Brown University. He held the office till 1855.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. David L. Perry had been pastor at

Sharon, Ct., since 1804. He was a graduate of Williams, 1798, and was tutor in the college 1800-1803.

<sup>6</sup> D. Deming's house was one of Dr. Robbins's calling places in Litchfield, Ct.

<sup>7</sup> Andrew Reed, D. D., and James Matheson, D. D., came to this country in the year 1834, as a deputation from the Congregational Union of England and Wales. They came on a tour of observation and inquiry as to the working of our Congregational system. The result was published in two volumes, which were issued in New York in 1835.

Walked and visited. Read. The State election has done better than was feared.<sup>1</sup>

14. The mercury this morning was below 20°, and the ground hard frozen. Rode to Rochester and assisted in examining three school-masters. At evening attended to Sabbath preparations.

15. Warmer. Preached with notes on Neh. i: 7, and a sermon on 1 Pet. i: 17. At the evening meeting reviewed the same. A whale brig came in with two hundred and fifty barrels of sperm oil. Our whale men have been very fortunate this season.

16. Walked out. Wrote. Read. At evening it was wet, and we had no Bible class. Read Mr. Reed's *Tour*. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, Hartford.

17. Wrote on my long sermon. Have much hindrance. At evening performed a marriage in my chamber.<sup>2</sup> This family had company.<sup>3</sup> Wrote late.

18. Wrote what I could. Paid a Vermont man for some good domestic flannel, \$3.50; six yards. Had visitors. Had a good evening meeting, and spoke on John x: 27, 28. Warm.

19. On Tuesday called on two schools. Have much trouble with the variety of school-books. Wrote diligently on my sermon. Warm and very pleasant. Am something nervous. Walked out. Wrote quite late.

20. Carried up wood. Read. Finished transcribing my sermon. Have reduced it some, and I think improved it. Received a letter from Miss L. Deming, of Litchfield; quite interesting. Received one from E. W. Bull, of Hartford, and one from Dr. Webb, of Providence, informing me that I am elected an honorary member of the Rhode Island Historical Society.<sup>4</sup> Read.

21. Revised a part of my sermon. Rode to New Bedford to make an exchange. Mr. Holmes sends Mr. Richmond to Mattapoisett, and has procured a supply for him, and will himself be at home. Went with Capt. Dexter, and agreed with a silversmith to make us nine communion cups.<sup>5</sup> Procured my new cloak. It is a very fine one, and I presume the last I shall ever get.<sup>6</sup> Did errands and made calls. Kept at Mr. Holmes's.

22. Cold and rough weather, but no storm. Preached in three sermons my discourse on 1 John v: 7. Had a large and very attentive audience. Mr. Holmes was a hearer. I pray that this effort in behalf of truth may have a blessing.

23. Rode home in the morning in the stage in a severe snow-storm. It snowed and rained through the day. Cold and tedious. Received a letter

<sup>1</sup> Edward Everett, LL. D., was elected Governor, and George Hull Lieut.-Governor.

<sup>2</sup> The parties united in marriage were John T. Atstatt and Mary Bolles.

<sup>3</sup> A company gathered anywhere is generally ready to witness a marriage, but probably the parties to be married objected to this publicity.

<sup>4</sup> This society has done much to illustrate

the early history of Rhode Island. It is a vigorous, working institution.

<sup>5</sup> If Mr. Benjamin, of Bridgeport, who made the East Windsor cups, were near at hand, he would probably have employed him.

<sup>6</sup> Whether he did not expect to live, or thought fashions were going to change, we do not know.

from Herrick<sup>1</sup> & Noyes, booksellers, New Haven, successors of Gen. Howe. Wrote. Read. No Bible class. Read *Life of Napoleon*.

24. The ground is covered with snow. Wrote on my tract on the Doctrines of Grace. Visited. Cold. Sawed wood.

25. Thermometer this morning below 20°. Wrote on my tract. Visited three schools. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Acts xvii: 11. Yesterday put on my flannels. Capt. Weeks and his lady came here in the evening and were married;<sup>2</sup> no witnesses present. Visited my cousin Eliza Le Baron,<sup>3</sup> sick and quite low. Read late.

26. Thermometer 20°. Received of E. W. Bull, of Hartford, \$199.00 on a draft of \$200.00. I have sent to Hartford bank and lent \$200.00 to Mr. Crosby, and took his note. Rev. Mr. Hunn,<sup>4</sup> of East Windsor, Wapping, called on me. Visited Dea. Hammond's school. Occupied with company. Received of my collector, \$14.00. Wrote.

27. Thermometer this morning 15°. Cold and rough through the day. Worked at my wood. Read. Afternoon rode to Bedford. The ground hard frozen, and covered with snow. Found there a large box from Hartford, and one from New Haven. Put them on board a vessel to be brought round. Paid for freight from Connecticut, .95. Walked out. Bad.

28. My boxes came. No charge for freight, or bringing to the house. The Hartford box brought a fine box of candles, a gallon of Port wine, and the residue of my books from East Windsor, nearly one hundred volumes. A few of small value are missing, but some valuable ones that I did not expect have arrived. The collection is much more perfect than I expected. Took them out. Read. Thermometer this morning about 30°, and continued moderate. Received from New Haven forty-three volumes of the *Annual Register*,<sup>5</sup> and two other good volumes. A good addition to my library. Walked and visited. My good cousin Eliza is rapidly recovering. Have had a prosperous week, through divine favor.

29. Thermometer about 25°, but quite cold and tedious through the day. Expounded on Matt. xxiii: 27 to xxiv: 6. Afternoon and evening preached a sermon on Gen. xxxii: 26. Evening severe cold. Read.

30. Walked out. Thermometer 14°. Worked at my wood. Received a letter from Mrs. Bigelow.<sup>6</sup> Wrote. Had a thin Bible class. Read in Lawrence's<sup>7</sup> lectures on *Natural History of Man*, etc. Learned, but foolish respecting divine revelation.

<sup>1</sup> This was Edward Claudius Herrick, afterwards librarian and treasurer of Yale. His business connection with Mr. Noyes was unprofitable, and at the end of about three years was brought to a close.

<sup>2</sup> Capt. Ansel Weeks and Eliza Pierce were the persons married.

<sup>3</sup> Wife of Capt. William Le Baron.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. David L. Hunn.

<sup>5</sup> *American Annual Register*, a very valuable publication.

<sup>6</sup> Wife of Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, minister of the old church in Rochester.

<sup>7</sup> William Lawrence, of London, a well-known author, who published a volume on *Physiology, Zoology, and the Natural History of Man*. He was President of the College of Surgeons.

## DECEMBER.

1. Thermometer 18°. Am in a way of being too late at night and morning. Worked some at my books. Began a sermon for Thanksgiving on Isa. xii: 1, 2. Visited. Read.

2. Thermometer in the morning, 20°; at noon, with a clear sun, 18°; sun-down, 10°; bed-time, 8°. A severe day. Wrote and finished my sermon. Cannot be very comfortable. Some hindrances.

3. Thermometer this morning about 6°. Our Thanksgiving<sup>1</sup> meeting pretty thin. Preached on Isa. xii: 1, 2. The weather moderates. Quite pleasant. We had our contribution for poor widows, and collected \$11.62, and a cord of wood. Our public contributions for charity this year, exceed \$150.00. Wrote. Visited my connections.<sup>2</sup>

4. Thermometer at 30°, and rose to 45°; and the most of the snow went off. Had a pair of good outside window-shutters put on my east window. The workmen were very kind. Read late. Saw an account of the sudden death of my friend, Rev. Mr. Rowland,<sup>3</sup> of Windsor, Ct., aged seventy-two.

5. Rode to Rochester and assisted in examining and approved eight school-teachers. Cold and tedious. Thermometer about 20°. Called on Mr. Bigelow;<sup>4</sup> considerably unwell. Rode home in the evening. Took some cold. Paid my annual tax of \$1.38.

6. Thermometer about 18° through the day. Cold and rough wind. Preached on Ps. cxxxii: 13 with notes; and a sermon on Acts v: 20. We had the sacrament. The church pretty well out. At the evening meeting spoke on Matt. xvi: 4. Walked to meeting. Read in Lawrence's *Lectures*.

7. Thermometer 20°. Worked considerably. Have more strength, through divine favor, than at any time since my sickness. Wrote. Read. Our monthly concert pretty thin. Worked at my books.

8. Thermometer 25° and rose to 45°. Walked out. Wrote on my tract. Have many hindrances. Wrote last evening to E. W. Bull, Hartford. Wrote this evening to Rev. Seth Bliss,<sup>5</sup> Boston.

9. Put up things. Dined out. Borrowed of Capt. Freeman, \$70.00, money collected for communion cups, to be paid in March. Wrote to Herrick<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Here again we have the evidence that Thanksgiving in those years was a "movable feast." There was no fixed day for it. Things are now so arranged that the last Thursday of November is the recognized day throughout the country.

<sup>2</sup> Of whom he had many of the name Le Baron, and others with Le Baron blood, but various family names.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Henry A. Rowland, pastor at Windsor, Ct., 1790-1835, was son of Rev. David S. Rowland, who was pastor of the same church, 1776-1794. The father was a graduate of Yale College, 1743, and the son

was a graduate of Dartmouth College, 1785. The latter had a son, Rev. Henry A. Rowland, Jr., who was graduated at Yale in 1823, and served in the ministry in North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New York City, and New Jersey. He was a well-known writer for periodicals, and author of some volumes. He was born in 1804, and died in 1859.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow.

<sup>5</sup> Secretary of American Tract Society at Boston.

<sup>6</sup> Edward C. Herrick and Benjamin Noyes, successors to Gen. Hezekiah Howe & Co., New Haven.



& Noyes, New Haven. Spoke at the evening meeting on John xv: 5. Quite thin. Wrote late. Thermometer 30°.

10. Thermometer 25°. Wrote. Dined out. Read in the President's Message within forty-eight hours, as I suppose, after it was delivered.<sup>1</sup> Cold and rough wind. Wrote on my tract. Have many hindrances, and get along slow. Had company.

11. Thermometer at 7°. Cold and windy. The President's Message is written with ability, but unreasonably long.<sup>2</sup> Visited sick persons. Wrote on my tract. Worked at my wood. On the 4th received a letter from Mr. Homer Barrows, requesting me to attend the dedication of the new meeting-house at West Middleborough<sup>3</sup> on the 9th. The cold and other reasons, induced me not to go. Wrote late.

12. Thermometer at freezing. Visited. Last night we had a considerable fall of snow. Wrote on my tract. Afternoon and evening a hard rain.

13. Thermometer was about freezing through the day. Meeting thin. Preached a double sermon on Acts xv: 9. Spoke at the evening meeting, by request, on John i: 18. Did the work of the day mostly in the day. Read late.

14. Visited Mr. Ebenezer Holmes; hard sick. Visited the Pine Islands school; in good order. At evening had a good church meeting in my chamber. The church organized as a tract society. Received of my collector, \$58.25. Settled the last salary, and received on the present, \$44.12. He has done well.

15. Thermometer yesterday 26°. This morning 11°. Cold and rough. A whale ship came into Bedford last evening. Visited. Read. Wrote.

16. Last evening at bed-time the thermometer was at 35°. It grew cold with high wind, and thermometer was this morning at 2°.<sup>4</sup> It rose no higher than 3° through the day, with clear sun. Windy and tedious. Much ice in the harbor, but it does not become fixed. Can do but little. Visited Mr. Holmes. Wrote to Dr. T. H. Webb, of Providence, and to S. T. Wolcott. Thermometer at 10 o'clock P. M., 9°. Read.

17. Thermometer this morning about 3°. My ink and other things were frozen hard in my chamber.<sup>5</sup> Walked and visited. Read. A Senator and Representative in Congress from Connecticut have died at Washington lately.<sup>6</sup> Received a letter from Rev. Seth Bliss, of Boston, and one from a respectable committee of Mr. Holmes's church, requesting a copy of my sermons on the Trinity for publication.<sup>7</sup> Walked and visited. The cold moderates a little.

<sup>1</sup> This was rapid business in that day, but now people read the President's Message in a very few hours after it is delivered.

<sup>2</sup> This is a very kindly view of Gen. Jackson compared with some previous ones.

<sup>3</sup> West Middleborough is now Lakeville.

<sup>4</sup> Two below zero.

<sup>5</sup> That was the old style of things in the winter, before the days of furnaces.

<sup>6</sup> The Senator who died was Hon. Nathan Smith, born in Roxbury, Ct., 1770. He practiced as a lawyer at New Haven, Ct. He was United States Senator, 1832-1835. What member of the House from Connecticut died, we do not discover.

<sup>7</sup> This testimony is the more valuable as coming from members of another church and another town.

Thermometer rose to 10°. At nine o'clock 4°. Wrote to Dr. Storrs,<sup>1</sup> of Braintree. Paid for spinning, .75.

18. Thermometer in the morning 4°, and rose to 20°. Walked out. Not tedious as it has been. Afternoon attended a funeral with Mr. White. He preached. Read. Reckoned with Mr. Crosby.<sup>2</sup> His charge for board is \$104.00; charge for wood, horse and chaise, etc., were \$46.86. Endorsed \$12.00, interest on his note, and paid him \$62.87, and balanced accounts. Received of my collector, \$8.00. Wrote late.

19. Thermometer about 10°, and rose to freezing. Foggy and it thaws. We have an account of a fire in New York on Wednesday night;<sup>3</sup> the greatest and most destructive of property that has ever been in this country. Wrote on my tract. During the severe cold I could do but little.

20. Wet and warm. Meeting rather thin. Expounded on Matt. xxiv: 1-29, and preached a sermon on Rom. vi: 16. Thermometer about 34°, and rose to 40°. At evening spoke on Matt. xi: 28, etc. Wrote a constitution for a singing society. Sat up too late.

21. Thermometer about 35°. Rainy. The surface of the ground is thawed. The 16th is said to have been the coldest day between sunrise and sunset of any one for many years.<sup>4</sup> Visited Mr. Holmes. He is a little better, though very low. Began to copy my tract, yet unfinished. At evening we formed a singing society with a good deal of spirit. I am president. Wrote. Read.

22. Thermometer 28°. Read. Rode with Capt. Freeman to Bedford. Paid W. C. Taber, \$15.31, and balanced his account. Paid J. Richmond & Co., \$20.00. Paid Dea. Underwood, \$10.00. Paid W. Howe, \$10.00. Paid Parmenter, for printing questions and for Sabbath-school donation, \$6.00. Called on Mr. Holmes and heard his evening lyceum lecture; well done. Walked to Fairhaven, and tarried at Mrs. Gibbs's.<sup>5</sup> Pleasant, growing colder.

23. The stage left me by mistake, and Mr. Stoddard very kindly brought me home. Thermometer this morning about 20°. The ground hard frozen. Read. Wrote copying my tract. Read. My writing progresses slowly. Visited. Cold. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on 2 Cor. iv: 2.

24. Thermometer at 10°. Wrote. Dined out. Rode out with Mrs. Crosby. She is pretty feeble. Hindered by company.

25. Thermometer in the morning 36°. Rainy and wet. The ground thaws a good deal. Wrote on my tract. Received a letter from Dr. Storrs, of Braintree, directed to me but written to another person. Am something nervous, and have a cold. I take cold very easy. Wrote.

<sup>1</sup> Richard Salter Storrs, D.D., pastor at Braintree, Mass., 1811-1873.

<sup>2</sup> Dea. Nathaniel A. Crosby, with whom he boarded.

<sup>3</sup> The writer, then a freshman in college, well remembers the bitter cold of that

Wednesday night, Dec. 16, 1835, when occurred that destructive fire in New York.

<sup>4</sup> The day just mentioned, when the great fire took place in New York.

<sup>5</sup> Widow of Capt. Anselm Gibbs. Her maiden name was Lucy Le Baron.

26. Thermometer in the morning 38°, and rose to about 50°. Wet in the afternoon, and evening we had a hard rain. The ice in our harbor broke up. Wrote and finished the first draft of my tract. I cannot study well without a good deal of exercise. Much confined by the storm.

27. Rode early to Fairhaven, and exchanged with Mr. Gould.<sup>1</sup> The frost is much out of the ground. High wind. Preached on Ezek. xxxvi: 28, and Matt. v: 5. Visited an afflicted family. Rode home and attended the evening meeting, and spoke on John vi: 37. Read.

28. Thermometer at 10°. Walked out. Rode to New Boston<sup>2</sup> and attended the funeral of a child. Walked home. The ground hard frozen. At evening attended the Bible class. Read late.

29. Thermometer 12°. Wrote on my tract. The G. Barstow ship,<sup>3</sup> mostly owned here, came into the harbor, after a voyage to the Pacific of more than three years, with a moderate cargo of two thousand one hundred barrels. They had hoped for three thousand. The first Cape Horn ship loaded that has entered this harbor. Dined at Uncle Le Baron's. At evening went into the singing-school. It thaws considerably.

30. Rode a distance, and visited a school in good order. Thermometer at 34°. Wrote copying my tract. Have many hindrances. Congress is much excited by the abolition business.<sup>4</sup>

31. Thermometer 22°. Read. Wrote. Mr. Ricketson<sup>5</sup> called on me. The late anniversary at Plymouth was one of their best celebrations. Received a letter from Dea. Underwood, with two hundred and fifty tracts for distribution in this precinct. At evening we had a full and solemn prayer-meeting for the close of the year. A year of great mercies. I have thus by the great grace and long suffering of God finished my *fortieth* diary.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rev. William Gould.

<sup>2</sup> One of the Rochester districts or localities

<sup>3</sup> The ship's name was "Gideon Barstow."

<sup>4</sup> That business was to go on twenty-five years longer.

<sup>5</sup> Probably Mr. Joseph Ricketson, who had attended, it would seem, the meeting on Forefathers' Day, 1835.

<sup>6</sup> It began in 1796, and the end of 1835 made the round forty years. It was to continue eighteen years more.

## 1866.

### JANUARY.

1. I rejoice in the privilege of once more committing myself to the keeping and guidance of heaven at the beginning of the year. How different my state from two years ago, distressed with painful disease. Very pleasant. Our two hundred and fifty tracts were distributed, and there is some deficiency. Had a good many calls upon me, mostly children. Walked out. Wrote on my tract. The labor for it holds out most unexpectedly. Wrote quite late. Have to work at my wood for exercise.

2. Warm and clear. Wrote laboriously, and completed my tract, by divine favor, after one o'clock in the night. Did it up, and directed it to Rev. Seth Bliss, Boston. My eyes have not failed in these night studies, and I have been much preserved from tremor. Unable to do anything in preparation for tomorrow. Wrote to Dea. Underwood. Much fatigued.

3. Pleasant and full meeting. Gave Capt. Barstow<sup>1</sup> my tract to carry to Boston. Preached with notes on Gal. iv: 6, and a sermon on 2 Kings xx: 1. Baptized a child.<sup>2</sup> We have had but twenty deaths the present year, and but one in the church. Evening meeting full and solemn. Spoke on Ps. lxxv: 2. Am not as much fatigued, through mercy, as might have been expected. Read.

4. Read. Visited two sick persons. Made this almanack, my forty-first. I have been enabled, by divine favor, to keep a regular diary forty years. At evening attended the monthly concert. Quite rainy, and few were present.

5. Wet and rainy through the day. The frost is mostly out of the ground. Wrote. Yesterday visited a school. Wrote to Dr. Bull, of Hartford, and to brother Francis. Prevented going out by rain.

6. Read. Visited a school. Wrote to Gov. Lincoln, a member of Congress.<sup>3</sup> I want to have them take off the duty on foreign books.<sup>4</sup> Attended the evening meeting. It snowed. Wrote late.

7. Wrote to my brother and sister Battell. Rode and visited a sick woman very low. We have several sick. Walked and visited. Read late.

8. Read. Received of Fairhaven Bank \$197.00, for a note of \$200.00, which I gave, dated on the 4th, and lent \$200.00 to James W. Dexter, and took his note.<sup>5</sup> Wrote. The weather still dark and wet. Visited a school.

<sup>1</sup> Capt. Zaccheus M. Barstow, Representative to General Court.

<sup>2</sup> Moores Rogers, son of Mr. John Dexter.

<sup>3</sup> Levi Lincoln, LL. D., born in Worcester, 1782, died in same town, 1868. He was Governor of Massachusetts, 1825-1834, was member of Congress, 1835-1841. His father, Hon. Levi Lincoln, born in Hingham, 1749, was member of Congress, 1799-1801. Enoch

Lincoln, son of the last named, born in Worcester, 1788, was Governor of Maine, 1827-9. He died in Augusta, Me., 1829.

<sup>4</sup> That was the subject of his letter to Mr. Lincoln.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Robbins seems to have credit at the banks and borrows money, occasionally, simply to accommodate his friends and neighbors.

9. Wrote copying my discourse.<sup>1</sup> Have to consult authorities considerably. Wet and rainy; afternoon and evening quite hard. I feel the want of exercise.

10. A violent rain-storm through the day. Went to meeting in the morning, a few came in, made a prayer and dismissed. Afternoon none came. The meeting-house was quite wet.<sup>2</sup> Spent a considerable time at Uncle Le Baron's. Visited sick persons. At evening wrote.

11. Wrote and examined folios. Towards night the sun shone clear, the first time since the Sabbath, the 3d. The most of the time it has been stormy. Thermometer generally a little above freezing. I have seldom seen so dark a week. At evening had a good Bible class. Donation, .25. Read.

12. Yesterday received a letter from Dea. Underwood. On the Sabbath perceived that a tooth, next to my two front ones, was broken off and gone. I know not how. It is quite a loss. Walked and visited. We have a number of sick. The roads quite muddy. Got home late.

13. Walked and visited the sick and others most of the day. Dined out. The late distribution of tracts has succeeded better than we expected. They were, almost universally, kindly received. The number of families is about two hundred and seventy-five.<sup>3</sup> Attended the evening meeting and spoke on 2 Cor. v: 10. Yesterday visited a school. Received a letter from Dr. E. W. Bull, of Hartford, containing a bank draft of \$20.00. Wrote late, and did but little. Yesterday received of a parishioner, \$1.50.

14. Walked out. Weather very pleasant. Paid my post office bill, \$11.68, considerably less than last year. Paid a merchant, \$1.81. I owe very little, except some accounts for books. Wrote copying my discourse. Hindered by company. Wrote late.

15. Cold and rough wind. Rode to the Neck with company, and visited a school and families. The canker-rash prevails considerably among us. Wrote in the evening and read.

16. Severe cold through the day. Thermometer at 8°. Wrote for two albums. Read expositors. Wrote.

17. Thermometer at 9°. Expounded on Matt. xxiv: 29 to the end; and a sermon on Jonah ii: 8. A severe snow-storm came on towards night, and prevented our evening meeting. Read.

18. Warm and wet, though there is a heavy body of snow. Visited the sick. Read. Attended the Bible class.

19. Sleighs move briskly. Wrote a little on my discourse. Hindered by company. Read. Received a letter from Mrs. Bigelow. Her husband is hopefully convalescing.

20. Thermometer 15°. Fine sleighing. Walked and visited the sick and

<sup>1</sup> His long discourse on the Trinity which the people of New Bedford had asked for publication.

<sup>2</sup> It often happened in country parishes that great snow-storms prevented Sabbath

services, but this was a great rain-storm, and the meeting-house seems to have been leaky.

<sup>3</sup> In his parish, as we understand him to mean, which fact shows a large congregation.

others the most of the day. The sick are apparently mending. Mr. H. Barrows<sup>1</sup> preached well at our evening meeting, and tarried here. A cold day.

21. Thermometer 5°, but the weather moderated through the day. Our harbor is again frozen. Wrote considerably. Worked at my wood.

22. Last night and this morning we had a hard rain. Received a pleasant letter from Gov. Lincoln at Congress. Read the President's new War Message.<sup>2</sup> I pray God to preserve our country from a fatal infatuation. Walked out. The snow is mostly gone.

23. Wrote on my discourse. Visited a school of little folks. Thermometer at 15°. Prepared for the Sabbath.

24. Thermometer at 5°. Walked to meeting wholly. The ground rough and hard. Preached a double sermon on Jer. xxiii: 29. People well out. Had a full evening meeting and spoke on Mark xii: 30. Read.

25. Last night it snowed a good deal, and then rained hard till near noon. The ground is inundated. I never saw so much water upon it here. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper. At evening assisted in forming the Mattapoisett Young Men's Temperance (abstinence) Society. Visited. Wrote to my brethren, Bigelow and Nott.<sup>3</sup> Read.

26. Thermometer 20°. The ground is covered with snow and ice. Pretty good sleighing. Visited and examined two schools. Wrote. Visited. Read.

27. Thermometer 20°. Wrote on a piece for a newspaper. Received a letter from Mrs. Bigelow, and wrote one in reply. Visited. Cold, and the ship-yards are mostly deserted. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Luke xvi: 2.

28. Read. Thermometer 9°. Worked at my wood. Finished my piece for the newspaper, and wrote and sent it to Mr. Nathan Hale,<sup>4</sup> of Boston. Had company. Wrote copying my discourse.

29. Thermometer about 6°. The harbor is frozen. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Charles Holmes, of this town, and one from Dr. E. W. Bull, of Hartford, enclosing \$20.00. Wrote. Visited.

30. Rode in the stage to Rochester to supply Mr. Bigelow tomorrow. He is still quite feeble, but hopefully convalescing. Read. Am disappointed in not meeting Mr. Nott here, as I had requested him. Made some calls. Received a pamphlet from Gov. Lincoln at Congress. Went to stay at Mr. Bonney's. Thermometer this morning at freezing.

<sup>1</sup> He was preaching at West Middleborough (Lakeville), where he was soon to be settled.

<sup>2</sup> This warlike message of President Jackson had reference to our complications with France. It was laid before Congress, Jan. 15, 1836. France made objections, on certain grounds, to the carrying out of the provisions of the treaty of 1831. By the mediation of Great Britain war was happily averted.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow and Rev. Samuel Nott.

<sup>4</sup> Nathan Hale was the son of Rev. Enoch Hale, of Westhampton, Mass., and was nephew of Nathan Hale, of Coventry, Ct., the "martyr spy." He bought in 1814 the *Boston Daily Advertiser*, which was the first daily newspaper published in New England. He was born in 1784, and died in 1863. Besides his newspaper enterprise, he had many public offices and trusts.

31. It rained moderately, and without intermission through the day. Preached in the forenoon to a thin meeting on Jonah ii: 8. At noon Mr. Bullard,<sup>1</sup> agent of the Massachusetts Sabbath-School Society, came and preached in the afternoon very well. Had no evening meeting on account of the weather. Read. Well entertained.

## FEBRUARY.

1. Last night it snowed considerably. Mr. C. Cannon went and brought me home. No preaching here yesterday, and thin meetings. Received papers from President Adams<sup>2</sup> at Congress. Mr. Bullard came here. Called on Uncle Le Baron. At evening had the monthly concert, and Mr. B. preached on his business. Appropriate to the occasion. Full meeting.

2. Last night it became very cold. Thermometer this morning at 2°, did not exceed 7° or 8° through the day, with clear sun. Mr. Bullard was carried to Bedford. He is an excellent man. Read. Sawed and carried up wood. Wrote. Received a diploma and three volumes of *Historical Collections* from Rhode Island Historical Society.

3. Thermometer at 2°. Wrote. Occupied with company. Our harbor is frozen far out. Yesterday received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Providence. Wrote to Messrs. Leavitt, Lord & Co., booksellers, New York. Attended the evening meeting and spoke on Ps. cxvi: 12. Visited. Read.

4. Thermometer at 4°, and did not rise to 10°. A very tedious day. It snowed some. Walked to the Neck, and visited sick persons. The canker-rash and mumps prevail among us. Was brought home. Good sleighing. Read. It is so cold I can do but little. Wrote.

5. Thermometer about 2°. It is thought our bay is mostly frozen over. We have the grateful news of a mediation by Great Britain between our government and that of France.<sup>3</sup> I trust it will compose the ridiculous controversy. Wrote to Hon. John Quincy Adams at Congress. Visited two schools. They have done well. Read.

6. Thermometer 3°. We have clear sunshine, but very cold. There has been little variation in five days. Wrote copying my discourse. Worked some. I regret that I am not able to write more sermons.

7. The cold abates. Thermometer 25°. Cloudy and no thaw. For six days snow on the south roofs of houses has not been affected. Preached with notes on Luke xiv: 18, and a sermon on Isa. xlii: 7. Spoke at a full evening meeting on John i: 12. Very tired.

8. It rained without intermission through the day and evening. The ice is so slippery that it is very difficult to walk. Wrote diligently and finished

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Asa Bullard, still living and active (at this writing, 1836), nearly eighty-two years old. He was a native of Northbridge, Mass., born in 1804. For forty years he was Corresponding Secretary and General Agent of the Massachusetts, now Congregational Sabbath-School and Publishing Society.

<sup>2</sup> Pres. John Quincy Adams. His history

as a public man was notable in many ways, but specially in this, that after serving 1825-1829 as President of the United States, he entered the House of Representatives in Washington in 1831, and by re-election continued there till his death in 1848.

<sup>3</sup> This was the trouble between France and this country referred to January 22.

the copy of my discourse on the Trinity for the printer. Thermometer about freezing.

9. Thermometer near 30°. Revised my manuscript, and rode to Bedford in the afternoon with company and carried it. The ground is still mostly covered with firm ice. At evening went into the singing-school.

10. Wrote. Received a joint letter from sister Battell and brother Francis at Norfolk.<sup>1</sup> The snow that way is very deep, and the mercury last week was 18°. At a thin meeting spoke on Luke xvii: 5.

11. Walked a distance, and visited the sick and others. Bad walking on account of ice. Rode to Fairhaven with company. There are favorable appearances of a revival. Read. Had company.

12. Worked some. Walked and visited. Received a letter from Mr. Seth Haskell of this town. Read.

13. Quite rainy. Prevented from going to visit a school at a distance. Read on the subject of a lyceum lecture. Wrote. Kept the house entirely.

14. Very cold and tedious. The stove in the meeting-house smoked so that the house could not be occupied. We held our meeting in the vestry, and well attended. Expounded on Matt. xxv: 1-31, and preached a sermon on 1 Thess. v: 19. At evening spoke on 1 Kings xxii: 28. The weather is very severe. Read.

15. Thermometer this morning at 6°. We have many accounts of a great body of snow in most parts of the country. Read. Wrote. Attended in the evening a meeting of the Young Men's Temperance Society. They have about sixty members. Mr. Congdon, of Bedford, delivered a good address. Visited.

16. Thermometer morning and evening at 10°. Read in reference to my lyceum lecture. Worked some. Visited. At evening had a prayer-meeting of brethren in my chamber. Walked and visited a sick man.

17. Rode with company to Sippican, visited two schools in good order, and returned. Very cold and rough. Did not attend the evening meeting.

18. Thermometer at 6°. Read. The quantity of snow and the degree of cold north and west are very great. Had company. Wrote to my brother James. Thermometer at bed-time 3°.

19. Thermometer at sunrise at zero. Rode with company to Fairhaven and Bedford. Did errands. A whale ship has been lately discharged on the ice. Received a letter from Mr. Randall,<sup>2</sup> now at Lane Seminary, Ohio. Read. Visited. The ground very hard frozen.

20. Thermometer this morning near freezing. Wet and rainy. Read on the Varieties of the Human Species. There is a prospect that a Universalist meeting-house will be built here. Wrote. Kept house. Preparing for the Sabbath.

21. Rainy and wet. Thermometer above freezing. Afternoon meeting in

<sup>1</sup> Which means that his brother, Rev. Francis, of Enfield, was then on a visit to Norfolk.

<sup>2</sup> George Maxwell Randall, D.D., mentioned in previous note, Episcopal Bishop of Colorado.



the vestry. Preached a double sermon on 2 Cor. v: 17. At evening spoke on Matt. viii: 5-14. The surface of the ground thaws and is very wet. Read.

22. A spring day. Thermometer rose to 47°. The ice in the harbor is thick and firm. Received a letter from Mr. Armstrong,<sup>1</sup> of Boston, secretary of Foreign Missions. Wrote to him in answer. At evening had a thin Bible class.

23. Wrote to my brother James. Rode in the stage to New Bedford. Went in to see the fair; quite splendid, and a profitable charity. At evening attended a large meeting of temperance societies. Tarried at Mr. Holmes's. He and his people are about erecting a new meeting-house.

24. Rode home. Received a letter from my brother James. Walked a distance and visited a school. Got wet. At evening a hard rain. Wrote to Dea. Underwood, of Bedford. Read late.

25. Cold and very blustering. Had a meeting afternoon and evening for prayer for the colleges,<sup>2</sup> etc. Read. The meetings were thin on account of the weather. Thermometer in the evening 20°.

26. Received a letter from Dr. Lowell,<sup>3</sup> of Boston. Visited. Dined out. Uncle Le Baron had an ill turn this morning, something paralytic. Afternoon and evening a thick snow. Wrote. Read. Thermometer 21°.

27. We have a good deal of snow. Thermometer this morning about 12°. Wrote to Gov. Everett.<sup>4</sup> Visited Uncle Le Baron; some better. A cold day. Wrote the conclusion of an old unfinished sermon. Worked some.

28. Thermometer last night at 10°; this morning 15°. Preached with notes on John xii: 37, and a sermon on Rev. iii: 8. Quite cold and meetings not full. At evening reviewed the sermons of the day. The winter holds out fully. On the 24th wrote to Robert C. Winthrop, Esq.,<sup>5</sup> of the Boston delegation in the General Court, on the subject of capital punishment.

29. Thermometer this morning about 12°. Walked and visited the sick. We have an uncommon number. The state of the weather mostly prevents the labor in the ship-yards. Wrote. On the 22d wrote to Herrick & Noyes, of New Haven, and sent them an order on E. W. Bull, of Hartford, for \$25.00. Snow and rain prevented an evening meeting.

#### MARCH.

1. Rainy and wet. At evening quite hard. The most of the snow went

<sup>1</sup> William Jessup Armstrong, D. D., born in Mendham, N. J., 1796, graduated at College of New Jersey, 1816. In September, 1834, he was appointed Secretary of the American Board as successor to Dr. B. B. Wisner. He was on the ill-fated Atlantic in the wild night before Thanksgiving, Nov. 27, 1846, and with many others perished in that wreck.

<sup>2</sup> Last Thursday of February, the stated day then for prayer for colleges.

<sup>3</sup> Charles Lowell, D. D., a native of Boston, graduate of Harvard, 1800, pastor at West Church, Boston, 1806-1861.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. Edward Everett, chosen Governor in November, 1835.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, still in active life, was first elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1835, and was Speaker of the House, 1839-40. He was M. C., 1840-42, and 1843-50, and was Speaker in 1847-48.

off. Last evening began to write a lyceum lecture. My principal business today. Have to consult numerous authorities. Visited a sick child. Wrote.

2. Wrote on my lecture. Very windy and tedious. Visited Uncle Le Baron. He is quite weak. Spoke at evening meeting on 2 Cor. xii: 8, 9.

3. Read busily. Worked some. Attended in the evening the Juvenile Temperance Society. They are doing well. This morning the thermometer was at 10°. Dined out. It thaws some.

4. Warmer. I sit up and rise too late. Rode to Fairhaven and to the Neck, and visited families and a school. Preached there in the evening on 2 Cor. xii: 8, 9. Received a letter from Mr. Wilbur, the lecturer. It looks like spring.

5. The ground thaws and dries at the surface. Visited the sick. Attended the funeral of an infant child. Uncle Le Baron appears better. Wrote. Read expositors.

6. Thermometer below 20°. Expounded the Saviour's account of the judgments, Matt. 25th; and preached a sermon on Jer. ix: 20. Meeting well attended. Had a very full evening meeting and reviewed the subjects of the day. We have many sick. Read. Much fatigued.

7. Visited the sick. Read. Mr. Gould called on me. We have an account of a good work of grace at Nantucket.<sup>1</sup> Our people held their town meeting, and did well. Attended the monthly concert. Read the most of Mr. Bigelow's election sermon<sup>2</sup>; a strange thing. The ice went out of our harbor, which has lain firmly since January 28th.

8. Visited sick families. It begins to look like spring. Received a very civil letter from Gov. Everett. Received another letter from Mr. Wilbur. Read. Visited. Was out late. Wrote on my lecture. A laborious subject.

9. Worked at my wood. Wrote. Visited the sick. The weather is something mild, but the ice continues to float in our waters. Spoke at the evening meeting on Heb. v: 7. Read late.

10. Visited sick families. There has not been so much sickness here since I resided in the town. At evening a hard rain. Got something wet. Wrote. Received of my collector, \$20.14. Am troubled with a weakness of the eyes, or an indistinct vision.

11. We have had a hard rain. Read. Very windy. Our harbor is full of floating ice driven in. Paid for my *Recorder*, \$2.00. Paid Capt. Freeman, \$70.00, borrowed of him on the 9th of December. Paid him \$10.00 for one of the silver cups he is procuring for the church.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rev. William J. Breed was the Congregational pastor at Nantucket, 1835-1839. In the sketch of Nantucket, *American Quarterly Register* (Vol. XV., p. 498), we find it stated: "During the ministry of Rev. Mr. Breed the cause of religion prospered in a remarkable manner. His style of preaching was plain and forcible and full of pathos."

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Andrew Bigelow's election sermon

preached in 1835. Mr. Bigelow was born in Groton, Mass., 1795, graduated at Harvard, 1814. Settled in Taunton, 1833. The text of his election sermon was, "Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward." We do not fully understand why Dr. Robins called it a "strange thing."

<sup>3</sup> The seventy dollars which he borrowed of Capt. Freeman was to be paid back in

12. A cold high wind. Thermometer between 20° and 25° through the day with clear sun. Visited the sick. One little girl twice. Worked smart at my wood. Paid a chopper, .38.

13. The sick girl died last night. The only daughter of a deceased mother. Thermometer this morning at 20°. The ground is hard frozen. Preached with notes on 2 John ix, and a sermon on Luke xix: 27. Spoke at the evening conference on Ps. xxiii: 1, etc. We elected the officers of the Sabbath-school for the ensuing season.

14. Visited the sick and afflicted. Rode to the Neck and visited several sick families. Had a thin Bible class. Wrote to D. Appleton & Co., New York. Read.

15. Worked at my wood. Read. Cold and tedious. Attended a funeral. Walked and visited. Uncle Le Baron is quite ill. His case appears critical. The Lord in mercy spare him a little longer.

16. Walked and visited. Uncle Le Baron is a little relieved. Paid my wood sawyer, .75. Rode with Capt. Freeman to Bedford, and procured our silver cups for the church. Nine, seven given by individuals. They cost \$10.35 each. They are cheap and very good; made for \$4.00 each.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Holmes and his people are going on with a splendid meeting-house. Evening meeting thin. There is a quarterly Baptist meeting here. Read late.

17. It takes a good deal of my time to read newspapers. Rainy. We have no warm weather. Afternoon attended the Baptist meeting, by invitation, and they had an ordination. By request I made the first prayer. Mr. Morgridge<sup>2</sup> preached badly, and the other parts were performed indifferently. Read Miss Monk's "awful disclosures" of the Montreal convents.<sup>3</sup>

18. Visited Uncle Le Baron. A little better, but quite feeble. Visited a child very sick. High wind, cold and tedious. Read. At evening rode to Dea. Hammond's,<sup>4</sup> and attended a meeting. Spoke on Ps. xxiii: 1, etc. Wrote to Rev. Dr. Pierce, of Brookline.

19. The sick child in this neighborhood is dead. Walked out. Rode to the two Necks, and visited the sick. There appears to be no diminution of sickness among us. Worked at my wood. Thermometer this morning at 20°. Wrote.

20. Pleasant, but cold. Preached a double sermon on Matt. v: 18. Attended the funeral of a child. At the evening meeting had a sermon read. Full meetings. Have a bad hoarseness. Much fatigued. Had a contribution for our Sabbath-school library, and got \$11.35. Read.

21. Worked piling wood. Walked out. Read. At evening had a meet-

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season to settle the bill for the communion cups, and Dr. Robbins adds ten dollars as his own subscription.

<sup>1</sup> That is, the cost of making was four dollars, and the six dollars and thirty-five cents represents the actual value of the silver.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Charles Morgridge, pastor of the North Christian Church of New Bedford.

<sup>3</sup> This was one of the sensational publications which many will remember. It contained probably some truth, but highly colored.

<sup>4</sup> Dea. Amittai B. Hammond.

ing and organized our Sabbath-School Association. Mr. Taney<sup>1</sup> is appointed Chief-Justice of the United States; a Catholic! Received a printed sermon of my cousin C. Robbins, of Boston. Most melancholy.<sup>2</sup>

22. Visited the sick. Read Mr. Sprague's<sup>3</sup> admirable address at the last anniversary at Plymouth. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Andros, of Berkley.<sup>4</sup> Read in Mr. Gibbon's *History*. Yesterday visited a school. Afternoon and evening we had a hard snow-storm.

23. The snow is about ten inches deep; more than we have had at any time during the winter. Read the Bible. Began to write a sermon on Luke xv: 17. Had a thin evening meeting and spoke on Rom. x: 20. Read late.

24. Rode to Rochester in a sleigh, visited Mr. Bigelow and others, and procured my proclamation. Mr. B. preached once last Sabbath, after an interval of about four months. Visited Uncle Le Baron. He is very feeble. The snow diminishes fast. The harbors of most of our seaports have been remarkably blocked up this winter.

25. Rode to Fairhaven and Bedford. Have an account with F. Bank. Paid for a penknife, \$1.00. I hope it will last while I live. My other is about worn out.<sup>5</sup> Procured some tracts. Paid a merchant-tailor, \$20.00. Had a good visit at Fairhaven. Received a good letter from sister and niece Sarah Battell. Bad riding. Wrote. Received of Mr. D. Ricketson a present of a valuable volume.

26. Cold. Wrote the most of a sermon on Luke xv: 17, and finished it. Read. Walked out. Writing fatigues me. Wrote late.

27. Uncle Le Baron appears some better. Preached with notes on Peter ii: 1, and the sermon written yesterday. Had several cases for prayers. Just at evening Rev. Seth Bliss, Secretary of American Tract Society, came here and preached at our evening meeting on the tract subject, and made a deep impression. About \$16.00 was pledged at meeting. He has preached today at Rochester and Wareham.<sup>6</sup>

28. Warmer and spring-like. Received a very interesting letter from Rev. Dr. Pierce,<sup>7</sup> of Brookline, one from D. Appleton & Co., New York, one from Mr. Bliss, who left here this morning, which I ought to have had earlier, and one from Mrs. Bigelow, of Rochester. Visited the sick. Walked a distance

<sup>1</sup> In many respects he filled his office creditably, but his "Dred Scott decision" in which he took the ground that "the negro had no rights which the white man was bound to respect," gave great offence.

<sup>2</sup> Chandler Robbins, D. D., of the Second Church, Boston. Dr. Thomas Robbins had no love for Unitarians, yet Dr. Chandler was long regarded as a Unitarian of the most conservative type, and an excellent Christian minister.

<sup>3</sup> Peleg Sprague, LL D., was the Plymouth orator for 1835. He was born in Duxbury, 1793, graduated at Harvard, 1812,

M. C., and U. S. Senator, and an accomplished jurist.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Thomas Andros, a native of Norwich, Ct., 1759, settled in Berkley in 1788, retired from the ministry in 1834, and died 1843.

<sup>5</sup> A penknife in those days was not so much ornamental as useful. The pens were made from goose-quills. Gold and steel pens had not come into use.

<sup>6</sup> That was about an average Sunday's work, for an old time agent or secretary of one of our benevolent societies.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. John Pierce, D. D.

and visited families. The snow is mostly gone. At evening had a thin Bible class.

29. Read. Worked some at my pamphlets. Wrote to Mr. Underwood, of Bedford. Sawed and brought up wood. There is much complaint of the high price of provisions. Wrote to D. Appleton & Co., New York. He has some fine folios<sup>1</sup> which I much want.

30. Wrote. Worked at my wood. Began a sermon for Fast on Matt. v: 17. Read.

31. We have spring weather. Worked at my books. I fear a number are lost.<sup>2</sup> The papers contain many accounts of the long continuance of frozen rivers, deep snow, sleighing, and with these scarcity of fodder. Preached a preparatory lecture on Jer. xxix: 13. Visited the sick. Some very low still.

#### APRIL.

1. Walked a distance and visited a sick child. Uncle Le Baron had an ill turn this morning, perhaps a second paralytic shock.<sup>3</sup> He is very feeble. Thermometer about 50°. The ground begins to dry. Read.

2. Worked at my books. A number, I fear, are missing. Uncle Le Baron is quite low, but a little revived. Visited a boy who has had a dangerous fall in the ship-yard. Wrote on my Fast sermon.

3. A very pleasant day. Preached in the morning with notes on Rev. iii: 12. Administered the sacrament. Mr. Le Baron communed with us on his bed. I sent a portion of the elements to him after the consecration. An affecting season. He said it was his last time. Afternoon preached a sermon on Luke xix: 13. Rode and visited Dea. Hammond's sick child. Had a public performance of the Juvenile Singing-School at five o'clock. They did very well. Had no evening meeting. Very tired.

4. Worked at my books and my wood. Walked out. A new brig owned here was launched Saturday evening. Read. Had company. Attended the monthly concert. The ground dries.

5. Walked and visited the sick. Dined out. Mr. Ricketson and Mr. T. A. Greene, from Bedford, made me a pleasant visit. Received a letter from Miss M. Holmes,<sup>4</sup> of Bedford. Her father is confined with sickness. Wrote on my Fast sermon.

6. Worked at my wood. Wrote and finished in the evening my long Fast sermon on capital punishment. It is not as well written as I could wish. Read.

7. Fast. Preached in the morning with notes on, Zech. xii: 11-14, afternoon the sermon lately written on Matt. v: 17.<sup>5</sup> Meetings well attended.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins's taste ran strongly to folios, as may be seen by taking a survey of his library in the rooms of the Connecticut Historical Society at Hartford, Ct. They were then regarded as stylish, but are awkward to handle, and are no longer fashionable.

<sup>2</sup> That is the common remark.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Lemuel Le Baron was born in 1747, so that, at this time, he was not far from eighty-nine years old.

<sup>4</sup> Daughter of Rev. Sylvester Holmes.

<sup>5</sup> In those days a minister was more apt

There was less movement and play abroad than I have seen before since I have been here. A pleasant day. Rode to Bedford and preached my afternoon sermon in the evening, at request of Mr. Holmes. His meeting-house is about being moved, and the meeting was in the Unitarian house. Kindly treated by Mr. Angier.<sup>1</sup> Had a good assembly. Tarried with Mr. Holmes. He has a severe turn of rheumatism, but is happily convalescing.

8. Mr. Holmes attends too much to various things.<sup>2</sup> Crossed to Fairhaven and rode home. The most of the road is dry. Quite tired. Read. Walked out and attended to our Sabbath-school business.

9. Wrote. Was taken in the morning with a good deal of pain in my back. I think I took cold at Bedford. Rode to Fairhaven in the stage to exchange with Mr. Gould. Kept at Mrs. Gibbs's.<sup>3</sup> Am quite feeble. Read.

10. We have a high wind. Preached a double sermon on Matt. v: 18. At noon a hard shower. Mr. Gould went to Mattapoisett, and returned after meeting with Capt. Freeman, who brought me home. Bad riding. Uncle Le Baron quite low. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Ps. x: 13. Spoke feebly through the day, but, through mercy, my rheumatic pain mostly subsided. Read.

11. Borrowed of Capt. Freeman, \$50.00. Visited the sick. Some are very low. Read. Divine Providence has greatly frowned upon Connecticut in their last election.<sup>4</sup> Wrote. Wrote to D. Ricketson, of Bedford.

12. Wrote to Mr. Henry W. Lee, of Bedford, in reply to a letter just received from him. The ground this morning and yesterday was hard frozen. Worked some. Dined out, and visited Uncle Le Baron. Received of Mr. Crosby, now my collector, \$14.00. Wrote on my lyceum lecture.

13. Worked some. We have no warm weather. Wrote on my lecture, but make but little progress. Wrote to Mr. Seth Bliss, Boston, and sent him \$21.52, which we have collected for the tract cause. Sent to Thomas Burnham, bookseller, \$20.00. Of the tract money I gave \$1.00. We had a violent storm of snow and rain.

14. Sent to Boston by Mr. Harlow, \$5.00 to procure question books for the Sabbath-school. The ground is very wet. Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow. Wrote. I need more exercise for study than formerly.

15. Wrote considerably on my lecture. Read. Walked and visited. The

to preach a sermon, on which\* he had bestowed special labor, in the afternoon rather than in the forenoon, indicating that his largest audiences were in the afternoon, a fact quite at variance with the present church-going habit. In most of our churches now no afternoon service is held.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Joseph Angier, pastor of the Unitarian church at New Bedford, 1835-1837. He was a native of Medford, and a graduate of Harvard, 1829.

<sup>2</sup> That might not be an unfair criticism upon Dr. Robbins himself. He performed

during all the years of his active ministry a vast amount of miscellaneous work.

<sup>3</sup> Widow of Capt. Anselm Gibbs (Lucy Le Baron).

<sup>4</sup> Hon. Henry W. Edwards, LL. D., who had first been Governor of Connecticut in 1833, was re-elected in 1835, and now again in 1836, and continued till 1838. He was M. C., 1819-1823. U. S. Senator, 1823-1827. He was a grandson of Jonathan Edwards, a graduate of Princeton College, 1797, and had studied law at the Litchfield Law School. But he was a Democrat.

spring advances but little. Wet. Wrote to Dea. Underwood,<sup>1</sup> of Bedford. Wrote late.

16. Walked and visited the sick. Some very low. Wrote and brought my lecture towards a close. Cannot do much in preparing for the Sabbath. Wrote.

17. Visited Mrs. Clarke; very low. Expounded on Matt. xxvi: 25, and preached a sermon on Isa. xxxiii: 14. Attended the Sabbath-school. We have some difficulty in organizing. Full meeting. At evening reviewed the subjects of the day. Much fatigued.

18. Walked a distance, and visited the sick. Worked some at my wood. Find it difficult to study. Wrote in the evening and finished my long lecture on the Varieties of the Human Species.<sup>2</sup> It has cost me much investigation and labor. Wrote late.

19. Walked out. Mrs. Clarke died last night. Wrote. Afternoon rode to Bedford, and in the evening delivered my lecture. It was rainy, and the meeting was rather thin. Spoke about seventy-five minutes. Visited Mr. Holmes; he is better, but lame. Tarried at Mr. Ricketson's; very kindly treated.

20. Procured some Bibles to supply our Sabbath-school. Two splendid stone churches are to be erected here this season; Unitarian and Orthodox. Rode home. Am much fatigued. Attended our evening meeting now for an exposition of Sabbath-school lesson.

21. Read. Walked out. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Clarke. Visited. Had company.

22. Last night a hard shower with thunder. Received some valuable books from New York. Standard English works. Had a letter from D. Appleton & Co., New York. Looked over my new books, all second-hand. Cold and blustering. Rode to the Neck and attended the funeral of a young woman who died suddenly. Preached on Luke xii: 40. Attended an evening meeting at Cannonville,<sup>3</sup> and spoke on Matt. xix: 27, 28. Read.

23. Visited. A drinking shop is opened here which produces much excitement. Two gentlemen from Bedford made me a visit. Rode and visited the sick. The Saturday evening meeting was held here. Wrote.

24. Cold. Attended the Sabbath-school, and gave out a part of the one hundred Assembly's Catechisms<sup>4</sup> I have lately procured. Preached a double sermon on Sam. vii: 27. Have several cases for prayers. Visited a sick child twice. Had the evening meeting at the meeting-house, and spoke

<sup>1</sup> Dea. Sydney Underwood, of the North Congregational Church, New Bedford.

<sup>2</sup> It was for the writing of this lecture, doubtless, that he had been reading Lawrence's *Lectures on the Natural History of Man*.

<sup>3</sup> In the published list of the members of the Congregational church of Mattapoisett, as the membership stood some years later

than this date, there were fourteen of the name Cannon, and fourteen of the name Hammond, eleven of the name Dexter, and eleven of the name Crosby.

<sup>4</sup> The Massachusetts Sabbath-School Society, under its Secretary, Rev. Asa Bullard, interested itself in reviving the study of the Assembly's Catechism, and, to a considerable extent, succeeded.

on Rom. x: 9. We have left the vestry at present on account of its proximity to the grog-bar.<sup>1</sup> Had to sit up late; nerves affected.

25. Rode out and visited a sick man. Wrote a petition to the managers of the American Bible Society asking for a donation of a set of the Bibles they have published for my library. Wrote. Read. At evening walked and visited. We have new cases of sickness.

26. Rode in the stage to Rochester,<sup>2</sup> and met with the Association.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Putnam,<sup>4</sup> of Middleborough, was with us. Mr. Roberts preached, and we ordained a deacon.<sup>5</sup> Tarried at Esq. Holmes's.

27. The Association closed their business. Afternoon we had a very good annual meeting of our Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society. I paid the treasurer, \$51.00. The Association added their recommendation to my petition to the American Bible Society. Rode home. At evening attended the Sabbath-school teachers' meeting. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott.

28. Visited the sick. Read. Our people are well determined to put down the rum selling. Walked and visited. The spring advances slowly.

29. Received a letter from Mr. H. Barrows, requesting me to preach at his ordination. Received one from D. Ricketson, of Bedford. Wrote to sister Battell. Read. Rainy. Rode to the Neck to attend a meeting; the wet prevented it. People are late with their spring work.

30. Visited the sick. Rode to Bedford. Mr. Holmes is feeble and lame. Received a large bundle of tracts and books from the Tract Society at Boston, of the value of \$13.00, in return for the collection of \$21.50, which we sent them.<sup>6</sup> Have difficulty in getting Sabbath-school books. The ground is mostly settled. Uncle Le Baron is quite feeble. Had made a very good new coat and pantaloons like my cloak. Wrote.

#### MAY.

1. Warm. Afternoon wore no out-coat.<sup>7</sup> Preached with notes on John v: 40, and a sermon on Prov. xxix: 1. Attended the Sabbath-school. At evening reviewed the subjects of the day. Evening meeting in the new school-house. Visited a sick child. Had company late in the evening.

2. Wrote to Mr. H. Barrows, Middleborough, and to Dea. Underwood, Bedford. Visited the sick. Rode to Fairhaven with company. Attended the monthly concert; quite thin. Our rum shop produces a good deal of excitement. I think they will annihilate it.

<sup>1</sup> Questionable whether the vestry ought to have retired before the grog-shop.

<sup>2</sup> The old part of the town where Rev. Mr. Bigelow had his church.

<sup>3</sup> The Old Colony Association.

<sup>4</sup> Israel W. Putnam, D. D., then recently settled over the First Church of Middleborough.

<sup>5</sup> That custom has generally ceased among our churches.

<sup>6</sup> The Tract Society was not accustomed

to return so large a portion of what it received to the churches contributing, else it would not have been able to make its contributions of books and tracts among the new settlements, and among the poor and destitute generally.

<sup>7</sup> The fashion of calling an overcoat an *out-coat* was not general in New England in 1836. The habit was brought probably from the early part of the present century, or from the past century.



spring advances but little. Wet. Wrote to Dea. Underwood,<sup>1</sup> of Bedford. Wrote late.

16. Walked and visited the sick. Some very low. Wrote and brought my lecture towards a close. Cannot do much in preparing for the Sabbath. Wrote.

17. Visited Mrs. Clarke; very low. Expounded on Matt. xxvi: 25, and preached a sermon on Isa. xxxiii: 14. Attended the Sabbath-school. We have some difficulty in organizing. Full meeting. At evening reviewed the subjects of the day. Much fatigued.

18. Walked a distance, and visited the sick. Worked some at my wood. Find it difficult to study. Wrote in the evening and finished my long lecture on the Varieties of the Human Species.<sup>2</sup> It has cost me much investigation and labor. Wrote late.

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27. The Association closed their business. Afternoon we had a very good annual meeting of our Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society. I paid the treasurer, \$51.00. The Association added their recommendation to my petition to the American Bible Society. Rode home. At evening attended the Sabbath-school teachers' meeting. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott.

28. Visited the sick. Read. Our people are well determined to put down the rum selling. Walked and visited. The spring advances slowly.

29. Received a letter from Mr. H. Barrows, requesting me to preach at his ordination. Received one from D. Ricketson, of Bedford. Wrote to sister Battell. Read. Rainy. Rode to the Neck to attend a meeting; the wet prevented it. People are late with their spring work.

30. Visited the sick. Rode to Bedford. Mr. Holmes is feeble and lame. Received a large bundle of tracts and books from the Tract Society at Boston, of the value of \$13.00, in return for the collection of \$21.50, which we sent them.<sup>6</sup> Have difficulty in getting Sabbath-school books. The ground is mostly settled. Uncle Le Baron is quite feeble. Had made a very good new coat and pantaloons like my cloak. Wrote.

#### MAY.

1. Warm. Afternoon wore no out-coat.<sup>7</sup> Preached with notes on John v : 40, and a sermon on Prov. xxix : 1. Attended the Sabbath-school. At evening reviewed the subjects of the day. Evening meeting in the new school-house. Visited a sick child. Had company late in the evening.

2. Wrote to Mr. H. Barrows, Middleborough, and to Dea. Underwood, Bedford. Visited the sick. Rode to Fairhaven with company. Attended the monthly concert; quite thin. Our rum shop produces a good deal of excitement. I think they will annihilate it.

<sup>1</sup> Questionable whether the vestry ought to have retired before the grog-shop.

<sup>2</sup> The old part of the town where Rev. Mr. Bigelow had his church.

<sup>3</sup> The Old Colony Association.

<sup>4</sup> Israel W. Putnam, D. D., then recently settled over the First Church of Middleborough.

<sup>5</sup> That custom has generally ceased among our churches.

<sup>6</sup> The Tract Society was not accustomed

to return so large a portion of what it received to the churches contributing, else it would not have been able to make its contributions of books and tracts among the new settlements, and among the poor and destitute generally.

<sup>7</sup> The fashion of calling an overcoat an *out-coat* was not general in New England in 1836. The habit was brought probably from the early part of the present century, or from the past century.

3. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott. Thermometer above summer heat. Yesterday gave out a number of the tract volumes to the principal donors. Visited Uncle Le Baron. Wrote. Visited a school. Wrote to the secretaries of the A. B. C. F. Missions, and to Dr. Bull, Hartford.

4. Rode to Randall neighborhood and visited. Trying to establish a branch Sabbath-school there. Mr. P. Crosby's little son died this forenoon. Read expositors. Attended the Sabbath-school teachers' meeting. Warm.

5. Worked at my library. Attended a funeral. Visited. Was out late. Our Universalists conclude to go on with their meeting-house.

6. Rode to Fairhaven with Mrs. Crosby, and procured garden roots, trees, etc. Rode to Tripp's Mills and visited. Hope to have a Sabbath-school there. Found an old primer. Visited Uncle Le Baron. Read.

7. Rode in the stage, and walked to Mr. Cobb's, Sippican. The road quite dusty. Afternoon we had a refreshing rain. Had a very good visit. Read.

8. Walked to meeting. Mr. Cobb went to Mattapoisett. Preached on 1 John i: 7, and Luke xv: 17. This congregation is quite small, and the people are stupid. Called at Mr. Holmes's. Rode home with Mr. Meigs. Attended our evening meeting with Mr. Cobb. Read late. On the 5th received a good letter from Messrs. Herrick & Noyes, New Haven.

9. Attended to my books. Received a long and polite letter from Robert C. Winthrop,<sup>1</sup> Esq., Boston. Wrote. Mr. Holmes, of Bedford, called on me and desired me, for himself and his people, to lay the corner-stone of their new meeting-house.<sup>2</sup> At evening attended the meeting of the brethren of the church. Read.

10. Began to write an address for Bedford. Worked at my library. Can do but little in study. Wrote to Dea. Underwood.<sup>3</sup> Much occupied with company.

11. Wrote and finished the first draft of my address. Attended the evening teachers' meeting. Worked at my wood.

12. Yesterday received a letter from Rev. Mr. Boutelle,<sup>4</sup> of Plymouth, and wrote to Mr. Holmes. Walked and visited Uncle Le Baron and others. Warm. Wrote copying my address. At evening rode to the Neck and married James Hammond.<sup>5</sup> Came home in a dark time, with bad road.

13. Wrote. Mr. Holmes came for me, and I went with him to Bedford. Attended to the public service, and laid the corner-stone of his new stone church, and delivered my address. The weather in the afternoon became cold and windy, and it was uncomfortable speaking. A large collection of

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Robert C. Winthrop was at that time a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

<sup>2</sup> This was one of the new and grand church edifices which were to be erected in New Bedford.

<sup>3</sup> Dea. Sydney Underwood.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Thomas Boutelle, a native of Leom-

inster, Mass., a graduate of Amherst College, 1829, and Andover Seminary, 1832. He was settled over the Third Church, Plymouth, May 21, 1834. Settled afterwards in East Woodstock, Ct., and Bath, Me. Died in Fitchburg, Mass., 1866.

<sup>5</sup> James Hammond was united in marriage with Hannah Cowell.

people were present. Called on Mr. Roberts. Attended Mr. Holmes's evening meeting with him, and tarried at his house.

14. This morning there was frost and ice. Called on Mr. Choules,<sup>1</sup> lately returned from England. He has procured some books for me. Was brought home. Wrote. Wrote to Rev. G. W. Blagden,<sup>2</sup> Boston, also to Mr. Roberts, of Bedford, and Mr. Boutelle, of Plymouth. Am much fatigued.

15. Preached with notes on Esther iv: 13, 14, and a sermon on 2 Kings ii: 9, 10. Attended the Sabbath-school. Rode to Tripp's Mills and preached at five o'clock to a woman of ninety-two, and some other aged people, on John i: 12. Returned and attended the evening meeting; spoke on Acts xxviii: 23.

16. It is still cold and windy. We had a clear sky yesterday morning to see the eclipse.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Nott<sup>4</sup> called and spent the forenoon. Walked and visited. Visited a school. Wrote.

17. Wrote to Herrick & Noyes, New Haven. Wrote on my library catalogue. Walked and visited. A near neighbor has a sick family.

18. Rode with company to Fairhaven and Bedford. Quite warm and dry. Blossoms appear. Thermometer above summer heat. Dined out. Have a bad cold. At evening attended the teachers' meeting.

19. Wrote on a report for the Convention of Ministers respecting the Fast. My cold is oppressive. We get no rain to wet the ground. Visited the sick. The war in Texas<sup>5</sup> has become very sanguinary. Am pretty feeble.

20. Wrote copying my report. Attended the examination of Miss Cobb's school forenoon and afternoon. Received a church letter to attend Mr. H. Barrows's ordination at West Middleborough, June 1st. I am to preach with short notice.

21. Finished my Convention report. Thermometer at 84°. The ground is very dry. Visited the sick. Uncle Le Baron is something better. Preparing for my journey. Have made donations this week, \$2.50. Wrote.

22. Expounded on Matt. xxvi: 26-46, and preached a sermon on 1 Cor. xi: 1. Attended a third meeting at the meeting-house, and reviewed the foregoing subjects; after which rode to Bedford. Went into Mr. Holmes's evening meeting, and spoke on 1 Cor. xi: 1. My cold is oppressive, and the latter part of the day my hoarseness was severe. Tarried at Mr. Holmes's.

23. Took the stage with Mr. Holmes, and other good company. The apple-trees are in their early bloom. Kindly received and entertained at Mr. Munroe's.<sup>6</sup> At evening attended a public missionary meeting. A great

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John O. Choules, a native of England.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Geo. W. Blagden, D. D., was then pastor of Salem Street Church, Boston, but in September following was installed over the Old South Church, where he remained till his recent death, though for some years released from the cares of the pastoral office.

<sup>3</sup> This eclipse, May 15, was of the sun,

central and annular in many parts of the world. At Boston the eclipse began 7.25 A. M., and ended at 10 o'clock.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott, Jr., of Wareham.

<sup>5</sup> Texas was separated from Mexico in this year 1836, but its independence was not acknowledged till 1840. Its proposed annexation led to the Mexican War in 1846.

<sup>6</sup> It is anniversary week again in Boston,

number of ministers in town. My hoarseness is such that I can hardly speak loud.

24. Attended meeting. Got together a part of our Fast committee,<sup>1</sup> and read my report, which they altered in some measure.<sup>2</sup> Called on my cousin Chandler. Did errands. At evening meeting of Home Missions. Paid for books, \$1.00. Rode to Bedford and Providence, forty miles. Did bank business at Fairhaven. The roads wet. At evening had a pleasant visit with Dr. Webb. Paid for a whip, .83. Tarried at a tavern.

25. Dr. Snell, of Brookfield, and others lodge with me. Attended the morning prayer-meeting. Dark, chilly weather, and east wind. Procured Sabbath-school books. Attended the meeting of the Antiquarian Society. Dined at Gov. Winthrop's. Attended this morning and yesterday afternoon the meeting of the Pastoral Association. Dr. Coleman preached before the body very well. I am appointed by them on a committee to report next year upon the subject of the Convention preacher. Afternoon attended the annual meeting of the Convention. Presented and read my report, which was accepted and approved. Dr. Dana, myself, and Dr. Lowell are to publish an address on the subject of Fast next winter. Took tea at Mr. Willis's. Attended in the evening a most splendid exhibition of music, mostly sacred, at the Odeon, a beautiful house.

26. Did errands. Attended the meeting of the Convention and public worship. Mr. Emerson, of Salem, preached well. Dined with the ministers, mostly Unitarian. Kindly treated. Took tea at Mr. Hastings's. Attended a great Foreign Mission meeting in the evening at the Odeon. Was up late. Attended the morning prayer-meeting. Traded, \$2.75. Received a donation for Mrs. Crosby, .75. Contribution, \$1.00.

27. The dark, easterly weather continues without interruption. Took the stage and rode by Taunton to Fairhaven. My cousin W. Le Baron brought me home.

28. Am much fatigued with labor and want of sleep. Though poorly prepared began a sermon for Mr. Barrows's ordination, and wrote what I could. My hoarseness continues.

29. Dark and wet. Rode to Bedford and made an exchange with Mr. Roberts. Met him on the way. Preached on Jonah ii: 8, and Luke xv: 17. Thin meeting. I do not think the congregation any larger than ours. Returned, attended the evening meeting, and spoke on John i: 11.

30. My cold and hoarseness continue. Wrote what I could on my sermon on the confession of our faith. Walked out and worked some. Am quite nervous. Attended the launching of a ship. It went off well. Wrote quite late. Weather cold and rough.

and he is entertained at his former place, near Park Street Church.

<sup>1</sup> This committee, as before stated, was appointed by the Convention of Congregational Ministers, including both Unitarian and Trinitarian.

<sup>2</sup> Such report as Dr. Robbins would naturally write on the subject of the State Fast, would not be likely to suit entirely some members of his committee, but they had no very serious objections to it, and after some alterations it was adopted.

31. Am very feeble and languid. Wrote what I could, and finished my ordination sermon before evening. Dea. Gaylord, of Amherst, called on me. My sermon is pretty long, and not as well finished as I could wish. Cold and dry. Vegetation makes little progress.

## JUNE.

1. Left home at four o'clock, and rode with my delegate, Capt. Freeman,<sup>1</sup> to West Middleborough<sup>2</sup> and attended the ordination of Mr. Barrows.<sup>3</sup> We had a good council, but all things were unprepared. The examination was good, and the parts were well performed. I preached the sermon finished last evening on Acts viii: 37. I left my spectacles at home; borrowed a pair there. Spoke with difficulty on account of my cold, and my sermon was over an hour. The novel subject was well received. Rode home and attended the teachers' meeting in the evening. Have seldom been so much overcome with labor.

2. A drunken man here was yesterday run over by the stage, and was killed. Walked out. Am able to do but very little. Received a letter from J. C. Brigham,<sup>4</sup> Secretary of American Bible Society, New York, saying kindly that they could not give me a set of their Bibles, because my library is a private library. Received a very kind letter from my nephew, Joseph Battell, of New York, informing me that he has sent me a box of valuable ancient volumes. Read. In the afternoon preached a preparatory lecture with notes on Rom. viii: 6.

3. Wrote the preceding twelve days of diary. Read. Our easterly weather continues without change. Visited families. Am able to do but little.

4. Something wet. Wrote to brother Francis, Dr. Gridley,<sup>5</sup> of Amherst, and Dr. Osgood,<sup>6</sup> of Springfield. On the morning of the 1st saw a little frost on a bridge.

5. Still dark, easterly weather. Visited a sick family. Preached with notes on Luke xii: 42, and a sermon on 2 Thess. ii: 16. Administered the sacrament. Mr. Le Baron communed with us again on his bed at home. Church not as full as sometimes. My cold and hoarseness continue, and therefore had a sermon read at the evening meeting.

6. Read. Am quite feeble. Walked and visited. Attended the monthly concert. Wet, but little rain.

7. Warm and light showers. Rode to Bedford. There have been no vessels from the west for a long time. The wind got into the south after seventeen or eighteen days of east wind. Disappointed at not finding books come that I am expecting. Made calls at Fairhaven. Paid for Bibles sold, \$5.00. For a small trunk, \$2.00. Uncle Le Baron is quite low. He may die suddenly.

8. Visited families. Received a letter from Mr. Gould. He cannot go

<sup>1</sup> Capt. Seth Freeman.

<sup>2</sup> Now Lakeville.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Homer Barrows.

<sup>4</sup> John C. Brigham, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Timothy J. Gridley, M. D.

<sup>6</sup> Samuel Osgood, D. D.

to General Association.<sup>1</sup> Thermometer above 80°. Wrote. At evening attended the teachers' meeting.

9. Read. Thermometer above 80°. Am quite languid. Wrote to Mr. Holmes. Visited. Paid a shoemaker.

10. Wrote in a lady's album. A burdensome business. Received a letter from Herrick & Noyes, New Haven. On the evening of the 8th read late on the proceedings of the General Assembly at Pittsburgh.<sup>2</sup> That church is in a very unhappy and divided state. Wrote to Rev. Messrs. Richmond & Burt. Last Sabbath attended the funeral of an infant child.

11. Rode in the stage to Plymouth to make exchange. The roads quite dusty. Stayed at Mr. Russell's. Made calls on Dr. Kendall and others.

12. Went to Mr. Boutelle's,<sup>3</sup> having called there yesterday. He is gone to Mattapoisett. Laborious, though not a long walk to the meeting-house. Quite warm. Preached on 2 Thess. ii: 16, and Luke ix: 30, 31. Had an evening meeting and preached on Luke xv: 17. Meetings well attended. I think this society about as large as ours. Much fatigued. Took tea at Esq. Robbins's.<sup>4</sup> My voice is not fully restored from my late cold.

13. Looked in the morning at Pilgrim Hall.<sup>5</sup> It is a fine building, and the painting, the landing of the Pilgrims, is magnificent. Rode home in a crowded stage and oppressive dust. Very tired. The ground is very dry. Read. Received a letter from Rev. N. Adams,<sup>6</sup> Boston.

14. Rode with company to Bedford. Received a letter in the morning from Mr. E. Dunbar there. Found two boxes of books, one from New Haven, and one from New York. Brought one home. Wrote late.

15. Mr. Boutelle's preaching here last Sabbath was very acceptable. Cool and dry. Wrote letters to Rev. Messrs. Cobb, Putnam, and Nott. My box of old books from New York was brought by the stage. A very valuable and acceptable present from my nephew Joseph Battell. Twelve ancient stately folios, including the works of Nicolas de Lyra,<sup>7</sup> printed in 1506. These and thirteen more, with two large volumes from New Haven, make a good addition to library. Had company. Mr. Thacher, of Boston, called on me. Visited Uncle Le Baron. At evening attended teachers' meeting.

16. Rode to Mr. Bigelow's and conversed about our Pastoral Association business. Very dusty. Wrote to my cousin Joseph Battell, of New York, acknowledging his valuable present. Wrote to Gov. Everett. Was out late.

<sup>1</sup> The General Association that year was to meet far away at Worthington, among the hills of Western Massachusetts.

<sup>2</sup> This was the time of the great strife in the Presbyterian Church, on matters of doctrine, when Rev. Albert Barnes and Dr. Lyman Beecher were under sharp criticism for their supposed heresies.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Thomas Boutelle, born in Leominster, 1805, and graduated at Amherst College, 1829.

<sup>4</sup> Dea. Josiah Robbins.

<sup>5</sup> This was about the time of the completion of the hall, which has recently been renovated and improved, at the expense of J. H. Stickney, Esq., of Baltimore.

<sup>6</sup> Nehemiah Adams, D. D., of the Union (then commonly known as the Essex Street) Church, Boston.

<sup>7</sup> Nicolas de Lyra, of Normandy, who died in 1340, left commentaries of the whole Bible, of which different editions were published in costly form and style, and were sought for their fine appearance, and their contents.

17. Very warm. Thermometer at 85°. Received a letter from brother Francis, and one from Mr. Richmond, of Dartmouth. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Ely,<sup>1</sup> of Mansfield, Ct., Andros,<sup>2</sup> of Berkeley. Preparing for my journey. We had some moderate and very grateful showers.

18. The earth is greatly refreshed by the rain. Walked and visited. Have much to do in preparing for my journey. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Nott.<sup>3</sup> Wrote returns of the churches for the General Association. Visited Uncle Le Baron.

19. Warm and pleasant. Thermometer 87°. Preached with notes on Ps. cx: 3, and a sermon on Ps. i: 4. Baptized three children. The church voted to dismiss and recommend Mrs. Hubbard, late my cousin Eliza Le Baron. Attended the Sabbath-school. Very full. At evening meeting reviewed the subjects of the day.

20. Rainy and very refreshing. Wrote to Hon. William Reed,<sup>4</sup> of Marblehead. Received a letter from Dr. Cobb, and one from Mr. Holmes. At evening attended a small meeting of the brethren of the church. Was up late.

21. A rainy day. Expected to have gone on my journey, but am prevented by the rain. Wrote to Mr. Holmes, and to Mr. Choules, of Bedford. Finished my returns and report for General Association. Read. Yesterday received of my collector, \$60.00.

22. Dark, easterly weather, but not much wet. Set out on my journey. On account of the hindrance of yesterday cannot go by Boston, as I had intended. Rode to Bedford and Providence, forty miles. Did bank business at Fairhaven. Roads wet. At evening had a pleasant visit with Dr. Webb. Paid for a whip, .83. Tarried at a tavern.

23. Rode early. Cold and damp. Rode to Worcester, through a good country.<sup>5</sup> At breakfast had strawberries. Find I cannot go to Berlin as I had contemplated. Rode to Leicester.<sup>6</sup> Afternoon wet and misty, and some of the way quite muddy. Tarried at a tavern.

24. Had a pleasant visit at Mr. Nelson's.<sup>7</sup> Rode to North Brookfield. Called at Mr. Snell's.<sup>8</sup> Visited my neighbor N. Clarke's relatives. Cold east wind. At West Brookfield spent some time at Mr. Horton's.<sup>9</sup> A fine town. Rode through the flourishing Ware village. Tarried at a tavern, twenty-

<sup>1</sup> Rev. William Ely.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Thomas Andros.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott.

<sup>4</sup> Known among other excellences for his generosity while living, and his large gifts for Christian purposes at his death.

<sup>5</sup> Along the Blackstone valley, a journey of more than forty miles from Providence to Worcester.

<sup>6</sup> Leicester lies six miles west of Worcester on the high hills.

<sup>7</sup> John Nelson, D. D., born in Hopkinton, Mass., 1786, graduated at Williams

College, 1807, settled in Leicester, 1812, where he remained till his death in 1871, though in his last years with a colleague.

<sup>8</sup> Thomas Snell, D. D., born in Cummington, Mass., 1774, graduated at Dartmouth, 1795, settled in North Brookfield, 1798, where he remained till his death in 1862, with a colleague in his later years.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. Francis Horton, a native of Boston, 1803, graduate of Brown University, 1828. Settled at West Brookfield in 1832, afterwards at Barrington, R. I. He died in Barrington, March 19, 1872.



seven miles. Yesterday had a good visit with my cousin J. W. Robbins,<sup>1</sup> at Uxbridge. He appears to be a good physician.

25. In the morning rainy. Stopped at Belchertown. Rode to Amherst. Called on Mr. Perkins. Am much gratified with seeing these friends. Dr. Gridley<sup>2</sup> is a sensible and intelligent man. Cousins Eber L. Clarke and wife arrived here nearly at the same time with me. Called on Pres. Humphrey.

26. Am considerably fatigued with my journey. In the morning preached for Mr. Perkins<sup>3</sup> in the East Street Church, on 2 Thess. ii: 16. Cousin Eliza went with me. Preached in the afternoon and evening at the chapel and the meeting-house on 1 John v: 7. My hoarseness still continues, and is something troublesome. The subject of the Trinity seemed to be interesting.

27. Quite pleasant after a week of dark, easterly weather. Pres. Humphrey<sup>4</sup> showed me the college, etc. It appears very well, beyond my expectation. This is a beautiful town. My cousin Eliza is useful here, and has a good family. Rode to Northampton on a beautiful new road. Dined at Judge Lyman's.<sup>5</sup> Rode to Worthington. Mr. Clarke and cousin Sally in company. Quite warm. Some of the road very bad. Kindly accommodated at Col. Ward's. Today twenty-six miles, Saturday fourteen.

28. Wrote. Glad of an opportunity. Very warm. The members of our body were late in coming. The General Association met and organized. Dr. Brown,<sup>6</sup> of Hadley, moderator. Mr. Kirk,<sup>7</sup> of Albany, preached well in the evening. We lodged a mile from the meeting-house.

29. A number of elected members of General Association are absent. The body has not as much weight as last year. Not much important business. The account of the state of religion was favorable. Mr. Rogers,<sup>8</sup> of Boston, preached in the evening. Paid the tax of our Association, \$4.50.

30. Much crowded with business. Very warm. We did some things, I think, not very wise. Dr. Humphrey preached a very good associational sermon, and we had the sacrament. Closed the session towards evening. We had a very interesting account of Liberia from Mr. Pinney.<sup>9</sup> Much fatigued. Did not attend the evening meeting.

#### JULY.

1. Left my kind host, Col. Ward,<sup>10</sup> and rode over huge hills to Pittsfield. Vegetation advances with great rapidity. This town is large and flourishing.

<sup>1</sup> James Watson Robbins, M. D., son of his brother, James Watson, of Lenox. The son was graduated at Yale, 1822.

<sup>2</sup> Timothy J. Gridley, M. D., who married Mrs. Eliza Olmsted.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Nathan Perkins, son of Rev. Nathan Perkins, D. D., of West Hartford, Ct., graduated at Yale, 1795, settled in Amherst, 1810, died 1845.

<sup>4</sup> Heman Humphrey, D. D., was President of Amherst College, 1823-1845.

<sup>5</sup> Judge Joseph Lyman.

<sup>6</sup> John Brown, D. D., a native of Brooklyn,

Ct., graduated at Dartmouth, 1809. Settled at Hadley in 1831.

<sup>7</sup> Edward N. Kirk, D. D., then known as an able, eloquent, and judicious evangelist.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. William M. Rogers, born 1806, graduated at Harvard, 1827, settled over the Central Church (then known as Winter Street), 1835, died in 1851, an eloquent and effective preacher.

<sup>9</sup> John B. Pinney, who had been out to Liberia.

<sup>10</sup> Worthington, the town where Col. Ward lived, and where the meeting of the General

Rode to Lenox, twenty-six miles. Brother James is absent in New York State. Saw Dr. Shepard.<sup>1</sup> There has been a good work of grace here, and three of my brother's children have hopefully got religion. Much oppressed with the heat. Kindly treated at Mr. Willis's at Pittsfield.

2. My brother's family appear well. Rode to Norfolk. Have been absent from my native town nearly three years. Mr. Battell is at the West; but three of the children at home. Thirty-three miles. The ivy blossoms are very beautiful. Vegetation appears well.

3. Mr. Eldridge<sup>2</sup> is absent. Preached on Thess. ii: 16, and Luke ix: 30, 31. This congregation continues to be large. I know but few of them. My hoarseness continues with soreness of the throat. The Lord in mercy be my helper. See many old acquaintance. Had no evening meeting.

4. Wrote considerably. No appearance of Independence. Rainy and showery through the day. Am disappointed of going out. Received an old credit on Mr. Battell's books, \$4.25. Traded \$1.58. Drank tea at Mr. Lawrence's.<sup>3</sup> Attended a thin monthly concert.

5. Rode with Mrs. Battell and visited brother Ammi. He is comfortable in his health, but rheumatic and cannot walk. Gave him Hannah More's *Works*, and an old note I held against him. Visited father's house. It is well occupied.

6. It appears that I have lost my umbrella. Packed up and rode to Litchfield. Put up at Mr. Deming's;<sup>4</sup> an afflicted family. Made calls. At Mr. Bacon's<sup>5</sup> had a great supply of strawberries. Had sound apples, as we had in abundance at General Association. Quite warm, and very fine for vegetation.

7. Rode to New Haven. Much oppressed with the heat. Find many acquaintance. Saw Robbins Battell.<sup>6</sup> Was in awhile at evening at a scholastic exhibition. In the morning called on Mr. Wolcott.<sup>7</sup>

8. Last night slept very little. Was up quite early. Attended morning

Association had been held, was one of the most hilly towns of Hampshire County, bordering on Berkshire. Like a great many of the hill towns of New England its population is less now than in 1836. Then it numbered about 1,100 inhabitants, while, by the census of 1880 its population was 758. The minister at Worthington in 1836 was Rev. Henry Adams, who was graduated at Amherst in 1828, and settled in Worthington, 1833.

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Shepard, D. D., whose name came before us often in the earlier part of this diary. He was graduated at Yale, 1793, and settled in Lenox, 1795. He was a native of Chatham, Ct.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Joseph Eldridge, D. D. Settled in Norfolk, April, 1832.

<sup>3</sup> William Lawrence, son of his sister

Elizabeth. He married, Aug. 18, 1830, Caroline Augusta Rockwell.

<sup>4</sup> There has been a previous reference to the recent death which had occurred in this family.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. John Bacon.

<sup>6</sup> Who, as a classmate of the writer of this note, was then drawing near the end of his Freshman year at Yale. Now he is the trustee of the large estate left by his brother Joseph, who died in 1874. He makes his home at Norfolk, Ct., but is obliged to spend most of his time in New York.

<sup>7</sup> Elizur Wolcott, in the same class with Mr. Battell, who came from one of the prominent families in Dr. Robbins's parish at East Windsor, now living at Jacksonville, Ill.

prayers at college. Am very languid. Called on Judge Daggett,<sup>1</sup> Mr. Lyon, and others. I hope my cousin R. Battell will make a valuable man. Rode to E. W. after noon. The heat very oppressive with south wind and severe dust. My horse sweat badly. Got to East Windsor, Mr. Wolcott's, at eleven o'clock. This family are quite well. In the morning procured some books of Herrick & Noyes, and paid them \$20.00. Had dark riding. The thermometer here was at 98°.

9. Am much fatigued and very languid. Wrote diary. The heat nearly the same as yesterday. Mrs. Wolcott is quite well for her. Can do but little. Had my carriage cleaned. Towards evening rode to Enfield. Called at the Hill.

10. My brother, through great mercy, appears better than he has for four years. Cloudy and something wet, but warm. Preached on 1 John i: 7, and Matt. x: 32. This congregation not quite as large as it has been, as they have meetings at Thompsonville. My cousin S. P. Robbins<sup>2</sup> has been recently married here to Dea. Pierce's daughter, and they have sailed from Boston for Java on a mission. Had a full evening meeting and preached a sermon on Luke xv: 17. Was up late. My hoarseness, through divine favor, is better.

11. Had much conversation with my brother and wife about his circumstances, etc. Left about noon, and rode to Pine Meadow and made a visit at Mr. Haskell's. Mr. Rowland, of Windsor, has deceased, and a man is settled in his place.<sup>3</sup> The society are in a poor state. Rode to the Hill. Went with Pres. Tyler<sup>4</sup> to the seminary. The building, location, farm, etc., are very fine. Saw the professors. Attended a Sabbath-school concert. Mr. Rugles, missionary from the Sandwich Islands, spoke. Visited at Mr. Bissell's. Great changes in that family. Rode in the dark to Mr. Wolcott's.

12. Rode to Hartford. The heat continues. A very fine season for vegetation. Saw many acquaintances and friends. Called on Dr. Hawes. He made inquiries about historical facts. He had been wishing to see me. Did errands. Paid for my newspaper,<sup>5</sup> \$4.00. For the *Evangelical Magazine*,<sup>6</sup> \$4.00. For purchases, .21. Unable to finish my business. Returned to East Windsor, and preached in the evening at a full meeting on Luke xv: 17. Was up late.

13. Am very languid. Have to visit friends and families. Rode to

<sup>1</sup> Hon. David Daggett, a graduate of Yale, 1783, Senator of the United States, and Chief Judge of the Superior Court of Connecticut.

<sup>2</sup> This was the son of Samuel Prince Robbins, whose ordination sermon Dr. Thomas Robbins preached in Marietta, O., in 1805. The son was born in Marietta, Aug. 25, 1811, was graduated at Ohio University in 1830, and at Andover Theological Seminary in 1835. He died in 1846. A few years since two sons of his were living at Warren, Mass.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Charles Walker was settled there in March, 1836, but remained only about a year.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Bennet Tyler, D. D., President of Connecticut Theological Institute.

<sup>5</sup> The Connecticut *Courant*.

<sup>6</sup> The Connecticut *Evangelical Magazine*, after continuing fifteen years, died in 1815. Dr. Robbins, it will be remembered, wrote much for this. He was probably buying some numbers or volumes of the old monthly.

Hartford. In East Hartford called at Capt. White's.<sup>1</sup> They have there a fine new meeting-house.<sup>2</sup> Settled with Mr. Bull. Took a note of him for money lent of \$400.00 Oct. 12, 1831. This he has now paid with interest. I gave a discharge of the same. He has sent me at two times, \$200.00 each time, and other sums, and has paid various drafts and orders, and various things from his store. He has received my bank dividends. He has now paid me, \$44.43, and balanced the whole account of \$823.33. He has been very accommodating. Dined with him. See many friends. Received of Mr. Hosmer twenty-four Bibles for distribution. Received of Rev. W. Ely a letter, and thirteen volumes of my books which he has had for several years. Much fatigued. Visited old neighbors after returning to East Windsor. Was up late.

14. Warm and damp. Reckoned with Tudor. He has rented my land at about \$28.00 annually. I had a credit on his account of \$59.60, of which he paid me \$55.00, and I gave him the residue for his services. He also paid me \$2.50 interest on some of the money let out. He has paid his father \$20.00, with about \$1.50 interest for books which I had of him some two years since. Balanced accounts. Left Mr. Wolcott's again, and rode to Pomfret, forty miles. Towards night it grew cooler. Most of the taverns sell spirits.

15. Rode to Providence and Fall River, fifty miles. Wore an out-coat the most of the day. Something wet. My horse does very well. Much fatigued for want of sleep.

16. Rode early, and, through divine favor, came home. Called on Uncle Le Baron. I think he is quite as well as when I left home. The people have been supplied by Mr. Andros,<sup>3</sup> himself one Sabbath, and two exchanges. Received a letter from Gov. Everett, and one from Mr. Holmes, of Bedford. Rev. Mr. Barrows and wife called on me. Am much fatigued. Two men have died within our limits in my absence. Cool.

17. Preached with notes on John xii: 26, and a sermon on Prov. xxiii: 26. Quite cool. Had a fire in my chamber. Young friends come in to welcome my return. Spoke at the evening meeting on John ix: 4. •

18. Walked out. Warmer. Wrote. Occupied with company. Visited and attended a thin evening meeting of the brethren of the church.

19. Rode to Bedford. Quite warm again. Dined with Mr. Choules. Received from him sixty volumes of books which he procured for me in England. Others are not yet arrived. Saw Mr. Holmes. Fine weather for haying. A new Episcopal church was consecrated in Bedford last week.

20. Yesterday Mr. Holmes gave me an unexpected piece of information. Wrote. Am very languid. Thermometer at 86°. On the 18th received a letter from Esq. Charles Holmes. At evening attended the meeting of the Sabbath-school teachers.

21. Began a sermon for the New Bedford lecture on Rom. i: 20. Read authorities, and wrote what I could. Visited Uncle Le Baron. Made calls.

<sup>1</sup> Where he used to board.

<sup>2</sup> Erected in 1835.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Thomas Andros, who had very recently been dismissed at Berkley.

22. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Choules. Read. Occupied with company.
23. Last night we had a good deal of rain. Walked out. Visited a family lately afflicted.
24. Have been feeble since my journey. Expounded on Matt. xxvi: 47 to the end; and preached a sermon on Prov. xxiii: 26. Rode to Bedford and preached at evening Mr. Holmes's lecture on Rom. i: 20, on the Being and Perfections of God.<sup>1</sup> My hoarseness and sore throat are afflictive. Was up quite late.
25. Did errands. Walked with Mr. Holmes. Set out for home as a passenger in a loaded wagon. We had not gone far when we broke down, and were detained till late in the day. Was kindly treated at the house of Mr. McFarland. In the morning called on Mr. Choules, and got Cranmer's<sup>2</sup> Bible, something broken, Boyle's *Works*,<sup>3</sup> a fine edition, and some other volumes, including the remainder of what he procured for me in England. Paid him \$25.00, making with what I advanced him, \$60.00. The number of volumes is seventy-two, including thirteen folios. Much fatigued.
26. On Sabbath evening Mr. Nash,<sup>4</sup> agent of the Education Society, preached to my people on that subject. Rode in the stage to Wareham and attended Association. Had a good session. Mr. Burt preached.
27. Last night slept very little. Closed our session at noon. Received of Mr. Richmond \$4.50, which I had paid at General Association. Afternoon attended the meeting of the Auxiliary Education Society. Mr. Nash made a good address. The brethren, excepting me, went home. Am quite unwell.
28. Read. Am some better than yesterday. Rode home in the stage. Can do but little. Wrote.
29. Wrote. On my late journey I paid for books, \$20.00; periodicals, \$8.00; purchases, \$13.62; expenses, \$24.43. Visited Uncle Le Baron. He is quite feeble. Looked over books. Read. Yesterday saw the first harvesting. Weather not favorable.
30. Worked at my library the most of the day. I have got behindhand. Cannot bear constant application. Walked out.
31. Preached a double sermon on Acts x: 34, 35. Attended the Sabbath-school. Quite warm. Full meeting. We had a contribution for the Education Society and collected \$19.00. Spoke at the evening meeting on Acts xiii: 38. My hoarseness and sore throat continue, but I hope abate a little.

## AUGUST.

1. Attended to my library. Wrote on the catalogue. Can do but little. Attended the monthly concert. Quite thin.

<sup>1</sup> Readers of this diary have become quite familiar with the fact, that when Dr. Robbins considers himself feeble he is quite likely to make a horseback journey of fifty miles in a day, or preach three times on the Sabbath.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, born in 1489, died as a martyr, 1556.

The Bible bearing his name and imprint first appeared in 1540. Cranmer was a hundred years after the time of Wickliffe.

<sup>3</sup> Robert Boyle, 1626-1691, a man of great learning in the natural sciences, and one of the founders of the Royal Society.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Ansel Nash.

2. Wrote. Mr. Stoddard,<sup>1</sup> of Fairhaven, came and invited me to go to Fairhaven to see Gov. Everett.<sup>2</sup> The Governor appears remarkably well. Many people came in and were introduced. Was brought home. At evening attended a thin temperance meeting.

3. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Webb, of Providence, inviting me to attend their centennial anniversary<sup>3</sup> next Friday. Wrote. At evening attended the Sabbath-school meeting. Read.

4. Very warm. Am very languid. Yesterday was engaged the most of the day in working at my library. Wrote on my library catalogue. Wrote to Dr. Bull, of Hartford. Rode out and performed a marriage<sup>4</sup> of colored persons. At evening set out on a journey, and rode to Bedford.

5. Rode early in a stage to Fall River, thence in the boat to Providence; two hundred passengers. Attended the centennial celebration of the first settlement of that town. United with the Historical Society, who conducted the transaction. The movements and performances were good. An immense collection of people. Very tired. Kindly treated by Dr. Webb and others. At evening there was a brilliant display of fireworks. Saw many acquaintance.

6. No morning stage; had to wait for the afternoon boat. Wrote out a short speech for the newspaper. Called at Mr. Waterman's.<sup>5</sup> He is absent in ill health. Returned to Bedford. Rainy. Took my horse and chaise, left there, and came home near eleven o'clock P. M. The rain had ceased. Have been much prospered.

7. Very pleasant. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Wheelock, an agent. Preached with notes on Heb. iv: 11, and a sermon on Ps. cxlvii: 11. Attended the Sabbath-school. Full meetings. At evening spoke on John xii: 48. My hoarseness and sore throat, I think, abate, through great mercy, but I speak with labor. Was up late; much fatigued.

8. Called on Uncle Le Baron. Visited. Wrote. My library now contains two thousand five hundred volumes; the gift of a merciful God. Am quite feeble. Walked out.

9. Cool. Read. Began a sermon on Ps. lxxiv: 20, for Mr. Holmes's lecture. Walked and visited. Was out late. We have an unpleasant lawsuit here. A number of people go to Plymouth.

10. It is said there was frost this morning in some places. Mr. Wheelock, an agent for the Wabash College,<sup>6</sup> came here. Have a fire in my chamber.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Stoddard was probably one of the town officers.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Everett was elected Governor of Massachusetts in 1835, and held the office by re-election four years, 1836-40.

<sup>3</sup> It was in 1636, that Roger Williams, driven out from the Massachusetts Bay, went down and laid the foundations of Providence. This was the second centennial of that interesting and important event.

<sup>4</sup> The persons united in marriage were William Catheway and Sarah Smith.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Waterman.

<sup>6</sup> The charter for Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind., was obtained in 1834. This Mr. Wheelock was Rev. James Ripley Wheelock, graduate of Dartmouth College, 1807, son of James, graduated in 1776, grandson of President Eleazar Wheelock. He died in Boston in 1841.

Wrote some. Mr. W. preached in the evening to a thin meeting, and collected for his object, \$9.45. This came from a few.

11. Cool and east wind. Mr. Wheelock went away. Wrote what I could on my sermon. Attended preparatory lecture, quite thin, and preached with notes on Rom. viii: 35. Rainy. At evening attended the teachers' meeting.

12. Wrote on my sermon. Have a steady fire. Being much occupied yesterday attended to the duties of my birthday. Walked out.

13. Wrote diligently, and finished my sermon on the Bedford lecture on Ps. lxxiv: 20. Read. Visited a sick lad. Received a present of fine sperm candles from G. Barstow & Son.

14. Preached with notes on Matt. iii: 8. Administered the sacrament. Mr. Le Baron united with us as heretofore. Something wet and showery, yet the church was full. Afternoon preached the sermon finished yesterday. Towards evening rode to Bedford and delivered my lecture on Ps. lxxiv: 20.<sup>1</sup> Tarried at Mr. Holmes's. Was up very late. Have some hoarseness, but, through great mercy, my voice held out much better than I expected. After the afternoon meeting attended the funeral of a little child. Yesterday sent D. Appleton & Co., New York, \$26.00.

15. Am quite feeble. Mr. Holmes and I called on Mr. Angier.<sup>2</sup> Did errands. Saw a copy of my sermon on the Trinity; but poorly executed. Paid for carpet-roads, etc., \$2.19. Paid the treasurer of the Education Society what we collected here, \$19.00. Rode home. Dined at Fairhaven. Much fatigued. Visited. Paid for freight from Hartford, a large box, .45.

16. Wrote. Walked and visited. Saw a man evidently in a consumption determined to die a Universalist. Visited a school. Uncle Le Baron is quite comfortable.

17. Worked at my wood. Wrote to my brother and sister Battell. At evening attended the Sabbath-school teachers' meeting. Read late.

18. Read. Wrote in a young lady's album. Visited Miss Cobb's school. We have cool nights. Rode to Bedford and attended Dea. Crosby's marriage. Got home late. Drank tea at D. Ricketson's. He spoke of Harvard College.

19. Wet and rainy. My neighbor, Mr. E. Cannon, has been very badly hurt; thrown from a wagon and run over. Read. Wrote. Walked and visited.

20. Quite warm. Visited the sick. Looked over documents respecting the Ministers' Convention. Read. Am troubled with wandering thoughts.

21. Expounded on Matt. xxvii: 1-26; and preached a sermon on Matt. vii: 12. Attended the Sabbath-school. Warm. Full meeting. Baptized a child.<sup>3</sup> Spoke at the evening meeting on Luke xiii: 7. My hoarseness continues, and is somewhat alarming.

<sup>1</sup> During Dr. Robbins's ministry of nineteen years at East Windsor, he performed a large amount of gratuitous labor in the neighboring parishes, especially in those of Hartford. He is doing the same thing at Mattapoisett. Two facts are hereby plainly

revealed, viz.: his spirit of accommodation, and his popularity as a preacher and public speaker.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Joseph Angier, pastor of the Unitarian Church.

<sup>3</sup> Abner Leonard, son of Mr. Abner Hall.

22. Received a large box of books and other things from Hartford. Have a rheumatic pain in my back. Read. Walked and visited.

23. Wrote a draft for a report of a committee for the Pastoral Association. Attended the funeral of a child. Mr. White spoke.

24. We have very cool nights. It is said there was frost this morning. Rode and visited. We have favorable accounts of elections at the South. The God of our fathers may yet save our country.<sup>1</sup> At evening attended the teachers' meeting. Read late. Wrote.

25. Walked a distance and visited a school. The ground has become quite dry. This family had considerable company. We have considerable sickness among us.

26. Rode to Fairhaven and Bedford. Did errands. Saw Mr. Holmes. Paid for a book, .75. The road very dusty. Quite warm. Visited with company. Visited the sick.

27. Visited sick persons and others. Visited a school. Very warm. Attended the funeral of a child. Visited Uncle Le Baron. Wrote. Received of my collector, \$27.00.

28. Preached on Acts xvi: 30, and Acts xvi: 31. The Sabbath-school quite full. We had a contribution for the Sabbath-school library, and collected \$9.38. Full meeting. At evening reviewed the subjects of the day. We have a number of sick persons.

29. Preparing for my journey. Mr. Choules and another minister called on me. Had a small pine book-case made. It is quite plain, and also poor work. Attended a funeral. Elder Wood<sup>2</sup> preached. Mr. Holmes, with his daughter and son, called, and I rode with them on my journey. We rode to Middleborough late. I tarried at Mr. Putnam's; he went to Gen. Washburn's.

30. Mr. Putnam is an excellent man. He has a numerous and pious family. Rode to Roxbury. Stopped at South Bridgewater,<sup>3</sup> and saw their new Orthodox meeting-house, to be dedicated tomorrow. Dined at Mr. Hitchcock's<sup>4</sup> at Randolph. Stopped and tarried at my cousin's, Dr. Robbins.<sup>5</sup> The crops are very backward, and the corn, I think, must be very light.

31. Rode to Cambridge with Mr. Holmes and attended the Commencement. Not so great a collection of people as usual on account of the great centennial celebration expected next week.<sup>6</sup> The performances were respectable. Saw many acquaintance. Was at the public dinner. Returned to Boston and Roxbury. Procured books for the Sabbath-school library, and paid \$10.00. The roads very dusty. God is very holy in all his appoint-

<sup>1</sup> The political outlook was hopeful, yet gloomy.

<sup>2</sup> Elder Wood, the Baptist minister.

<sup>3</sup> This is now known as Bridgewater. The word South was used to distinguish it from North Bridgewater. Rev. Theophilus P. Doggett was, at that time, pastor.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Calvin Hitchcock, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Peter Gilman Robbins, of Roxbury.

<sup>6</sup> This has reference doubtless to the two hundredth anniversary of the First Church in Cambridge, which was organized in 1636, to take the place of the Thomas Hooker Church, formed in 1633, which removed to Hartford, Ct. This year (1886) it celebrated its two hundred and fiftieth anniversary.



ments. At evening visited with my cousins. Paid for a book, .38. Am treated with much kindness and attention.

SEPTEMBER.

1. Rode with my cousin, the doctor,<sup>1</sup> to Cambridge, and attended the exercises in the evening of the P. B. K. Society. We had a fine oration from Pres. Wayland, and a good poem. Dined with the society. A good deal of glee. Returned to Boston with cousin Chandler.<sup>2</sup> Paid Burnham, owed on books, \$10.00. Did errands. The evening rainy, and I tarried at Mr. Willis's.<sup>3</sup> This city increases rapidly. Much fatigued.

2. Mr. Holmes left his daughter, and we set out in our carryall for home. Dined at Mr. Brigham's,<sup>4</sup> East Randolph. Called on the aged Mrs. Niles,<sup>5</sup> at Abington. Bought of her Turretine's<sup>6</sup> *Institutes*, three quartos, considerably worn, for \$5.00. Am very glad to get it. Came to South Bridgewater. They had an evening meeting, and Mr. Holmes preached, and I spoke after him. The prospects of the new society are good.

3. Rode home. Stopped awhile at Middleborough. Find things well, and have had a prosperous journey. Paid Mr. Holmes for my conveyance, \$6.00. Read. Much fatigued.

4. Preached a sermon on Ex. xxxii: 9-14. Carried the new books to the Sabbath-school library. They were very well received. The ground is very dry and dusty. At the evening meeting spoke on Luke xiii: 23, 24. My hoarseness continues, but I hope some better.

5. Put up my new book-case, and put in it one hundred and eighty volumes of sermons. We had a moderate, grateful shower. Visited. At evening attended the monthly concert of prayer; quite thin.

6. Wrote the nine preceding days of diary. Quite cool. Visited Uncle Le Baron and others. Read Dr. Channing's curious dedication sermon.<sup>7</sup> Read late.

7. This morning there was considerable frost. Read. We have favorable accounts of the elections in the West and South. Visited a woman very

<sup>1</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Dr. Chandler Robbins, of the Second Church, Boston.

<sup>3</sup> Dea. Nathaniel Willis, who is claimed as the founder as well as the publisher of *Boston Recorder*.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. David Brigham, who is still living (his wife dying recently) in Bridgewater, Mass. He was born in Westborough in 1794, so that he is now not far from ninety-two years old. His wife was a sister of the late Nathan Durfee, Esq., of Fall River.

<sup>5</sup> Widow of the Rev. Samuel Niles, who was the distinguished minister of Abington from 1771 to his death in 1814. His wife was Mary, daughter of Rev. Ezekiel Dodge,

who survived him many years, dying in 1840, in her eighty-seventh year.

<sup>6</sup> The Turretin family was Swiss, and remarkable as embracing several men of great Biblical learning. Benedict Turretin was the earliest, living from 1588 to 1631. His son Francis, author of the *Institutes*, was a professor at Geneva, and a well-known theological writer. He lived from 1623 to 1687. A son of this last was John Alphonsus. There were still others, Samuel and Michael, distinguished for their scholarship and ability.

<sup>7</sup> This sermon was preached at the dedication of the Unitarian Church in Newport, July 27, 1836, on the text, John 4th chapter, 23d and 24th verses.

sick. Wrote on my library catalogue. At evening attended the teachers' meeting.

8. Wrote to Col. S. T. Wolcott. Wrote to Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven. Read. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, Hartford.

9. Rode to Fairhaven with company. Quite warm. Walked to the Neck and visited. Am quite languid. Tarried out.

10. Walked home. Quite cool and rough weather. Rode to Bedford and to Fairhaven to exchange with Mr. Gould. Mr. Holmes is unwell. Assisted him at a funeral. Paid Mr. Richmond, \$10.00. Did errands. Carried books to the binder. Tarried at Mrs. Gibbs's.

11. Something wet. Preached on Jonah ii: 8, and Luke xv: 17. Shortened the intermission, and rode to Bedford immediately after meeting, on Mr. Gould's account, and preached at the funeral of Dea. Little's wife, a relative of Mr. Holmes, on 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57. Mr. Gould came in and made the last prayer. Kept at Mr. Holmes's. At evening Mr. Wilson, a Methodist, preached Mr. Holmes's lecture. He did well. My voice, by divine favor, held out better than I expected.

12. Crossed to Fairhaven early, and rode home in the stage. Warmer. Read. The frost on the morning of the 7th appears to have been extensive and severe.

13. Read. Mr. Bartlett,<sup>1</sup> a member of Amherst College, and an agent, called on me and tarried. Visited. The ground is very dry.

14. Visited a youth very sick. Read. Visited a school. At evening attended the teachers' meeting. Read late. Very warm. Thermometer 88°.

15. Visited Uncle Le Baron, and the sick girl. Read. Visited a school and families. Received of my collector, \$46.90. Paid a subscription for singing, \$2.00. Was out late.

16. Read old authors. Rode to the Neck and visited. The dust very bad. The Catholic sentiments seem to prevail in Great Britain as well as in this country.

17. Wrote in a Bible. Wrote to Herrick & Noyes, of New Haven. Looked at expositors.

18. Warm and faint weather. Preached with notes on Rom. vii: 22, and a sermon on Job xi: 20. Attended the school. Spoke at a full evening meeting on John iv: 29. My hoarseness is bad. I have much fear of its continuance. Holy is the Lord.

19. Read. Began to write a temperance address. Very warm. Visited Uncle Le Baron.

20. Rode with company to Fairhaven and Bedford. Did errands. Paid Richmond for my cloak, etc., \$10.00 in full. Paid Mr. Choules towards my

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Ellis Bartlett, who was graduated at Amherst College in 1839. He was a native of Plymouth, and was a teacher at New Bedford, 1839-1842. He then became a merchant for a time in New Bedford, then in

New York, where he died in 1852. His wife was Sophia Ashmead, and it was one of their sons, who, a few years since, married Baroness Burdett Coutts, of England, where he now resides.

English books, \$10.00. Paid Fairhaven Bank, \$28.87. Yesterday paid for pine boards for my late plain book-case, \$1.23. The heat very oppressive. The thermometer for two or three hours was from 93° to 94°. It is said to be the warmest day of the present year.<sup>1</sup> Wrote with difficulty, and finished my address, and delivered it in the evening to the Juvenile Temperance Society. They appear well. Much fatigued. Received our quarterly bundle of tracts. Gave Mrs. Crosby<sup>2</sup> three teaspoons. The ground is very dry. The streams fail.

21. Visited a sick person. Wrote. We have had two very warm nights. Wrote Mr. Choules, of Bedford, and made out an order for him to send to England for books, forty-one volumes, cost there \$70.45. At evening attended the teachers' meeting.

22. Cooler, but still warm. Wrote to Herrick & Noyes, New Haven. Read. Visited at Dea. Crosby's. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes, of Bedford, were there. At evening married my cousin Lemuel Le Baron.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Holmes was with me. Heard by him from Connecticut. Read late.

23. Wet. Walked out. Great damage has been done by the frost of the 7th. Wrote. At evening rode to the Neck and attended a meeting, and preached on John iv: 29. Returned late.

24. Read. Began to write some remarks on Dr. Channing's dedication sermon. Read expositors. Had company.

25. Cool and windy. Expounded on Matt. xxvii: 26-51, and preached a sermon on Luke xi: 13. Attended the Sabbath-school. At the evening meeting reviewed the subjects of the day. Full meetings. Read Baker's *Chronicles*.<sup>4</sup>

26. My throat is considerably sore from my speaking yesterday. Read. Taking measures for a new large book-case. Invited out to tea. Cold.

27. Wrote to Mr. and Mrs. Battell. I believe there was no frost this morning. Occupied with company. Invited out to tea. Yesterday visited several sick. Uncle Le Baron is something better. Visited. Read.

28. Visited a family where the woman died last night suddenly. Visited the sick. Have little time to study. Wrote. My little volume of sermons on the Trinity has some bad typographical errors. Wrote. Attended our Wednesday evening meeting, as we have been used to do, and spoke on John xiv: 26. Invited out to tea. Read the *Young Cottager*<sup>5</sup> tract which we shall soon distribute. Read late.

<sup>1</sup> And it was the 20th day of September.

<sup>2</sup> The new Mrs. Nathaniel Crosby, whose marriage was recorded in the diary some pages back.

<sup>3</sup> Lemuel Le Baron was united in marriage with Lydia Holmes. This cousin Lemuel Le Baron was born in 1780, and this was probably a second marriage.

<sup>4</sup> Sir Richard Baker, of England, was the author of the *Chronicles of the Kings of Eng-*

*land*. The author was born in Kent, and was educated at Oxford University. He lived 1568-1645.

<sup>5</sup> The *Young Cottager* was one of the very popular tracts written by Rev. Legh Richmond, a clergyman of the Church of England, chaplain of Lock Hospital, London, and afterwards rector of Turvey in Bedfordshire, born in 1772, died in 1827. His tracts were widely scattered over the earth.

29. Rainy. Read. Attended a funeral. Cold. The rain prevented our preparatory lecture. Had a few, prayed, and dismissed. Received a letter from Herrick & Noyes, of New Haven. Carried tracts to distributors.

30. This morning there was a good deal of frost. It has been mercifully delayed. Read. Visited. Wrote to Herrick & Noyes, to Esq. Holmes, of Rochester, and to Mr. Choules.

## OCTOBER.

1. Wrote a sermon on 1 Cor. i: 21. Dined out. Wrote more than half of my sermon in the evening. Had our tracts distributed. The *Young Cottager* about three hundred.

2. Rainy and squally. Preached a sermon on Matt. xxvi: 26-30. Administered the sacrament. The most of the church were present. Received two good women to the church by recommendation. Preached the sermon written yesterday. My voice, through great mercy, is sensibly better.

3. Warm. Had company. Mr. Crosby concludes to make an addition to his house, and give me another room, and I am to pay him \$100.00. Read. I cannot but hope that God is about to show great mercy to our country. At evening the monthly concert.

4. Rode to Fairhaven, and crossed to Bedford. Did errands. Wet and cold. Am much fatigued. Wrote. Last evening received of my collector, \$10.00. Received of Capt. Southworth, for the society, \$22.00 for wood. More than in years past. Wrote to Dr. Storrs, of Braintree.

5. Rainy. Read. Worked moving my books and book-cases, preparatory to the alteration of our house. Attended our Wednesday evening meeting. Had the annual meeting of our Mattapoisett Home Missionary Association. We collect this year over \$50.00. Wrote to Dr. Lowell, of Boston.

6. Walked and visited thirteen families; several sick. Received a letter from my sister Battell. Two of her daughters are soon to be married.<sup>1</sup> Received of my collector, \$19.00. Read late.

7. Cold, but no perceptible frost. Visited. Occupied with house business. At evening attended the teachers' meeting.

8. Walked and visited. Attended to the distribution of our tracts. Wrote. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Breed, of Nantucket, and one from Miss M. Holmes, of Bedford. Wrote notes for preaching.

9. Cool; wore my cloak. Preached with notes written last evening on Matt. xii: 30, and a sermon on John xii: 23. Full meeting. At evening spoke on Ps. ii: 10, 11, 12. Through God's great mercy am nearly recovered from my long hoarseness and sore throat. I pray him to preserve my voice, while I have strength to preach the gospel. Read.

<sup>1</sup> These two daughters were Sarah Battell, born March 19, 1810, who was united in marriage with Rev. Joseph Eldridge, D. D., Oct. 12, 1836; and Urania Battell, born May 30, 1814, who was united in marriage, Oct.

12, 1836, with Hon. James Humphrey, son of Rev. Dr. Heman Humphrey. Dr. Eldridge died in 1875 and his widow in 1878. Mrs. Humphrey is still living in Brooklyn, N. Y.

10. Wrote to Mr. Choules, of Bedford, and Mr. Briggs,<sup>1</sup> a minister in Sniptuet. Read. Visited the sick and others. Wrote to Mr. Emerson,<sup>2</sup> Andover.

11. This morning my dear cousin Eliza Le Baron<sup>3</sup> died suddenly from a state of health. One of the most exemplary of Christians. Was with the bereaved family considerably. Received a letter from F. L. Alden. Visited. Wrote.

12. Rainy. Read. Our house is much in an uproar by the work of the joiners. Wrote remarks on Dr. Channing's late sermon.

13. Cool. Afternoon attended the funeral of our cousin Eliza. Her age was fifty-one. The remains of her husband were removed to the new burying-ground, and they were interred together. Visited the sick.

14. Warm. Rode by Bedford. Paid Mr. Choules \$20.00, making \$90.00 which I have paid him for seventy-one volumes of books that he procured for me in England. Received of the last, Fox's two folios.<sup>4</sup> Paid Howe, my bookbinder, \$4.45, and balanced his account. Paid for a lock for my new room, \$1.00. At evening attended the teachers' meeting.

15. Last night became quite unwell, and continue so. Have indications of fever. Called on my physician, and got two potions of physic, and took them. Much distressed. Received a letter from Professor Goddard, of Providence. May the Lord save me from severe sickness.

16. Had a distressed night. Yesterday Mr. Anthony<sup>5</sup> came here, providentially, and preached today. Am entirely confined. At evening rainy. Took more physic. Have some fever.

17. Did not leave my room. My symptoms are less threatening, through mercy. Have a good deal of pain.

18. Hope I am a little better. Wrote a short letter to Mr. Underwood, of Bedford. Had company. Took physic again this evening as I did last. My appetite begins to return a little. Am very weak.

19. Am much debilitated by physic, yet believe I have not taken too much.<sup>6</sup> Mr. Eldridge, of Norfolk, and his new wife, my cousin Sarah Battell,<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs, probably, who was graduated at Brown University in 1795, and died in 1862. At the time of his death he was the oldest graduate of the University.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Ralph Emerson, D. D., had been Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Andover since 1829. His pastorate at Norfolk was from 1815 to 1829.

<sup>3</sup> Eliza Le Baron was the widow of William Le Baron. They were cousins. She was the daughter of William Le Baron, of Fairhaven, and was born in 1785.

<sup>4</sup> John Fox's *Martyrology*, in two folio volumes. The fashion then was for folio, and it was as foolish as many other fashions.

<sup>5</sup> Julius Cæsar Anthony, who was gradu-

ated at Andover in 1835. He was a native of Taunton. He became a Western farmer, dying in Texas in 1864.

<sup>6</sup> The modern physicians would very likely say that he had taken too much medicine. That was the custom in those days.

<sup>7</sup> They were married seven days before, on the 12th of October. By this journey Rev. Mr. Eldridge and his wife were both returning to the places of their ancestors. Mr. Eldridge was a native of Yarmouth, Mass., and Sarah Battell, on her mother's side, came from the Le Barons, of Plymouth, and besides, all the descendants of Dr. Chandler Robbins, of Plymouth, were of her kindred.

called on me. They made but a short stay on their way to the Cape. Wrote some. Wrote diary. Read the Bible.

20. Last evening took some medical drops, solution of opium, which made me quite sick. It was quite distressing and alarming. It made me much worse. Great mercy gave me relief.

21. My appetite returns, but am quite weak. Read. Read the Bible. Went out a little. Our mechanics nearly finished their work and left. It makes a valuable addition to the house, and gives me a good new room. Had company.

22. This morning the ground was hard frozen. Am a little rheumatic, and get but little strength. Our house is damp and cold. Wrote a little. Was out some.

23. Very pleasant. Attended meeting though very weak. In the morning had a sermon read, and the deacons assisted. Afternoon preached a sermon on 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57. The Le Baron family were out in their affliction. Spoke very feebly. Did not attend the evening meeting. Received a letter from Dr. Thacher, of Plymouth. Read the Bible.

24. Quite warm. Wrote to Esq. Bourne, of Middleborough, and to the N. Church, of Fairhaven. Walked to the post office. Rode out and dined. Can do but little in preparing for Association. Read. Pennsylvania has done very bad.

25. Last Sabbath put on my flannel. After quite pleasant weather last night it became very cold. It froze constantly all day. Our Association<sup>1</sup> met here; some absent. The meeting was in the evening. Mr. Bigelow<sup>2</sup> preached. I did not attend. The Association attended to their usual business. Completed our town school returns, and made oath to them, and directed them to Mr. Bigelow, Secretary of the State.<sup>3</sup>

26. The cold continues with little mitigation. The Association closed their business. Afternoon we held the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. On account of the weather our meeting was rather thin. My brethren were pleased with their accommodations here. Gave Mr. Richmond<sup>4</sup> my packet, directed to the Secretary of State, to put into Fairhaven post office. Have been carried through these fatigues better than I feared. Rev. Mr. Marsh,<sup>5</sup> of Ellington, Ct., was here.

27. Thermometer this morning at 10°. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Putnam,<sup>6</sup> of Middleborough, and wrote one to Prof. William G. Goddard,<sup>7</sup> of Providence. Read. Did a little at my wood. Wrote. Paid my subscription for Home Missions, \$2.00. Endorsed on one of Mr. Crosby's notes,

<sup>1</sup> The Old Colony Association.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, of the Old Church, Rochester.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. John P. Bigelow, who was Massachusetts Secretary of State, 1836-1843.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Richmond, pastor at Dartmouth, Mass.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Ezekiel Marsh, pastor at Ellington,

Ct., 1835 to 1844. He was a native of South Danvers, was graduated at Bowdoin College, 1831, and at Andover Seminary, 1834, and died in 1844. He was a superior scholar and preacher.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Israel W. Putnam, D. D.

<sup>7</sup> Professor of Metaphysics and Moral Philosophy in Brown University, 1825-1842.

\$100.00, which I pay him for the late addition made to his house, and providing for me another room. Received of him as collector, \$55.00. Visited. Found Dr. E. W. Bull's note, which I have supposed was lost. Yesterday paid my Association tax, .50. Received a small, neat present from Esq. Meigs.

28. Thermometer 20°. Walked out. Read. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, Hartford. Had company.

29. The weather moderates. Wrote in a lady's album. Worked some at my wood. My appetite is good, and my strength, through mercy, increases. Have read the Bible considerably this week. Wrote.

30. Am more feeble than I hoped to be. Attended meeting and preached a double sermon on Eph. iv: 23. At the evening meeting spoke on Isa. i: 18. Had divine assistance as to strength. Cold. Contribution for lights in the vestry, .50. Read the Bible.

31. Worked some at my wood. Paid in advance for an Anti-Catholic newspaper, \$1.00. Read. Wrote.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Wrote to my brother James, and sent him \$10.00 to assist his son Thomas, lately entered college.<sup>1</sup> A very pleasant day. Worked at my things. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Putnam, of Middleborough. Walked and visited. Was out late.

2. Read Baker's *Chronicle*.<sup>2</sup> Worked at my wood. At evening a hard rain; had no meeting. Wrote.

3. Worked at my books. By the work upon the house they are much deranged. The storm has been very hard. Much confined. Read. The Presbyterian church<sup>3</sup> in this country is in a bad state.

4. Have had quite a job in dusting and assorting my books. Am better, through mercy, of my rheumatic complaints. Visited Uncle Le Baron. The doctor, cousin Lemuel, has come down.

5. Read the Bible. Capt. Freeman gave me a good supply of apples. Wrote. Read expositors.

6. Expounded in the morning on Matt. xxvii: 51, to xxviii: 11; and preached in the afternoon on Prov. ix: 12. Spoke at the evening meeting on Matt. vi: 6. Read.

7. Very pleasant. Walked out. Worked some. Had a good window shutter put up in my new room, and paid for it, \$2.25. Received a letter from Mr. Boutelle,<sup>4</sup> of Plymouth, communicating an invitation of his church to me to preach there at the anniversary December 22d. Attended the monthly concert.

<sup>1</sup> His son, James Watson Robbins, Jr., was graduated at Yale in 1822. Thomas was entered at Williams College, and was graduated there in 1840.

<sup>2</sup> Sir Richard Baker's, before noticed.

<sup>3</sup> Strife and debate between the Old

School and New School Presbyterians. Opposition to the New School theology coming in from New England was at that time very bitter.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Thomas Boutelle, of the Third Church, Plymouth.

8. In the morning prayed at the house where a young man died last evening, and his remains were carried by his father to Bristol. Dined at Capt. Le Baron's. Received a letter from Mr. Underwood, of Bedford. There is an intense interest in the counting respecting the Presidential election.<sup>1</sup> Wrote.

9. Worked at my wood. Wrote on records. Attended the evening meeting and had a short sermon read. Quite thin. I am very hoarse. Visited the sick.

10. Read. We have unexpectedly favorable intelligence respecting the elections. Great are the mercies of the Lord.<sup>2</sup> Visited. I do much less than I ought to do.

11. Read grateful news. Hitherto the current of public sentiment is wonderfully changing. Walked and visited. Not as cold as October. Wrote to Dea. Underwood, and sent him \$10.00. Wrote.

12. We had a hard rain. Had a large load of wood brought me. Walked out. Visited a family where a Baptist woman died last night. Visited a colored boy; very low. Preparing for the Sabbath.

13. Very pleasant. The good colored boy, who has done a good deal for me, died last night. Preached a double sermon on Matt. xxv: 23. Attended a funeral with the Baptist preacher. There have been four deaths here the week past. Attended the evening meeting, thin; had a sermon read. Got through the day better than I expected. My influenza, through great mercy, is mostly gone. Read late.

14. Read. Walked and visited. This State had one of the most anxious elections that it ever had.<sup>3</sup> In this town highest Whig vote, 298; highest Jackson, 151. At night a hard rain. Wrote.

15. Rainy. The ground is quite wet. Read. Attended a funeral. Began to write on a subject long contemplated. At evening attended the annual meeting of our singing society. They did well. Visited old Mr. Hardy; very sick.

16. Read the Bible. Wrote to Dr. Bull, of Hartford, and to Rev. Mr. Briggs,<sup>4</sup> of Sniptuet. Dined out. Visited Uncle Le Baron, and other sick ones. Attended the evening meeting; quite thin.

17. Rode to Bedford and Fairhaven. Paid Dea. Underwood for books, etc., \$11.09, and balanced his account. Called at Mr. Holmes's; he absent. The roads are very wet. The election in this State has done well. Pennsylvania and Virginia, of whom there has been much hope, have done poorly. Received a bundle of books from New Haven, three heavy folios. Read.

18. Had my two largest book-cases cut down; a painful operation. Mr.

<sup>1</sup> Martin Van Buren was elected by 170 electoral votes against 124 in opposition.

<sup>2</sup> Altogether premature. Everything is going strongly on the other side, and contrary to Dr. Robbins's hopes.

<sup>3</sup> Massachusetts and Vermont went against Van Buren. All the rest of the New Eng-

land States went for Van Buren. Massachusetts threw her fourteen votes for Daniel Webster, simply by way of open and emphatic testimony.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs. Sniptuet is Indian for North Rochester, where Mr. Briggs was stated supply.



Hardy, a most exemplary Christian, died last night. Paid a cabinet-maker, \$1.50. Worked at my books and wood. Paid for a load of wood, \$6.81: six dollars and a half per cord. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Holmes.

19. Walked distances, and visited the sick the most of the day. Attended a funeral service for the late Mr. Hardy. He was buried at Rochester. Worked some.

20. Expounded on Matt. xxviii: 11 to the end: and preached on Matt. xxiii: 37, 38. Had a full evening meeting, and spoke on Rev. ii: 10. Much fatigued.

21. Last evening one of our whale vessels came in that has done well. Worked at my library, moving, etc. We had a hard and violent rain. Visited. Received a letter from Dr. Bull, of Hartford, and one from Herrick & Noyes, of New Haven. Wrote late.

22. Walked to the Neck. Visited the sick and others. We have good news from New Jersey.<sup>1</sup> Visited a school. At evening had a meeting, and preached on Rev. ii: 10. Tarried out.

23. Am considerably unwell. Walked and visited the most of the day. Cold. It has not been such a time of sickness and dying since I have lived here. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Read.

24. My worthy young cousin, Mary Cannon,<sup>2</sup> died last night. A very promising young woman. We have most unexpected and very sad news from North Carolina.<sup>3</sup> It will probably decide Van Buren's election. Am troubled with a bad ague in my jaw. Wrote to Dr. Brazier,<sup>4</sup> of Salem. I am glad that the Lord reigns. Paid for cutting wood, .85.

25. Quite cold. Visited the sick. Uncle Le Baron is quite feeble. My ague pain is severe. Wrote. Received a good letter from brother James. Read. Paid for our singing, .75. Thermometer in the evening at 16°.

26. Visited the sick. Attended the affecting funeral of Mrs. Cannon. Was sent for in the forenoon to see Uncle Le Baron. He was taken two or three days ago with an influenza now prevalent here, and is filled with phlegm without expectoration. He speaks very little, and with great difficulty. He grew worse through the day, and died between six and seven o'clock in the evening.<sup>5</sup> Ripe for immortality. I think I have never known such a matured Christian. I have lost a second father. Wrote to Mr. Holmes, of Bedford. Paid our meat man for articles for Association, \$5.21. Was out late.

<sup>1</sup> New Jersey threw her vote for William Henry Harrison.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Mary Cannon was Mary A. Hammond, who had been united in marriage with Hallet M. Cannon, Oct. 27, 1834.

<sup>3</sup> North Carolina gave her fifteen<sup>0</sup> electoral votes for Van Buren.

<sup>4</sup> John Brazier, D. D., a graduate of Harvard College, 1813, and settled over the Unitarian Church in Salem, Nov. 14, 1820.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, who has been

often noticed in these pages, was a man in many respects remarkable. He was born in Plymouth, 1747, was the son of Lazarus and Lydia (Bradford) Le Baron, was graduated at Yale College, 1768, and was settled in Rochester (now Mattapoisett), Jan. 29, 1672, and died as above, Nov. 26, 1836. He was in the ninetieth year of his age, had nearly finished the sixty-fifth year of his ministry, and was sixty-eight years out of college; a man of calm, Christian wisdom.

27. It is a time of great mourning with us. Called at a sick house. Preached with notes on Phil. i: 21, and a sermon on Zeph. i: 12. Am much burdened with care and labor. At a full evening meeting spoke on John xiv: 21. Thermométer in the evening 16°; last evening 18°.

28. Rode with company to Bedford. Thermometer this morning at 15°, but a pleasant day. Did errands. Found a roll of carpeting and a box, sent from Hartford. Brought home the carpet; too nice. About sundown began to write a sermon for my uncle's funeral on 2 Kings ii: 12. Wrote to Rev. Messrs. Nott, Richmond, and Burt.

29. Wrote to Dr. Cobb. We have our fears confirmed that Mr. Van Buren is likely to be elected President. Thy will be done. Wrote laboriously, and seven hours by candle-light, and finished my sermon a little before one o'clock. The delineation of his character required numerous facts.

30. Mr. Roberts spent most of the forenoon with me. A pleasant day for the season. Afternoon we attended the funeral of my dear uncle, my second father, in the ninetieth year of his age, and sixty-fifth of his ministry. Preached the sermon finished last evening. Six neighboring ministers were present.<sup>1</sup> A large assembly. The meeting-house was very finely dressed in mourning. The brethren of the church wore mourning. Great respect was shown to the deceased. Visited Mrs. Freeman; quite sick. Much fatigued.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Thanksgiving.\* Meeting rather thin. Not cold. The people here have been much accustomed to consider this and the Fast as secular days. Preached a sermon on Ps. cxvi: 12. At evening read journals of the old Congress, and worked late at my pamphlets. We made a good collection for poor widows.

2. Worked some at my wood. Wrote. Had my celestial globe brought from Connecticut, having been long at Enfield. Worked at my pamphlets.

3. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. We examined and approved several teachers. Quite cold. Much crowded for time for necessary duties. Received a letter from Dr. Brazier, of Salem.

4. Preached with notes on 1 Thess. ii: 10, and a sermon on Hab. iii: 17, 18. United with the Le Baron family in desiring public prayers.<sup>3</sup> At evening rode to Bedford and preached Mr. Holmes's lecture on the Means of Grace on John ix: 7.<sup>4</sup> At noon administered the sacrament, our usual time. A pleasant day. Was up late.

5. Rode home early in the stage. Wrote to Prof. Goddard, of Providence. Read. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Boutelle, of Plymouth. Am quite fatigued. Moderate weather. At evening we had a temperance meeting, and Mr. Bent, of Bedford, delivered a very good address.

<sup>1</sup> Probably Messrs. Nott, Richmond, Burt, Cobb, and Roberts, mentioned above, were of this number.

<sup>2</sup> Here we have Thanksgiving on the first day of December, showing, as before stated, that it was as yet a movable feast.

<sup>3</sup> He was a nephew, the son of Rev. Mr. Le Baron's sister Elizabeth.

<sup>4</sup> This was a favorite topic with Dr. Robbins, in which doubtless he labored to reconcile man's freedom with God's sovereignty. Practically they go together.

6. Read. Visited the sick and a school. Wrote an obituary notice of Uncle Le Baron, and sent it to Mr. Willis, of the *Boston Recorder*. Occupied with company. Wrote. Received of my collector, \$40.80; and paid Mr. Crosby, \$41.30.

7. Rode quite early to Bedford. Very cold. Took the stage to Fall River, and the steamboat to Providence. Kindly treated by friends. Called at the houses of Mr. Waterman<sup>1</sup> and Mr. Lewis.<sup>2</sup> At evening delivered my lecture on the Middle Ages before the Rhode Island Historical Society. Well accommodated. Carried and gave to the society thirty-four Connecticut *Registers*.<sup>3</sup> Cold through the day, but pleasant.

8. Made and received calls. Came home in the way I went. Had left my horse at Bedford. Read the President's Message<sup>4</sup> in the steamboat. Long and disagreeable. I think my tour favored my health. At evening walked out. They gave me at Providence \$3.00 for my expenses which I paid out.

9. Very mild and pleasant. Read. Worked some. Received a letter from J. Ruggles, at Rochester. Visited the sick. Wrote. Wrote to E. W. Bull, Hartford.

10. Visited cousin John A. Le Baron;<sup>5</sup> hard sick. Called on Mr. Taylor, the Universalist preacher, now residing here. Received a letter from Mr. Boutelle, of Plymouth. He and Mr. Holmes, of Bedford, both expect me to preach for them on the 22d instant.<sup>6</sup> The Lord direct me. Read the Bible.

11. Pleasant and mild weather. Preached two sermons of long discourse on the means of grace on John ix: 7. At a full evening meeting spoke on Luke xi: 32. Read. Quite tired.

12. Walked and visited. Dined out. Received of my collector, and paid to Capt. Freeman, \$25.00, which he endorsed on my note. At evening we had our monthly concert; well attended. Wrote to Mr. Boutelle, of Plymouth.

13. Visited the sick. Began a sermon for the Plymouth anniversary on Joel i: 3. Wrote to Mr. Holmes, New Bedford. At evening attended a singing-school. Paid for a load of wood, \$5.55.

14. Visited the sick. Wrote on my sermon. Wrote to my sister Battell. Visited after the evening meeting; out late.

15. Cold. Read. Pres. Jackson is said to be in bad health.<sup>7</sup> Wrote on my sermon, and get along slow. Worked at my wood.

16. Thermometer about 15°. Received a letter from the committee at

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Waterman, pastor of what was afterward the Richmond Street Church.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Wm. B. Lewis, pastor of High Street Church.

<sup>3</sup> *Annual State Registers*, desired by all large libraries.

<sup>4</sup> Last Annual Message of Gen. Jackson.

Then, as now, Congress came together early in December.

<sup>5</sup> John A. was the fourth child of Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, born in 1782, then about twenty-six years old.

<sup>6</sup> This was Forefathers' Day, and he was pressingly wanted at two places.

<sup>7</sup> President Jackson died in June, 1845.

Bedford, inviting me to attend their dedication, and preach in the evening.<sup>1</sup> Walked a distance and visited. Wrote. Had company.

17. A severe storm of wind and rain. Wrote and nearly finished my long sermon. I have written quite slow. Received a good letter from Mr. Boutelle, of Plymouth.<sup>2</sup> Wrote.

18. Clear again and not cold. Preached and finished my discourse of four sermons on John ix: 7. Meeting pretty full, and very good attention. Had a full evening meeting and spoke on Acts xiii: 38-41. Read late.

19. Worked some. Revised my sermon. Dined out. There has been a very destructive fire at Washington. Wrote to Dea. Underwood, of Bedford.

20. Wrote and finished my sermon for the Plymouth anniversary. Walked and visited sick persons. Put up seven valuable volumes for a donation to the Plymouth Society. Received of my collector, \$14.00.

21. A very severe storm of rain through the day. It was considered wholly unsafe for me to attempt to ride to Plymouth.<sup>3</sup> The Universalists had the dedication of their new meeting-house here. But few attended, and the most of them from other places. At evening it cleared off and we had our usual meeting; thin. Wrote to Mr. Boutelle, and to Mr. Russell, of Plymouth. Yesterday received one from the latter.

22. Clear and cold. Thermometer about 16°. Sent off my bundle of books to Plymouth. Rode to Fairhaven and renewed my note at the bank. Attended the dedication at Bedford. Went in late. Dr. Hawes,<sup>4</sup> of Hartford, preached as usual very well. A large number of ministers were present. Did errands. The new meeting-house is a very fine one. The pews did not sell as well as was expected. At evening I preached to a large audience on the character of the Pilgrims, the sermon prepared for Plymouth,<sup>5</sup> with some alteration, on Joel i: 3. Rode home. Pleasant, but cold.

23. Am much fatigued. Worked some. Thermometer this morning at 12°. Read. Visited a school. Examined a school-teacher. Had company.

24. Rode to Rochester, and went with the school committee. We examined several teachers. Very warm and pleasant. Had the trial of some company last evening. One of our whale brigs came in. It had done indifferently.

25. Expounded on Acts i: 1-15. Wet, and the ground thaws. Afternoon preached with notes on Job xiii: 15. At a thin evening meeting reviewed the subjects of the day. Read. Wet walking.

26. Wet and rainy through the day. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Andrews,<sup>6</sup> of

<sup>1</sup> This call conflicted with the one from Plymouth.

<sup>2</sup> In view of the circumstances, Rev. Mr. Boutelle changed the time to the 21st, which is the day now generally kept as Forefathers' Day.

<sup>3</sup> After all the effort to adjust matters, the Plymouth appointment had to be given up.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Joel Hawes, settled in Hartford, Ct., over the First Church in 1818, was now

in the midday of his strength, and was popular far and wide. He was not a great scholar, but in the totality of his powers he was one of the great preachers of his time.

<sup>5</sup> This sermon was to have been preached twice.

<sup>6</sup> Not Andrews, but Rev. Thomas Andros, who was pastor at Berkley, in Bristol County, Mass., 1788-1834, and was still living there. He was born in Norwich, Ct., 1759.

Berkely, in answer to a letter received from him on the 23d, and sent him \$15.00 for supplying me three Sabbaths last summer. Dined out. Read. Am something rheumatic. Wrote.

27. This morning the ground was covered with snow. The first time since last spring. A cold day. Thermometer 16°. Read Hooper's *Church Discipline*.<sup>1</sup> President Jackson has done very well respecting Texas.<sup>2</sup>

28. Walked out. Read. Visited a school. Attended the evening meeting. We made preparations for distributing tracts the ensuing year. Thermometer in the morning at 8°.

29. Thermometer at 14°. Rode with Capt. Freeman to Bedford. Quite cold. Rough riding. Did errands. Paid for a pair of good shoes made for me, \$2.50. Dined out. Visited a school. Paid for cutting wood, .50. Mr. Marchant,<sup>3</sup> from Martha's Vineyard, a Baptist minister, agent, came here and tarried. Visited. Was up late.

30. Severe cold. Thermometer at 6°. Read. Can do but little. Gave Mr. Marchant, \$1.00. Paid for tailor work, .50. Wrote. Reckoned with Mr. Crosby. My boarding bill is \$117.00. Paid him for horse and carriage hire, \$29.56; for wood, \$23.94. He paid me interest on his notes, \$23.00, and as collector, \$42.37; which two sums, with what I have paid him during the year, balanced our accounts.

31. Thermometer last night at 1°; this morning 3°. Read. Worked some. Read Hooker's *Survey*. Visited. God be praised for the great mercies of this year. Attended to appropriate duties.

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas Hooker's *Survey of the Summe of Church Discipline*, first published in England in 1648, after his death.

<sup>2</sup> He has to praise Gen. Jackson occasionally.

<sup>3</sup> Probably a son of Henry Marchant, LL. D., who was born in Martha's Vineyard

in 1741, received the degree of LL. D. from Yale, 1792, lawyer at Newport, attorney-general of Rhode Island, and member of the Rhode Island General Assembly. Henry Marchant, the Baptist minister, seems not to have been a college graduate, but was an intelligent, well-balanced man.

## 1887.

### JANUARY.

1. Endeavored to commit my all to the keeping and guidance of the grace of God for the coming year. Walked quite early to Dea. Hammond's. Quite laborious. It snowed and rained the most of the day. Preached with notes on Luke xxiv: 47, and a sermon on Luke iii: 7. At evening reviewed the same subjects. Thin meetings. We have had the past year thirty-two deaths, equal to the two preceding years. It is a time of great coldness and declension respecting divine things with us and through the country. The Lord be our helper. Thermometer near freezing through the day. Read.

2. Cold again and very icy. It snowed some. Thermometer about 20°. Read. Afternoon we had a meeting for prayer for the general spread and success of the gospel. At evening attended the monthly concert. A tedious day, and want of feeling made thin meetings.

3. Thermometer at 4°, and rose with a clear sun to 17°. Kept house mostly. Wrote. Wrote to N. Willis, of the *Boston Recorder*, and wrote an article for that paper. Read *Hudibras*.<sup>1</sup>

4. Thermometer last night at zero; this morning at 4°. It rose above freezing. Received and gave out our tracts, 325, for quarterly distribution. Attended our evening meeting. Wrote to Hilliard & Gray,<sup>2</sup> of Boston. Visited. Our harbor is entirely frozen. Read the Bible.

5. Thermometer at 10°. Read. Began to write an address to the public in behalf of the Convention of Ministers.<sup>3</sup> Wrote laboriously. Visited. Sawed wood.

6. Wrote and finished the first draft of my Convention address. It is mostly taken from my report of last May. Thermometer at 10°. Stormy and blustering.

7. Thermometer about 15°. Wrote, copying my address. Walked out. We have but little snow. The ship-yards have been mostly deserted last week and this. Wrote.

8. Thermometer at 20°. Had to extinguish the fire at the meeting-house on account of smoke. Preached on John vi: 44. The house cold, but exercises short. High wind. The ground icy. At the evening meeting spoke on Job xxii: 21. Read late.

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<sup>1</sup> The famous satirical poem of Samuel Butler, published in parts in 1663, 1664, and 1678. Many single lines and brief passages from this poem are among our most frequent quotations, and the book will keep its place in our literature for ages to come. It was aimed against the Puritans, and was exceed-

ingly sharp and witty; but the Puritans reformed and renovated England all the same.

<sup>2</sup> Hilliard, Gray & Co. were then book-sellers at 112 Washington Street.

<sup>3</sup> The Convention of Congregational Ministers still exists, but not in a very vigorous condition.

9. Thermometer about 23°. Wrote on my address. Walked and visited. Visited Pine Islands school; well instructed. Wrote late.

10. Thermometer 24°. The snow diminishes. Have a good deal to do in distributing tracts. Finished copying my address and sent it to Dr. Lowell,<sup>1</sup> of Boston. Visited. Wrote. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>2</sup> They had a large wedding at Mr. Barstow's.

11. Thermometer about 25°. Visited. Read. Attended the evening meeting. Our people have got well to work again in the yards. We have steady cold north winds.

12. Thermometer about 25°. Walked a distance and visited. Dined out. Made this almanack. Wrote. Received a letter from Hilliard & Gray, of Boston. It is said there is good sleighing at Boston, and to the north and east of us.

13. Thermometer about 27°. Walked and visited the most of the day. Capt. Mendall is quite low with consumption. Cold wind. Our tracts appear to do good. Read late.

14. Thermometer this morning at 4°. We had a cold night. Wrote. Visited Capt. Sturtevant; very sick. Read expositors.

15. Thermometer at 6°. Walked early to meeting. The stove at the meeting-house smoked a good deal. Expounded on Acts i: 15 to the end. Afternoon had meeting at the vestry; quite full. Preached on John iii: 36. At the evening meeting spoke on Prov. ix: 10. Read late.

16. Visited the sick. Thermometer at 10°. We have very steady weather, clear and cold north wind. Worked some. Have some rheumatic pains. At evening attended a temperance meeting and reorganized the Mattapoisett Temperance Society, which has been neglected. Saw a blind boy read in his book prepared for the purpose.<sup>3</sup> A wonderful invention.

17. Thermometer about 18°. Capt. Sturtevant appears a little better. Walked out. Congress are doing very poorly.<sup>4</sup> Had company. At evening rode with Mr. Crosby to Bedford and back. Paid for candles, \$1. Read late.

18. Worked at my wood. Thermometer about 12°. Wrote. Walked and visited the sick and others. Had a good evening meeting and spoke on Matt. xxvi: 41. Paid Dea. Crosby for his horse on my journey last summer, \$12.

19. Thermometer about 17°. Read. Walked to the Neck and visited. Wrote to Mr. Waterman, of Providence. Read. The United States Senate

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<sup>1</sup> Charles Lowell, D. D., pastor of West Church, Boston, 1806-1861.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robbins forgot to record this marriage on the church records, as was his custom.

<sup>3</sup> This was about the time when the ingenious invention of raised letters for the blind

began to come into use. Now there is a regular literature for the blind prepared in this way.

<sup>4</sup> Some persons might be disposed to adopt that as a regular standard criticism of Congress. Dr. Robbins inclines to adopt it steadily for all Democratic Congresses.

have passed the horrid expunging vote.<sup>1</sup> Our government is most corrupt and degraded.

20. Thermometer rose to 43°. Rode out. Went into the singing-school.

21. Thermometer about 28°. In the forenoon it snowed; afternoon and evening a hard rain, with violent wind. Wrote a sermon on 1 Peter iv: 18. One half by candle-light.

22. In the morning preached a part of a discourse with notes on Jer. xxiii: 6. The stove smoked badly, and we had the afternoon meeting in the vestry. Preached the sermon written yesterday. It snowed some and very blustering. Had no evening meeting. Wrote.

23. Thermometer at 15°. Worked some. The most of the snow is gone. There is a good deal of anxiety here about an absent vessel.<sup>2</sup> Read. At evening attended a temperance meeting.

24. Thermometer about 18°. Read. Dined out. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Marsh,<sup>3</sup> of Ellington. Visited the sick. Wrote to E. W. Bull and Laertes Chapin,<sup>4</sup> of Hartford. Made a plan of a new book-case.

25. Thermometer about 15°. Read. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Well attended. We pray and hope for a visitation of grace.

26. Thermometer about 4°. We have very little snow and no sleighing, though there is much at a distance in almost every direction. Wrote. Wrote to brother Francis.

27. Walked and visited. Thermometer in the morning at 3°. Read on ecclesiastical government. Wrote.

28. Wrote a sermon on 1 Cor. vi: 10. It snowed the most of the day. Thermometer at freezing. My handwriting grows poorer, and I cannot write as fast as in years past.

29. Warm and pleasant. Sleighs at meeting. Thermometer about 28°. Preached with notes the latter part of a discourse begun last Sabbath on Jer. xxiii: 6, and the sermon written yesterday on intemperance. Full meeting. At the evening meeting spoke on John ix: 41. We had prayers for an absent vessel. We had a contribution for wood at the meeting-house.

30. Thermometer 32°. It thawed a good deal and the surface of the ground became quite muddy. Visited the sick and others. Conversated with people relative to the removal and alteration of our meeting-house. Received a kind letter from Prof. Emerson, of Andover. Read. Received of J. Dexter, \$12, interest on a note.

<sup>1</sup> The expunging vote here referred to caused great excitement at the time. In the year 1834, on motion of Henry Clay, a vote of censure was passed on President Jackson because of his removal of the Secretary of the Treasury, Hon. William J. Duane, for the reason that he would not remove the United States deposits. At the opening of the session in the winter of 1836-7, Thomas Benton introduced a resolution to expunge this

vote from the records of the Senate, and on the 16th of January, after a long and heated debate, the vote was expunged, twenty-five yeas to nineteen nays. Something like the contest at Washington now, March, 1886.

<sup>2</sup> One of the frequent experiences of all sea-faring places.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Ezekiel Marsh.

<sup>4</sup> Father of Rev. Aaron L. Chapin, D. D., President of Beloit College.



31. Rainy all day. Thermometer 34°. Wrote. Went but once out of the house. Worked at my pamphlets. Read. At evening performed a marriage at my chamber.<sup>1</sup> Gave the young man his present (\$5)<sup>2</sup> to help pay for his clarinet for public worship.

## FEBRUARY.

1. Warm. Visited. The ground has become soft near the surface. Read. Worked at my pamphlets. Had no evening meeting.

2. Walked a distance and visited. Cold and the ground is again frozen. Worked at my wood. Had company. Read late.

3. Thermometer at 10°. Received a letter from E. W. Bull, of Hartford. Dined out. Read. Visited. Had company.

4. Worked at my pamphlets the most of the day. I have not assorted for a long time. Read expositors.

5. Wet. Thermometer about freezing. Expounded on Acts ii: 1-22, and preached a sermon on Matt. v: 13. Had a good evening meeting and spoke on John ix: 41.

6. I have this winter been very late nights and mornings. Walked out. Attended the funeral of an infant child. Visited the sick. Capt. Mendall determines to die an unbeliever. At evening attended the monthly concert. Read late.

7. Worked at my pamphlets. Wrote to Dr. Lowell, of Boston. Visited a sick child. Read. At evening was at a large party. Drank water.<sup>3</sup>

8. Visited the sick. Wrote. Had company. Paid Mr. Crosby for a cord of wood, brought by Mr. Holmes, \$6.50.<sup>4</sup> Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

9. Worked at my pamphlets. Read. Cold. Walked out. It is said the intercourse between Bedford and Nantucket has been suspended forty days.<sup>5</sup>

10. Rode and walked a distance and visited two schools. Attended the funeral of an infant child. Read late.

11. Went to Capt. Mendall's funeral. Mr. Taylor<sup>6</sup> delivered a full Universalist sermon, full of inconsistencies. Received a good letter from sister Battell. Preparing for the Sabbath. Visited.

12. Preached with notes on Ps. xl: 9, and a sermon on Rom. ii: 16. At evening reviewed the subjects of the day. All the meetings full. Much fatigued. Received a young man into the church by letter.

13. A very tedious wind and it became very cold. Walked out with

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<sup>1</sup> The parties united in marriage were Watson C. Clarke and Drusilla H. Dexter.

<sup>2</sup> A generous marriage fee for those days, and so it was generous for Dr. Robbins to give it back to him for the reason he did.

<sup>3</sup> We suppose him to mean that he drank water instead of the wine, which he might have drunk had he so chosen.

<sup>4</sup> Wood was not so much cheaper then than now as might naturally have been expected. Wood is sold in country towns near Boston for \$7 to \$8 a cord.

<sup>5</sup> Nantucket in old times was often made very lonely in the winter season.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Theodore K. Taylor, Universalist minister.

much difficulty and visited an afflicted family. Read. Had company. Thermometer in the evening down to 5° and 2°.

14. Thermometer this morning at zero. Worked at my pamphlets. The cold abates. Visited. Had company. Wrote. Paid a woman for knitting, sixty cents. Worked at my wood.

15. The thermometer near freezing. Wet. Attended the funeral of Mr. C. Cannon's child. Received a letter from Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven, and wrote to him in reply. Our harbor breaks up, having been frozen since January 4th. At evening had a thin meeting. Read.

16. Mr. and Mrs. Crosby went off for Barnstable. It thaws, and the surface of the ground is quite wet. Worked at my pamphlets. Wrote. I lose too much time.

17. Last night it snowed considerably, mixed with rain. Thermometer in the morning about freezing, and it grew cold all day. Read. Rode to Bedford in the stage. Did errands. Had a very tedious time coming back to Fairhaven. Preached for Mr. Gould in the evening on Rom. ii: 16, without any notes. Some appearances of a revival among his people. Visited friends. Very cold and blustering.

18. The mercury here last evening was near zero, and this morning 6°. Rode home by stage. Thermometer here this morning 02°, and last evening 6°. Worked some at my pamphlets and wood. Read the excellent tale, *Nancy Le Baron*.<sup>1</sup> Sleighs are very active. The first day of good sleighing this winter. Wrote.

19. Thermometer about 20°. A thin, hard snow and very good sleighing. Preached a double sermon on John xv: 25. At evening had a full meeting and spoke on Matt. xii: 30. May God send us his Spirit. Quite tired. Read the *Three Experiments of Living*.<sup>2</sup>

20. Thermometer nearly at freezing. Read. Received a good letter from brother Francis. One of our whale vessels came in to Bedford; has done well. We have much anxiety for one that is out. Paid a tax of \$1.41. Paid for cherry boards, \$1.79.

21. Received a letter from Mr. Marsh, of Ellington. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Dana,<sup>3</sup> of Newburyport, and to Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven. Wet and rainy. Visited. Worked at my pamphlets.

22. We have some additional snow. Read. Rode in a sleigh to Fairhaven to assist Mr. Gould in professional labors. He went off this morning to Boston. Preached in the evening on Luke xix: 43, 44. There appears to be some special attention here. Kept at Mrs. Gibbs's.

<sup>1</sup> Not a volume, probably, but some magazine or newspaper story.

<sup>2</sup> The book, *Three Experiments of Living*, was written by Mrs. Hannah F. (Sawyer) Lee, wife of George Gardiner Lee of Boston. She was a native of Newburyport, born in 1780. She wrote a number of volumes.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Daniel Dana, D. D., pastor of the

First Presbyterian Church in Newburyport, 1794-1820, and of the Second Presbyterian Church in same place, 1826-1845. In 1820 and 1821 he was President of Dartmouth College. Born in Ipswich, 1771, died in Newburyport, 1859. He was a graduate of Dartmouth, 1788. He was a conservative man in theology, and a prominent divine.

23. It snowed and rained through the day. Kept house most of the time. Read. Went out with Dea. Deming and attended a family meeting. Few, but quite serious. Had no evening meeting on account of the weather.

24. Rode to Bedford. Called at F. L. Alden's. His wife's mother has lately died. Called at Mr. Holmes's. Returned to Fairhaven. Preached in the evening on 2 Kings vii: 3. Mr. Gould returned. Visited. The walking is in snow and water.

25. Rode home in the stage. Mr. and Mrs. Crosby returned from their journey on Wednesday evening. Received a letter from my kinsman, Eber L. Clark,<sup>1</sup> of Berlin. Read. Visited. The roads very wet. Worked at my wood. Wrote. On the 22d wrote in an album. Read expositors.

26. Expounded on Acts ii: 22-27, and preached a sermon on 2 Kings vii: 3. The sleighing fails and the walking is bad. People well out. At evening spoke on 1 John v: 1, 2. My long hoarseness, through divine favor, has mostly left me. Meetings quite serious.

27. Stormy; snow and rain through the day. Walked out. Read. Had company.

28. Received a letter from S. Chapin,<sup>2</sup> an agent. Wrote to F. L. Alden, New Bedford. Wrote. Walked out and visited. The ground is almost covered with ice. Cold and blustering.

#### MARCH.

1. The mercury this morning was about 10°. Walked out. Read. Afternoon walked to Pine Islands and visited a school, and preached in the evening on Ps. xcvi: 1, 2. We have several families in affliction in consequence of the missing vessel.

2. Worked at my pamphlets; a laborious task. Read. Walked and visited. Was out late. The thermometer this morning was at 5°. The harbor is partially filled with ice.

3. Thermometer about 15°. A very rough wind. Received a letter from Dr. Bull, of Hartford. Had company. At evening visited. Got a bad fall on the ice.

4. Worked diligently at my pamphlets, and got them off my hands for the present. Thermometer this morning at 7°. Our carpenters do very little work in the yards. Visited a school. Wrote.

5. Thermometer about 20°. Preached a double sermon on 1 Tim. iii: 16. The snow and ice thaw. A great deal of ice in the bay. Visited an aged man quite low. Had a full and solemn evening meeting and spoke on Isa. xliii: 13. The work of grace at Fairhaven seems to increase.

6. Thermometer near freezing. We have the appearance of spring, but

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Eber L. Clark, with whom we have been long familiar in the diary, was settled in Berlin, Mass., Jan. 21, 1835. He was dismissed from the church in Winchendon, where he had been settled fifteen years, Jan. 13, 1835.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Seth Chapin, born in Mendon, Mass., 1783, was graduated at Brown University, 1808, and at Andover Seminary, 1811. He was pastor and acting pastor in several parishes during his life, and died in Providence, R. I., 1850.

the ground is mostly covered with ice and snow. Walked a distance and visited. Our people *all* went to town-meeting, and carried a vote to hold the meetings here for a year to come.<sup>1</sup> Had the monthly concert; quite thin.

7. Wrote. The surface of the ground thaws. Rode with Capt. Freeman to New Bedford to assist Mr. Holmes in his meetings, etc. Preached in the evening in their fine new vestry on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. There is a good deal of special seriousness here. Tarried at F. L. Alden's. His sister-in-law, Ruth Sampson, has hopefully got religion lately.

8. Went about with Mr. Holmes. We attended three family meetings; quite solemn. Wet. At evening preached on 2 Kings vii: 3. The evening quite wet; meeting rather thin.

9. Attended two family meetings, at one of which three children were baptized. Visited at Mr. Parker's. A steady and hard rain through the day. Read Mr. Van Buren's inaugural address. Not so bad as Jefferson's.<sup>2</sup> Did not go out in the evening on account of the rain. The ground extremely wet. Procured some books. Kept at Mr. Holmes's.

10. The rain continued, with some snow, the most of the day. Read. Had company. Did not come home on account of the state of the weather and the traveling. Preached at evening without notes on Luke xix: 44. A Mr. Fisher,<sup>3</sup> from Marietta, was with us and assisted. The work of grace at Fairhaven increases. Wrote.

11. Rode home in the stage; fare paid. The traveling better. Pleasant. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Gould. Read. Received an interesting letter from Col. Gibbs,<sup>4</sup> of New York, relative to the Wolcott family. Wrote. At evening attended the meeting for prayer usually held by the brethren. Designed as the beginning of a short series of meetings. Rev. Mr. Chapin,<sup>5</sup> Agent of the Seamen's Friend Society, came here.

12. Mr. Chapin preached in the morning and afternoon for the Baptists. Afternoon preached a sermon on Luke xix: 43, 44. Appointed a church fast to be held tomorrow to humble ourselves and implore the influences of the Divine Spirit. Wet and rainy. Had a full evening meeting and spoke on Ps. i: 4.

13. Attended a sunrise prayer-meeting at Cannonville, and the brethren had one in the vestry. We observed our fast. It appears to have been done with much seriousness. Mr. Holmes came and preached in the forenoon, and Mr. Gould in the afternoon. The meetings full. Wet and rainy through the day. Very bad going. Had a full and solemn meeting in the evening, though a hard rain. Mr. Gould was with us. The church are very solemn. A good day, through the grace of God.

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<sup>1</sup> Last year on this question there was a moderate majority the other way.

<sup>2</sup> A modern Democrat could bear that criticism very easily.

<sup>3</sup> Probably Rev. Josiah Fisher, a graduate of Bowdoin in 1828, and of Andover in

1831. He spent his life chiefly in the West, and died in Pennsylvania in 1875.

<sup>4</sup> Col. George Gibbs, grandson of Gov. Oliver Wolcott.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Seth Chapin, noticed on the previous page.

14. Last night became quite unwell with a pain and swelling in my throat. Got up and made applications. Am easier, but quite weak. I suppose I took cold yesterday. Afternoon walked out and visited a little. It is a serious time. Had a solemn evening meeting and spoke on Isa. xxviii: 17. Last evening received of my collector, \$30. Paid a post office bill for fourteen months, \$15.17; and a merchant's bill, \$2.28.

15. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Gould. Visited. There is manifestly a thoughtfulness about divine things among us. May God give us of his Spirit. Had a full evening meeting and spoke on Eph. iv: 30. The roads are beginning to dry.

16. Walked and visited. Dined out. Found a lent book which I supposed to be lost. At evening a couple came here and were married.<sup>1</sup> After which I went into the meeting. Full and solemn. The ice had not gone from the head of our harbor till this week.

17. Walked and visited the most of the day. Last evening there was a ball here, which came out very slim. Received a letter from Rev. Seth Bliss, of Boston. At evening attended a meeting at Cannonville and spoke on 1 Peter iv: 18. There was an evening prayer-meeting besides. Read.

18. It has been quite cold, and rough wind, for a few days. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Breed,<sup>2</sup> of Nantucket, to come here and help us. Read. Wrote. Walked and visited. At evening wrote notes for preaching.

19. Preached with notes on Matt. xvi: 26, and a sermon on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. Cold and windy, but full meeting. The roads begin to dry. At a full evening meeting spoke on Luke xiii: 7. Much fatigued with speaking. It seems as if the Spirit of God is in some degree among us.

20. Rode to Fairhaven and New Bedford. The riding is improving. Paid at the bank, \$28.10. Tried to get some ministerial assistance. Mr. Gould came down with me. Had a solemn evening meeting. Mr. Gould spoke exceeding well. The last week was a time of great prayer in this place. Was up late.

21. Mr. Gould went off very early. Rode to Tripp's Mills; visited families and a school. Had a meeting in the evening and preached on Eph. iv: 30. Rode home late. Rough east wind, but took no cold. Received a letter from Dea. Underwood, of Bedford.

22. Received a letter from Rev. Asa Bullard.<sup>3</sup> Last week wrote to Dea. Bartlett, of Dartmouth. Walked out. Read. Cold. Spoke at the evening meeting on John v: 40. Gave three Bibles and two Testaments to five youths going a-whaling.

23. Wet and rough east wind. Wrote to my kinsman, Eber L. Clark. Walked and visited. Attended the evening meeting and spoke on Heb. iii: 19.

24. Received a letter from Dea. Sylvanus Bartlett, of South Dartmouth.

<sup>1</sup> Their names were Joseph Wilson and Mary B. Merrithew.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William J. Breed.

<sup>3</sup> Secretary of Massachusetts Sabbath-School Society, and still actively employed in the same work.

Much occupied with company. Wrote to my brother Francis. Read. Visited a sick man. Had no evening meeting.

25. Two whale brigs sailed from here this morning. Read the Bible. Worked some. Have lately received a letter from Rev. Seth Bliss,<sup>1</sup> of Boston, for the Tract Society. Wrote. Visited. At evening wrote notes for preaching on John iii: 7.

26. Preached with notes written last evening, and a sermon on Mark x: 21. Solemn meeting. Yesterday and today pleasant spring weather. Had a very attentive evening meeting and spoke on Luke xvi: 25. We have a general solemnity among the people. Received a letter from Whipple & Damrell, Boston.<sup>2</sup> Read late

27. Received a letter from Mr. Breed, of Nantucket.<sup>3</sup> Visited. Worked some. Am quite languid. Read. Attended the evening meeting and spoke on Ps. li: 4. Was out late. The roads dry.

28. Visited the sick. There is a great political struggle in Connecticut. May God prevent the triumphing of the wicked.<sup>4</sup> Wrote. Read the Bible. At evening walked out and visited.

29. Wrote to Mr. Underwood, Bedford. Walked and visited. Attended the evening meeting and spoke on Luke xvii: 5. Was out late. Cold. Had a present of two old manuscripts from Mrs. Barstow, of New York.

30. Received a letter from C. F. Shiverick, of Bedford. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Holmes. Read the Bible. On Tuesday a young couple came here and were married.<sup>5</sup> Yesterday paid my subscription for singing, \$2. Wrote. Preached at the preparatory lecture with notes on 1 Cor. vii: 29. Quite cold. Visited the sick. Was out late.

31. Walked and visited. Dined out. Read. At evening several brethren came here and conversed on the subject of repairing our meeting-house or building a new one. There are differences of opinion. May the Lord guide us.

#### APRIL.

1. During the forenoon we had a hard rain. Read the Bible. Wrote. At evening wrote notes for preaching on Luke xxii: 28-30. Was up late.

2. Cold and windy. Preached a sermon on John vii: 37. Administered the sacrament. The church well out. The house cold; we could not have fire in the stove. Made a mistake and preached a written sermon instead of my notes, as I intended. Afternoon preached a sermon on Matt. xxv: 6. At evening had a full and solemn meeting and spoke on 1 Thess. v: 3. Have a good deal of assistance from the brethren.

<sup>1</sup> Secretary of American Tract Society of Boston, which office he filled many years.

<sup>2</sup> James K. Whipple and William S. Damrell, booksellers at No. 9 Cornhill, Boston.

<sup>3</sup> Nantucket was near at hand, actually, but difficult of access in the winter season, and so it was nine days after Dr. Robbins's

letter was sent before he could get his answer from Mr. Breed.

<sup>4</sup> If it was a triumph of the wicked to have Gov. Henry W. Edwards, a Democrat, re-elected, then the wicked triumphed.

<sup>5</sup> The parties were Hallet Winslow, of Dartmouth, and Mary Clarke

3. Walked out. Read. Worked some. Attended the town meeting—the first time, I suppose, ever held in this village. A great strife for the place. It was adjourned to meet next at the center of the town, by a vote of 299 against 296. I spoke a little, but did not vote. Mr. Bigelow was with me. It is an unpleasant affair.<sup>1</sup> At evening attended the monthly concert; rather thin, but we had a good contribution.

4. Received 325 tracts—*The Mountain Miller*.<sup>2</sup> Distributed a number. Visited the sick. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Holmes, of Bedford. Visited. Read. Had company.

5. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Holmes. Walked and visited, and distributed tracts. Dined out. It becomes good walking. Saw a man sowing rye. Attended to preparations for tomorrow.

6. Fast. A pleasant day and meetings well attended. Preached a double sermon on Neh. i: 4. In the forenoon read the late address of the Ministers' Convention.<sup>3</sup> But little labor or recreation appeared. At the evening meeting spoke on Rev. iii: 3. Have good help at the evening meetings. Read late. Am something nervous.

7. Walked and visited twenty-two families and distributed tracts. Visited the sick. The measles are quite prevalent among us, and in some instances hard. Received a letter from Mr. Chapin,<sup>4</sup> the agent. Dined out. Read.

8. In the morning we had a hard storm of thunder and rain. Walked and visited. The aged Mr. Haskell died last night. Bad news from Connecticut. Wrote. Gave out tracts. At evening attended the brethren's meeting; quite thin. Mr. Chapin, the agent, came here.

9. High wind. Mr. Chapin preached in the forenoon in behalf of the seamen; very well. Afternoon preached a sermon on Gen. v: 24, and attended the funeral of good old Mr. Haskell. Mr. Chapin lectured in the evening on his subject; very long. He is quite interesting. Read late.

10. Read. Visited the sick. Dined out. Visited families and gave tracts. In the evening we had a meeting and formed the "Payta Auxiliary Seamen's Friend Society of Mattapoissett." Our people did well.

11. Visited the sick. The measles are very prevalent, and in some instances hard. Visited and gave tracts. Was with Mr. Chapin, and out late. Called at some very sick houses. Paid for knitting, seventy-five cents.

12. Mr. Chapin went away. We have collected and paid him, —.<sup>5</sup> I gave him \$2. Rode with Mrs. Dea. Crosby to Tripp's Mills; visited

<sup>1</sup> It was a strife such as occurred in many New England towns—after the commercial and manufacturing age came in—between the old center and a new locality which had grown to be larger than all the old town. Such strife often ended, as it did here, at length, in a division of the town.

<sup>2</sup> *The Mountain Miller* was a tract writ-

ten by Dr. William A. Hallock, D. D., a graduate of Williams College, 1819, Secretary of American Tract Society. He died, 1880.

<sup>3</sup> The same paper, probably, which he had forwarded to Dr. Charles Lowell, of Boston, some weeks before.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Seth Chapin.

<sup>5</sup> This blank Dr. Robbins forgot to fill.

families and distributed twenty-five tracts. At evening had a short meeting, and afterwards organized our Sabbath-school for the ensuing season. Very tired. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Breed, of Nantucket.

13. Received a letter from Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven, and Mr. Henry W. Lee, of Bedford. Wrote in reply to both of them. Visited the sick. A man died in the vigor of life. Visited and distributed tracts. Wrote. Read late.

14. Visited the sick, and visited and distributed tracts the most of the day. It is said there are as many as seventy persons sick in and near this village. In many cases the measles are attended with much fever. Read. Spring weather.

15. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Jona. Greenleaf,<sup>1</sup> Secretary of the Seamen's Friend Society, New York. Visited the sick. Rode in the stage to Fairhaven and Bedford. Made calls and did errands. At evening attended a prayer-meeting with Mr. Holmes.

16. Wet; afternoon quite rainy. Mr. Holmes went to Mattapoisett, and returned in the evening. Preached on Matt. v: 5, and Heb. vii: 25. This congregation do not near fill this great meeting-house. At evening preached in the vestry without notes on Luke xvi: 25. Tired and up late.

17. Rode home in the stage. Our epidemic sickness continues. Rode with company to Rochester, by the particular desire of my people, and attended the town meeting, and voted on the question of holding the meeting a part of the time in this village.<sup>2</sup> The only time I have voted in a town meeting since I was settled in the ministry. There were 278 for and 324 against. Much fatigued.

18. Wrote. Visited the sick and others. We have some cases of severe sickness. Some very sick families. Afternoon rode to Bedford and delivered a part of my lecture on the Varieties of the Human Species, at the lyceum. Had a good audience. Rode home late. Purchased some books.

19. Wrote to Gov. Everett. Read. Visited and distributed tracts. Wrote. The ground is mostly settled. The city of New York has done very well in its city election. An evening shower made our evening meeting quite thin. Spoke on Luke xviii: 29, 30.

20. Rode out and visited, and gave tracts. Cold. Rode to an out neighborhood, visited, visited a school, and had a meeting in the evening and preached on Matt. xix: 17. Was out late.

21. Was out the most of the day, visiting the sick and distributing tracts. I do not perceive any diminution of our epidemic. The measles are hard, connected with a good deal of fever, and many cases of lung fever. Our

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, D. D., was born in Newburyport, Mass., 1785, and licensed to preach in 1814. He was pastor at Wells, Me., 1815-1828. Then he became pastor of the Mariners' Church, Boston, and Secretary of Seamen's Friend Society. In 1833 he went to New York, where he was

still Secretary, and edited *Sailors' Magazine*. He was well known as a writer, and was author of several volumes. He died in Brooklyn, N. Y., 1865.

<sup>2</sup> It was several miles from the town of Mattapoisett to the old center of the town of Rochester.



tracts are kindly received. At evening saw the launching of a ship. Read in Paulding's *Life of Washington*.<sup>1</sup> Well written.

22. Wrote to M. B. Whittlesey, Esq., of Danbury. Visited the sick. Wrote. Am much fatigued with labor and being among the sick.

23. Cold. Preached with notes on Matt. viii: 2, and a sermon on Luke xvii: 22. Had several cases for prayers. We cannot commence our Sabbath-school on account of the sickness. Thin meetings. At evening spoke on John i: 29. Read *Columbiad*.<sup>2</sup>

24. Wet and rainy. Cold. Visited the sick. New York and most of the great cities are suffering severely about money matters. Gave out tracts. Considerable snow fell. Wrote. Received of the Mite Society for foreign missions, \$21.42, and from monthly concert, \$26.72 = \$48.14. Our people went to Rochester again, and adjourned the town meeting to be held here day after tomorrow.

25. Hindered by company. Rode to Bedford and met with our Association<sup>3</sup> at Mr. Roberts's.<sup>4</sup> Attended to the usual business. Could not attend worship with them in the evening. Went to the lyceum and delivered the latter part of my lecture. I was elected a member of the lyceum. We were well entertained at Mr. Roberts's. Spent the night at Mr. Alden's.

26. Attended the business of Association and finished. Afternoon we had an ecclesiastical council and dismissed Mr. Richmond,<sup>5</sup> of Dartmouth. At evening attended the foreign mission meeting. Mr. Bardwell,<sup>6</sup> Agent of the Board, and Mr. Bird,<sup>7</sup> a missionary from Palestine, were with us and spoke. Paid the treasurer, \$50.

27. Warm and pleasant. Did errands. Rode home. A child of eleven years, Baptist, has died here this week. They had a very quiet town meeting here yesterday in our meeting-house.<sup>8</sup> Much fatigued. Visited the sick. Wrote. At evening had our usual weekly meeting. Was out late.

28. Last night took cold, and am quite weak and pained with rheumatism. Read. Had a new book-case brought me and set up; a very good one. Cost about \$25. The cities are suffering, and laborers are dismissed from work in great numbers. Can do little. Visited the sick; one man very low.

29. Visited and gave tracts. Warm. Dined out. Read. Have little time for study. Troubled with inattention in duties. Read expositors.

<sup>1</sup> James Kirke Paulding, born in Dutchess County, N. Y., Aug. 22, 1779; a very popular writer, author of many works. His *Life of Washington* appeared in 1835. He died at Hyde Park, N. Y., April 5, 1860.

<sup>2</sup> *The Columbiad*, an epic poem by Joel Barlow, was first published in 1807, and was regarded as the grandest literary work which America had then produced, but it had not in it the elements of permanent success.

<sup>3</sup> Old Colony Association.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Jacob Roberts.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Richmond.

<sup>6</sup> Horatio Bardwell, D. D.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Isaac Bird, born at Salisbury, Ct.; graduated at Yale, 1816, at Andover, 1820; died in Great Barrington, Mass., 1876.

<sup>8</sup> Town halls were not then common in New England. The town meetings down to near the middle of the present century were generally held in the meeting-houses. The poverty of the people in old times made this necessary, and town and church were not very far apart.

30. Warm. Vegetation, quite backward, begins to advance. Expounded on Acts ii: 37 to the end, and preached a sermon on Rev. iii: 20. Visited a man very sick and a mourning family. At evening spoke on Rev. ii: 5. Our sickness thins the meetings.

## MAY.

1. Wet and rainy. Worked at my books. Afternoon attended two funerals of children who have died of our epidemic. The weather changed to tedious cold. Received a good letter from Mr. Greenleaf,<sup>1</sup> of New York, of the Seamen's Friend Society. Attended the monthly concert. We collected \$2.60, of which I take \$1.86 for what I advanced last week to make \$50, leaving seventy-four cents. Read late.

2. Ice plenty this morning and the ground frozen. Thermometer 28°. Had work done at my new room. Visited the sick. A rough wind. My rheumatic complaints do not leave me. Can do but little.

3. Worked at my library. Rev. Mr. King<sup>2</sup> called on me. Wrote. Received a good letter from Rev. Stephen Mason,<sup>3</sup> now residing at Northampton; very obliging. At the evening meeting spoke on John xiv: 15-17.

4. Visited and distributed tracts. Some gentlemen from Bedford called on me. Read. Vegetation is very backward and slow.

5. Worked at my library. Walked, and visited the sick and others. We had pretty hard thunder-showers. Tarried out.

6. Quite warm. Walked without an out-coat, visited, and gave tracts. They take herrings very plentifully. A great privilege for this town. They took yesterday about 30,000. Preparing for the Sabbath.

7. Preached a double sermon on Isa. ix: 6, 7. Our meetings lately have been thin. A child of a Universalist family was buried today. Our epidemic, through divine mercy, appears to abate. At the evening meeting spoke too long on John xiv: 1. Read Paulding's *Life of Washington*. A valuable work.

8. Quite cool. Rode to Bedford and did errands. A time of great suffering and alarm with merchants, proceeding primarily from the government.<sup>4</sup> Visited. Read quite late.

9. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Andros,<sup>5</sup> of Berkley, and to Mr. Hamlin, of Bedford. Walked a distance and distributed tracts. Visited. Read quite late.

10. We had a hard thunder-storm; very dark. Read. Had my new room painted. The evening meeting quite thin. Spoke on Rom. vii: 9. Visited the sick.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, D. D.; before noticed.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Jonathan King, a native of Rochester. He had been pastor, 1823-1829, at Dartmouth, in Bristol County. In 1838 he was settled in Carver.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Stephen Mason was a native of Litchfield, Ct., born in 1788; graduated at

Williams College in 1812, and at Andover Seminary in 1815. He had, a few years before, been settled in Nantucket.

<sup>4</sup> The panic of 1837; but it is not common now to attribute it to the government. It came as such times come, every fifteen or twenty years.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Thomas Andros, before noticed.

11. Rode and visited the sick. Received a letter from my neighbor, Capt. Weeks. The mercantile failures in New York are said to be near three hundred, exclusive of small ones. Wrote. Worked some at my library.

12. We have the remarkable intelligence that the banks of New York have suspended specie payments,<sup>1</sup> and others are following in the same way. Quite warm. Read. Walked and visited.

13. Wrote and examined authorities on the genealogies of Christ in Matthew and Luke. Wet. Vegetation advances, but is quite backward.

14. Preached with notes on Ps. cxxxix: 1-4, and a sermon on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4. There was a large Universalist meeting. At the evening meeting spoke on 2 Cor. v: 10. We had our contribution for the Sabbath-school, and collected \$9.31. Yesterday received of my collector, \$19.50.

15. All the banks seem to be suspending specie payments. The country is in a great commotion. Wrote a plan of a new book-case. At evening we had a meeting to arrange for the Sabbath-school; but few attended. Read. Wrote.

16. Worked laboriously through the day in fitting up my new chamber and moving things into it. Mr. Bacon worked for me and did a hard day's work. Rainy. Slept in my new room. May God here have a holy abode. Much fatigued.

17. Last night we had a tempest. Still rainy, but warm. Mr. Crosby worked for me in the forenoon, and Mr. Bacon in the afternoon, together with work in altering the carpet. The room appears better than I expected. I labored much. Mr. Bacon would take nothing for his work. Attended the evening meeting and spoke on Luke xii: 31.

18. Worked at my things. Read. Rode to the Neck, visited, and distributed tracts. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Putnam,<sup>2</sup> of Middleborough, and wrote him in reply. Paid for sawing wood, seventy-five cents.

19. Wrote. My stove, in its new position, smokes. Finished my writing on the genealogies of Christ for Capt. Weeks. Read. There is much excitement about the proceedings of the government.

20. We have the unexpected news that the President<sup>3</sup> has called a special session of Congress. Rode to Fairhaven to exchange. Mr. Gould is quite feeble. Crossed to Bedford and took from the merchant tailor's a suit of new clothes; fine black cloth, cost \$40. Tarried at Mrs. Gibbs's.

21. Mr. Gould went to Mattapoisett. Read the Bible. Saw fruit-blossoms; quite late. Preached on 2 Thess. ii: 16, and Ps. cvi: 15. Rode home; a chaise went for me. At evening meeting spoke on Acts viii: 20-24. Visited a sick man.

22. Am quite languid. Read. Wrote. A good ship was launched here Saturday evening. Wrote. At evening visited.

<sup>1</sup> Certain exigencies in the money market seem to make a course like this necessary.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Israel W. Putnam, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Martin Van Buren, inaugurated March

4, 1837. He did not, like his Democratic predecessors, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and Jackson, attain to a second term. He was followed by President Harrison.

23. Worked at my books and rooms. Had a whitewasher. Moving book-cases is very laborious. Dined out. Read.

24. Worked at my things. Wrote yesterday and today, and finished a report for the Pastoral Association. Rode to the Neck, and visited and distributed tracts. The evening meeting was prevented by rain.

25. Rainy. We have a very rainy season. Monday it rained very hard. Wrote. Put up books. A few days since received a letter from Mr. Andros, of Berkley. Read. Cold easterly rain.

26. Last night a hard rain. Have a constant fire. Worked at my library. Visited a school. Walked and visited. The sickness among us, through divine favor, has abated.

27. Rode to Bedford. Did errands. Called on Mr. Holmes. Apple-tree blossoms are coming out. Very late. Finished putting up books for the present. Conversated with persons about making profession of religion. There is a painful fearfulness. Was informed at Bedford that I am appointed one of the State committee for schools.<sup>1</sup> Wrote. Procured Sabbath-school books.

28. Expounded on Acts iii, and preached a sermon on the office of deacons, on Acts vi: 2-6. Quite cool. Commenced instructing a Bible class of young men in the Sabbath-school. Spoke at the evening meeting on Luke xix: 41, 42. Wrote.

29. Set out at seven o'clock with my horse and chaise and rode to Boston in about eleven hours; fifty-five miles. Quite pleasant. The trees in early blossom. Kindly received and entertained at Mr. Munroe's.<sup>2</sup> At evening attended the anniversary of the Education Society.

30. Met the committee of the Pastoral Association.<sup>3</sup> They did not approve of my report, and adopted another very brief one. Called on Mr. Dwight,<sup>4</sup> one of the new Board of Education, of which I am one. Attended the meeting of the Prison Discipline Society. Highly interesting. Gov. Everett spoke. Attended the meeting of the Pastoral Association. Mr. Nelson,<sup>5</sup> of Leicester, preached; at the succeeding meeting for business presented our report, and my own as a minority of the committee. Took tea at Mr. Blagden's.<sup>6</sup> At evening went privately and attended the meeting of the Unitarian Association. They did not speak bad. Warm.

31. Attended the morning prayer-meeting. Resumed my speaking at the Pastoral Association, and after a good deal of discussion the subject was indefinitely postponed, accomplishing my object. The effect will be, I think, that Unitarians will preach a part of the time and the ancient Convention

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<sup>1</sup> State Board of Education, which was first organized in 1837.

<sup>2</sup> His old stopping place near Park Street Church.

<sup>3</sup> The Pastoral Association in Massachusetts was composed wholly of Congregational ministers of the Trinitarian faith. The Con-

vention embraced both Trinitarian and Unitarian pastors.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Louis Dwight.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. John Nelson, D. D., pastor of the church at Leicester, 1812-1871.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D., pastor of the Old South Church.

be kept together. Called on Mr. Mann,<sup>1</sup> of the Board of Education. Attended the meeting of the Convention. There was much good feeling. At evening was very tired and did not go out. Warm and very pleasant. Paid for books, \$5.08. Trimmings for book-case, sixty-three cents. Ink, twenty-five cents. Procured a few old books on charge. Attended the semi-annual meeting of the Antiquarian Society.<sup>2</sup>

## JUNE.

1. Attended the morning prayer-meeting. Quite warm. Saw my cousins Chandler<sup>3</sup> and Samuel<sup>4</sup> Robbins. Attended the morning meeting of the Convention, and the public service. Mr. Ware<sup>5</sup> had a sensible sermon, with very little of Christ. Have been kindly accommodated at Mr. Munroe's. Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild, of South Boston, dined with us. Paid for my horse, \$2.25. Contributed \$1. The Convention contribution was \$470, greater than it has been since 1818. Wrote to Gov. Everett. Left Boston about four o'clock and rode to West Bridgewater. Tarried at a tavern.

2. Rode early and got home a little after noon. Have had a prosperous journey, through divine favor; very pleasant weather. A great blowth on the fruit-trees. Much fatigued. Attended our preparatory lecture, and preached with notes on Gen. xxviii: 15. We had a church meeting, expecting to have chosen one or two deacons. It was thought best to defer it for the present. Received a letter from Mr. George Gibbs,<sup>6</sup> of New York. Visited.

3. Last night we had a hard thunder-shower. Wrote. Am fatigued with my journey. Walked out. Read. Very fine weather this week; vegetation advances rapidly.

4. Quite warm. Left off my flannels. Preached with notes on Ps. cxxx: 7, and a sermon on Deut. xxxii: 35. Received a man into the church by profession, and a woman by letter. Administered the sacrament. The church quite full. At the evening meeting spoke on 2 Cor. v: 20. Full meetings.

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<sup>1</sup> Hon. Horace Mann, first Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education, holding office, 1837-1848.

<sup>2</sup> It seems to have been the custom of this society in those years to have a meeting in Boston during anniversary week. <sup>1</sup>

<sup>3</sup> His cousin, Dr. Chandler Robbins, had then been three years pastor of the Second Church in Boston.

<sup>4</sup> His cousin, Rev. Samuel Dowse Robbins, had been then three years pastor of the Unitarian church in Lynn.

<sup>5</sup> This was Henry Ware, Jr., D. D., born in Hingham in 1794; graduated at Harvard, 1813; pastor of Second Church, Boston, 1817-1830. From 1829 to 1842 he was Professor of Pulpit Eloquence, and had the

pastoral care at Harvard. He preached the Convention sermon in 1837, and his father, Henry Ware, D. D., Sr., preached the Convention sermon in 1818. Henry Ware, Jr., died in 1843, and his father in 1845.

<sup>6</sup> George Gibbs, before mentioned, was the son of Col. George Gibbs, who married Laura, youngest daughter of Gov. Oliver and Elizabeth (Stoughton) Wolcott. George, their son, was a public writer, and was commissioned to prepare the sumptuous *Wolcott Memorial*, which appeared a few years ago, but, moving to Oregon, he passed the work to his kinsman, Rev. Samuel Wolcott, D. D., who completed it. Since writing the above, Dr. Wolcott has died (Feb. 24, 1886) in Longmeadow, Mass.

5. Worked at my wood. Am quite languid. Read. Attended the monthly concert; quite thin. Yesterday received from John P. Bigelow, the Secretary of the State, my letter of appointment and authority on the Board of Education, and a letter from Gov. Everett. Wrote.

6. Walked out. Read. Dined out. Rode to Fairhaven and New Bedford. Did errands. Paid for book-case trimmings, \$1.70. Visited Capt. Southworth; quite sick. Very fine summer weather.

7. Worked some, piling and getting in my wood. Read. Received a letter from brother Francis. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. George Gibbs, of New York. Thermometer about 80°.

8. Attended to my new book-case, in the hands of the workmen. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Andros, and to Capt. Read, of Fairhaven. Visited our young misses' school; in fine order. Read.

9. Cool. Made a fire in my chamber. Read. Walked a distance and visited a sick man. Something unwell. Wrote a report for our Association for General Association.<sup>1</sup>

10. Wrote twice to Mr. Bigelow, of Rochester. Received a letter from Messrs. Hilliard, Gray & Co., Boston, and wrote them in return. Received \$6 from my collector; procured with difficulty. Rode and visited the sick. Preparing for my journey. Wrote.

11. Quite cool. Expounded on Acts iv: 1-23, and preached a sermon on Luke xviii: 13. Attended my class in the Sabbath-school. At the evening meeting spoke on Matt. xviii: 11. Wrote.

12. Set out on my journey with Mr. Crosby's horse and chaise, and rode through Bedford, Fall River, Providence, to Johnson;<sup>2</sup> forty-eight miles. Cool, and the roads dry and dusty. At Providence saw Mr. Jolls and H. Crosby. Many of the Rhode Island factories are standing idle. Found a good tavern. Wrote.

13. In the morning rainy. Got a little wet. Rode diligently. The road very hilly. Crops are backward. Came to Bolton; forty-nine miles. Tarried at a tavern.<sup>3</sup>

14. Rode early to East Windsor. About forty-eight hours from home. Mr. Wolcott is gone to Ogdensburg. Eveline and Mr. Bissell have lately removed there.<sup>4</sup> Mrs. Wolcott is pretty well. She holds out remarkably—seventy. Warm. Rode to Hartford. Saw many friends. Dr. Bull paid me two dividends—Phoenix Bank, \$60, Hartford Bank, \$10. Dr. Bull has paid for me to Bitler, for boots and shoes, \$11.50. He has paid for thirty yards of carpeting, \$35.63. To Herrick & Noyes, \$20. Other charges, \$9.33.

<sup>1</sup> That is, the report which the Old Colony Association was to make to the General Association of Massachusetts at its meeting, which was to take place two weeks later.

<sup>2</sup> Spelled Johnston; the township adjoining Providence, R. I., on the west.

<sup>3</sup> The Congregational pastor at Bolton,

1830-1846, was Rev. James Ely, a graduate of Yale, 1831. Dr. Robbins probably was not acquainted with him.

<sup>4</sup> They moved back to Mr. Wolcott's, very likely because they were needed there. They are both living now (1886) in the same pleasant home, where Mrs. Bissell was born.

He had drawn two previous dividends of \$76.30. Paid for a book, seventy-five cents. Rode back to East Windsor.

15. Wet. Attended the funeral of a colored person. Afternoon rode to Enfield. Made calls at East Windsor, Dr. Harvey,<sup>1</sup> Mr. Lee,<sup>2</sup> etc. Called at the seminary. Crossed to Pine Meadow, and had a good visit at Mr. Haskell's.<sup>3</sup> My brother is in very good health.

16. Set out for Norfolk; did not get away till late. Rode by Turkey Hills and Simsbury. It became rainy; got to Mallory's tavern in the evening. A very wet season; heavy roads.

17. Rode early, with bad traveling, to brother Ammi's. He is in good vital health, but cannot walk. Rode (brother Francis and wife with me from Enfield) to Norfolk. Mr. Battell absent at the westward. But three children at home. Sister Battell in good health. Brother James and his wife and brother Samuel and his daughter are here. Have had thus far a prosperous journey.

18. Quite cool. Mr. Eldridge lives in father's house;<sup>4</sup> a pleasant fact. Last evening we had a pleasant visit there. I preached in the morning on 1 John i: 7. Afternoon brother Francis preached. The congregation here appears very well, but I know but few. Attended Mrs. Battell's Sabbath-school class. Rode and visited the aged Dea. Frisbie;<sup>5</sup> quite sick. Had a full evening meeting and preached on Matt. v: 5. Mr. Eldridge appears well. We four brothers have not been thus together for many years. Was up late.

19. Walked out. Wrote. Brother Ammi was not able to come here as we hoped. All dined at Mr. Battell's. We went and visited the burying-ground. Left Norfolk and rode to Litchfield. Much grass in this quarter was killed by the last winter. Tarried at Dr. Deming's.

20. Quite rainy through the forenoon. Read. Walked out. Afternoon rode to New Milford. Heavy traveling over a wet and hilly road; nineteen miles. Went in to General Association. Very kindly received. Cordially entertained at Mr. Ithamar Canfield's.<sup>6</sup> Find former acquaintance.

21. Wrote early an account of the state of religion in Massachusetts, and read it with others in the forenoon. Mr. Tracy,<sup>7</sup> of Sutton, my colleague, is here. General Association attended to business. I know but a minor

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Harvey, D. D., was a native of the parish of Hadlyme, Ct., and was graduated at Yale in 1808. He was pastor at Goshen, Ct., 1810-1825, and in Westchester parish, Colchester, 1827-1835. He took a prominent part in the organization of the Connecticut Theological Institute, first located at East Windsor, Ct., but now removed to Hartford. Dr. Harvey died in 1873.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Chauncey G. Lee, who had been pastor at East Windsor, 1832-1836, but was then acting as an agent for the Connecticut Theological Institute.

<sup>3</sup> Harris and Frances (Wolcott) Haskell.

<sup>4</sup> And so it continued to be the parsonage house.

<sup>5</sup> Dea. David Frisbie, who died that year, aged eighty-seven.

<sup>6</sup> He was probably kindred to Mr. Judson Canfield, one of the Ohio Land Company, who gave his name to the town of Canfield, Mahoning County, O.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Hiram A. Tracy, then pastor at Sutton, afterwards Western Secretary of American Board, again pastor at Sutton, and died there Feb. 24, 1885.

part of the ministers. Afternoon Prof. Fitch<sup>1</sup> preached, and we had the sacrament. Had addresses at different times from public religious societies. No evening meetings.

22. Young Mr. Porter,<sup>2</sup> who is settled here, is a very valuable man. We are steady at business. Had a laborious discussion on the late proceedings of the General Assembly.<sup>3</sup> The parties among the ministers in this State appear.<sup>4</sup> The account of the state of religion is rather gloomy. Towards evening closed the session in a solemn and affectionate manner. Dr. Porter<sup>5</sup> presided very well. Last night we had considerable more rain. A backward and very wet season. Gave to friends several copies of my sermon on the Trinity. Made calls. Much fatigued.

23. Left New Milford and rode to Litchfield and Farmington. Mr. Bacon, of New Haven, rode in my chaise with me. A hot, sultry day. Very fatiguing crossing the high hills. Saw various acquaintance. The roads are bad. Tarried at a tavern.

24. Rode to Hartford. Did errands. Called on Dr. Hawes. Visited the old burying-ground, which has lately been greatly improved. A very honorable mark to the city. Rode to East Windsor. Called on Capt. White,<sup>6</sup> of East Hartford. Mr. Wolcott has returned from his Western journey. Much fatigued.

25. Preached for Dr. Harvey<sup>7</sup> on 2 Thess. ii: 16, and Matt. v: 5. This congregation is considerably less than when I left them. See many friends. Took tea at Dr. Harvey's and walked up street. Preached in the evening at the seminary, by desire of Dr. Tyler,<sup>8</sup> on 1 John i: 7. A large audience. Returned to Mr. Wolcott's. Quite tired.

26. Walked down street and visited. Am very languid. Had green peas. Have much to do in putting up my things. Find various articles that I had not removed. Rode up street and visited. Am not able to go to Enfield to spend the night as I expected. Was out late.

27. Left East Windsor and rode with a ponderous baggage to Tolland, Stafford, and Holland.<sup>9</sup> Hindered in the afternoon by showers. Rode about thirty-four miles. Stayed at a tavern.

<sup>1</sup> Eleazar T. Fitch, D.D., of Yale College.

<sup>2</sup> Just now (1886) the retiring President of Yale College. Then six years out of college.

<sup>3</sup> The Presbyterian General Assembly opposed the newer and more natural theology of New England.

<sup>4</sup> The same divisions appeared in the Connecticut General Association.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Noah Porter, Sr., of Farmington, was presiding officer, and Noah Porter, Jr., was the pastor of the church where they met.

<sup>6</sup> Capt. Lemuel White, where he boarded some years before.

<sup>7</sup> Dr. Joseph Harvey, before noticed, was

supplying the pulpit in Dr. Robbins's old church. He was never settled there, but was brought there especially by the Theological Seminary, and was an able preacher.

<sup>8</sup> Dr. Bennet Tyler was President of the Connecticut Theological Institute from its organization to his death, in 1858. He was a native of Middlebury, Ct., was graduated at Yale College, 1804. He was pastor at South Britain, Ct., 1808-1822; President of Dartmouth College, 1822-1828; pastor at Portland, Me., 1828-1834, when he was made President at East Windsor.

<sup>9</sup> Holland is a district in the town of Union.



28. Rode quite early to Worcester; twenty-four miles. Saw some of the great works on the Western Railroad. It passes through a rough country. This town increases rapidly. Rode through Shrewsbury, etc., to Waltham. The season is backward, but it exhibits a very flourishing verdure. Warm. Tarried at a tavern. Miles, fifty-four.

29. Rode early to Boston; ten. Sultry hot. Much fatigued. Did some errands. Called on Mr. Mann.<sup>1</sup> Put up at the Bromfield House. At ten o'clock went with Mr. Mann to the State House and met with the Board of Education. Nine were present, and Mr. Newton,<sup>2</sup> of Pittsfield, was absent. Afternoon had a second session. Had various consultations. Toward evening rode to Roxbury and tarried with Dr. Robbins.<sup>3</sup> Had a pleasant visit.

30. Cousin Peter carried me into the city. Met again with the Board of Education. Very warm. The Board appointed Mr. Mann their secretary, and closed their session. Made a pretty large purchase of books of Hilliard & Gray. Engaged tracts for our next quarterly distribution. Left Boston a little after noon, and rode in a severe heat, and came to Samson's, Middleborough. Rode in the evening. Paid at Boston for the *Recorder*, through the year, \$2.50. On the 19th gave my brother James \$15, making, with \$10 sent him before, \$25 for his son Thomas,<sup>4</sup> his first year at college.

JULY.

1. Rode home in the morning. Have had an uncommonly prosperous journey, through God's mercy. Deficiency, \$31. Am much fatigued, but my health is evidently improved. Mr. Andros<sup>5</sup> has supplied my people the two Sabbaths, the last by an exchange with Mr. Burt.<sup>6</sup> Read. Received a number of periodicals and a letter from D. Ricketson, of Bedford. Find a pleasant return.

2. Expounded on Acts iv: 23 to v: 12, and preached a sermon on John i: 29. Gave to the Sabbath-school over one hundred primers, procured at Hartford at three cents each. Attended to my class. Full meeting. Yesterday my thermometer was at 91°; the day before about 87°; today a little lower. At the evening meeting spoke on Luke x: 25.

3. Something rainy. Mr. Crosby assisted in cutting my new carpet. Read. Am considerably languid. Had a thin monthly concert. Walked out. Wrote. Called on Mr. Barstow.

4. Three vessels went out from the village with sailing parties.<sup>7</sup> I was with one. We had a prosperous time. Many young people went to ride.

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Horace Mann.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Edward Augustus Newton.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Peter Gilman Robbins.

<sup>4</sup> This son Thomas was of excellent character and a good scholar. He received the degree of M. D. from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York city in 1845. His life was short. He died the following year (1846), aged twenty-six.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Thomas Andros, the aged and retired minister of Berkley, but a man of superior abilities.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Daniel C. Burt, at that time minister of one of the churches in New Bedford. He was a graduate of Brown University, 1828, and was settled over the Old Church in New Bedford in 1835.

<sup>7</sup> Keeping Fourth of July.

The country has not had so gloomy an Independence for many years.<sup>1</sup> Cooler. Visited.

5. Wrote a good deal of diary. Attended to putting up my things from a deranged state. Had a good evening meeting and spoke on Acts xx: 24.

6. Rode to Bedford. Did errands. Paid an old debt of \$5.25 for cherry boards; for three yards of additional carpeting and a canvas hearth rug, \$5.50. Mr. Holmes is absent with his sick daughter. Called on Mr. Choules. Visited at Fairhaven. Mr. Gould has gone to the West for health. Saw Mr. Sperry,<sup>2</sup> his supply. Rode home. Visited. There has been a fire here today; a house with three families; the upper part, with much furniture, was mostly consumed, and then providentially extinguished. No person was injured, though great was the danger. Yesterday paid David Cannon, toward my new cherry book-case, \$10.

7. My new mahogany book-case was brought in. It is primarily for Bibles, and is the finest one I have. It cost about \$50. It is not large, but is convenient, and appears very well. Put up books. Wrote. Warm. Thermometer 83°. Visited. Paid Mr. Nye, the maker of my new book-case, \$10. Wrote to brother Francis.

8. Wrote. Afternoon was invited out. Visited.

9. Preached with notes on Eph. ii: 4, 5, and a sermon on Ps. lxxxiv: 11. Cooler. Full meeting. Had my Sabbath-school class. Rode to Tripp's Mills, and preached at five o'clock on Luke xix: 41-44. Very tired. Did not go to the evening meeting.

10. Wrote. Attended to the dispersion of tracts. Visited.

11. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Nettleton,<sup>3</sup> of East Windsor. Read. The late proceedings of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church were very disgraceful.<sup>4</sup> Rode and visited the sick and others. Afternoon showery. Hindered by the rain. Gave out tracts.

12. Wrote. Worked at my chamber. Attended the evening meeting and spoke on Matt. v: 4. Visited.

13. Worked laboriously through the day, putting down my new carpet and putting up books. Had assistance from Messrs. W. and P. Crosby. The carpet is a good one, and appears much better than I expected. Received a box of books from Boston, containing Bloomfield's *Greek Testament*,<sup>5</sup> Bishop Newton's<sup>6</sup> *Milton*, and the German edition of the *Greek*

<sup>1</sup> Owing to the panic and general depression in business.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Ebenezer Peck Sperry, probably a native of New Haven, Ct.; graduate of Middlebury College, 1808; died in 1853.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Asahel Nettleton, the evangelist, greatly interested in the new theological seminary at East Windsor.

<sup>4</sup> The theological debates were very bitter.

<sup>5</sup> The *Greek Testament*, with English

notes, by S. T. Bloomfield, D. D., Vicar of Bisbroke, has been a work of high authority among Biblical scholars. An edition of it, in two volumes, was published in Boston in 1837 by Perkins and Marvin.

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Newton, Bishop of Bristol, published in 1749 an edition of *Paradise Lost*, with a life of the author, which was followed by an edition, in the same style, of *Paradise Regained*. The first edition of *Paradise Lost* appeared in 1667.

and *Latin Classics*, one hundred and eighty-two small volumes, unbound, at \$60. These works make an important addition to my library. At evening visited.

14. My largest chamber has been put in good order, and makes a fine appearance. I pray God to have my library under his holy care; it is given to him. Preserve it and make it useful. Walked to Pine Islands, visited and distributed tracts all day. At evening read. We have a number of sick.

15. Received of my society for wood, \$29.38. Paid a merchant's and a merchant tailor's bill, \$22.35. Rode in the stage to Sippican to exchange with Dr. Cobb. Passed him on the way. The roads are dusty.

16. Walked to meeting in the morning, a distance, in the heat. Preached on 2 Thess. ii: 16, and Matt. v: 5. This congregation is small. The Universalists are strong. Went to Dea. Hiller's. Had an evening meeting and preached without notes on Luke xix: 41-44. Mr. Cobb returned and attended with us. He had three meetings with my people.

17. Rode home in the stage. People are beginning their haying; quite late. Fine weather for it. Mr. H. Barrows<sup>1</sup> and his wife called. Read. Attended the funeral of a black child. The colored preacher at Bedford was present. Quite warm. Visited. Received of my collector, \$27.62.

18. Received of town treasurer for services for the schools two years, \$18; and paid him a tax of \$1.22. Received a letter from J. H. Bartlett, of Bedford, informing me of the death of Mr. Holmes's daughter, and desiring me to go there. Went up. Mr. H. and his family are greatly afflicted. Afternoon returned, visited and distributed tracts. Very warm.

19. Walked out. Began a sermon on Eccles. xii: 1. I wrote slow. Have too much neglected writing. Hindered with company. Paid Mr. Crosby, \$25, and \$5 borrowed of him last month. The evening meeting very thin.

20. Wrote early and diligently, and finished my sermon near noon. Last evening visited. A whaling brig sailed. Very warm. Thermometer at 92°. Rode to Bedford; attended the funeral of Mr. Holmes's daughter and preached on Eccles. xii: 1.<sup>2</sup> A large collection of people. Mr. Crocker gave me a valuable implement from the Pacific.<sup>3</sup> Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow.<sup>4</sup> Very tired.

21. Read. Visited an aged man very low. Paid a woman for making my carpet, \$1. At evening had a small meeting at Nathan Cannon's and baptized his three children.

22. Wrote. Thermometer 84°. Visited the sick. Afternoon rode to West Middleborough, about twenty miles, to exchange with Mr. Barrows. The crops appear well. At Middleborough they are beginning their harvest.

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<sup>1</sup> He had been settled the year before at Lakeville (West Middleborough), where he remained till 1842.

<sup>2</sup> "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth," etc.

<sup>3</sup> Brought in, doubtless, in one of the whaling ships. In the cabinet of curiosities belonging to the American Board one may see many similar implements.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow.

Vegetation is at least a week earlier than with us. Kept at Mr. Richmond's, in whose house Mr. B. lives.

23. Rode to meeting, two miles, and preached on 1 John i: 7, and 1 Peter iv: 18. There is a good congregation here; the most of the people ride to meeting, and nearly all stay at noon. Opened Sabbath-school. Attended a Baptist meeting at five o'clock, near the meeting-house, and heard Elder Briggs.<sup>1</sup> Rode to Mr. Richmond's. This society need a center.

24. Rode home before noon. Warm and dusty. Thermometer at 86°. Quite tired. Read. Afternoon we had a most grateful shower. Wrote. Wrote to T. W. Harris,<sup>2</sup> Librarian at Cambridge.

25. Received a letter from Herrick & Noyes, of New Haven. Dr. Cobb came along, and I rode with him to the head of the river<sup>3</sup> to attend Association.<sup>4</sup> We were very thin. The preacher failed, and I preached on Matt. v: 5. Attended to the ordinary business. Wrote to Mr. Snell,<sup>5</sup> of Brookfield. Spent the night at Judge Spooner's.<sup>6</sup> Kindly entertained.

26. Finished the Associational business. Afternoon attended the annual meeting of our auxiliary Old Colony Education Society. Mr. Burt's<sup>7</sup> society here appear to be improving. Rode home. Attended our evening meeting and spoke on Mark x: 46, etc.

27. Very warm. Am very languid. Walked and visited. Read. Rode to Rochester and attended a temperance lecture from Mr. Taylor,<sup>8</sup> seamen's preacher at Boston. A sample of eccentricity. Our town school committee had a meeting. Looked at the new meeting-house; a commodious and neat one. People are generally at their haying. Fine weather, but a light crop. Paid Capt. Freeman for a cord of wood last winter, \$6.50.

28. I can do but little. Read. Paid David Cannon toward my book-case, \$10. Dined out. Visited a school. Walked and visited.

29. Walked out. Read. Wrote the most of a sermon on Amos vi: 1. Wrote more successfully, through divine favor, than I expected. The King of England<sup>9</sup> died June 20th, and Queen Victoria succeeds. The latter a very remarkable event.<sup>10</sup> I first heard of the event on the 25th.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Ebenezer Briggs, Baptist minister.

<sup>2</sup> Thaddeus William Harris, M. D., a native of Dorchester, Mass.; graduate of Harvard, 1815; was Librarian of Harvard College from 1831 to his death in 1856. His father, Thaddeus Mason Harris, D. D., born in Charlestown, Mass., 1768, graduate of Harvard, 1787, was Librarian of Harvard, 1791-1793.

<sup>3</sup> Acushnet.

<sup>4</sup> Old Colony Association.

<sup>5</sup> Thomas Snell, D. D., pastor at North Brookfield, 1798-1862.

<sup>6</sup> Judge Nathaniel S. Spooner, of the police court of New Bedford.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Daniel C. Burt.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Edward T. Taylor (Father Taylor).

He was a native of Richmond, Va., and the quaint anecdotes told of him are many. He was a man of real power. He died in Boston in 1871, but his name is very frequently on the lips of old Bostonians.

<sup>9</sup> William IV.

<sup>10</sup> Not very remarkable that Victoria should be Queen. The direct line and a niece of the late King succeeded instead of a son or daughter. She was then eighteen years old. The public services of coronation did not take place till the year following, June 28, 1838.

<sup>11</sup> That is, a month and five days after King William's death.

30. Finished and preached in the afternoon my sermon on Amos vi: 1. Expounded on Acts v: 12-34. Attended a short time at the Sabbath-school. In the intermission performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup> Very full meetings. The evening meeting thin. Spoke on Mark xiv: 12. Much fatigued.

31. Quite unwell and feeble. Read. Worked a little at my books. Wrote. Rainy.

#### AUGUST.

1. Read. Read *Samson Agonistes*<sup>2</sup> without leaving my chair. Worked at my books. Wrote an inscription for Uncle Le Baron's grave-stone. Very warm. Thermometer 90°.

2. Through divine mercy my health is better. Read. Wrote to Herrick & Noyes, of New Haven, and to Messrs. Holmes, of New Bedford, and Nott, of Wareham, and Messrs. Barstow, of New York. Suffered with the heat. Attended the evening meeting. Thermometer 92°. Sent to Herrick & Noyes an order on Dr. E. W. Bull for \$20.

3. Wrote to Esq. Robbins, of Plymouth. Began to write off my sermon on Uncle Le Baron's death for the printer. Visited the sick and others. Sultry hot. Thermometer about 83°. Preached a preparatory lecture on John xvi: 33. We had a hard and very grateful shower.

4. Cooler. Walked and visited. Read the Bible. Wrote, copying my sermon. Last evening saw a Mrs. Drew, of Fairhaven, an aged widow, who was married July 4, 1776.<sup>3</sup>

5. Wrote a sermon on John iii: 7. It was nearly finished by daylight. Received a letter from Pres. Quincy,<sup>4</sup> of Cambridge.

6. Preached with notes on Zech. xiii: 7, and the sermon written yesterday. Administered the sacrament. The church full. Cool. At the evening meeting spoke on Isa. lxxv: 24. Not as tired as frequently.

7. Wrote. Visited. Had company. At evening it was wet, and we had very few at the monthly concert.

8. Wrote, copying my sermon. Very warm. Thermometer 90°. A gentleman was here from Philadelphia engaging men to go to Louisiana to get live-oak timber. Had company from New Bedford. Received an important letter from Mr. Bacon,<sup>5</sup> of New Haven. Visited.

9. Read the Bible. Wrote. Visited a school. Yesterday wrote a plan for a grammar school in this place. A pretty hard rain. Visited an aged man apparently near dying. At evening it was wet and our meeting thin.

10. Wrote and finished copying my sermon at Uncle Le Baron's funeral.

<sup>1</sup> The marriage was between Wyatt Snow and Deborah Avery.

<sup>2</sup> *Paradise Regained* and *Samson Agonistes* were among Milton's later productions. They were produced in the year 1671, and were tame as compared with some of his earlier productions.

<sup>3</sup> The point here is not the length of her married life—sixty-one years. Almost any

New England town will furnish the record of a woman of longer married life. The interest centers about the fact that she was married on the day of the original Declaration of Independence.

<sup>4</sup> President Josiah Quincy's administration at Harvard College lasted from Jan. 15, 1829, to Aug. 27, 1845.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Leonard Bacon, D. D.

Warm. Thermometer 84°. Visited a school. Received a letter from Messrs. Barstow, of New York. Read *Paradise Regained*. I never read it before. A great falling off.<sup>1</sup>

11. Attended a funeral in connection with Mr. Taylor,<sup>2</sup> the Universalist. The occasion was embarrassing, but things were kindly ordered of God. Wrote to my brother James.

12. Quite unwell. Not able to write a sermon as I had designed. Rainy and wet. Visited. Read the Bible. Received a letter from Mr. Nott, of Wareham, and one from Rev. Mr. Brooks,<sup>3</sup> of Hingham.

13. Preached a double sermon on Isa. iii: 10, 11. The congregation appeared solemn. At evening spoke on John i: 10. Visited a sick child. Dark and cool weather. Have fire in my chamber.

14. Read old books. Wrote. Visited our writing school. Had an evening prayer-meeting, primarily, in view of our expected Fast Day. It was quite solemn.

15. Rode in the stage to Bedford and back. Received a valuable hat from New York, made for me at Danbury. Visited Mr. Holmes. Did errands. Still dark easterly weather. Read. Visited. Carried my manuscript sermon to the printer.

16. Visited the sick. Received a letter from Esq. Robbins, of Plymouth. Wet. Wrote. Wrote to Ursula and S. T. Wolcott. Attended the evening meeting. Visited.

17. Attended to the writing school. Began a sermon for the expected Fast on Amos iii: 6. Visited. A pleasant day after a long wet and cloudy turn. Read the Bible.

18. Rainy again and wet. Read. Wrote on my sermon. Am quite languid. At evening walked and visited.

19. Very warm. An oppressive heat. Wrote a pretty long sermon on Isa. lix: 1, 2. A part in the evening. My nerves considerably affected. Thermometer 90°.

20. Cooler. Am quite unwell. Owing, I believe, to my labor and heat yesterday. Expounded on Acts v to the end and vi through, and preached the sermon written yesterday. Very feeble; no appetite. Attended a little at the Sabbath-school. Spoke at the evening meeting on Gen. xl: 23. Meetings full and solemn. But just able to get through.

21. Am some better, through mercy, but quite feeble. Walked out. Had company from Bedford. On the 19th paid for my new hat, \$8.25. Wrote. Attended our weekly prayer-meeting preparatory to the Fast.

22. Received a letter from H. Mann, Esq., Boston. Rode in the stage to Plymouth. Kindly received by friends and acquaintance. Saw Mr. Hall,<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> As great a falling off from *Paradise Lost* as *Samson Agonistes* from *Comus*.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Theodore K. Taylor.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Charles Brooks, a native of Medford, 1795; graduated at Harvard, 1816; pastor at Hingham, 1821-1829. In 1838 he was

chosen Professor of Natural History in the University of New York. He died in 1872.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Robert B. Hall, settled, Aug. 23, 1837, over the Church of the Pilgrimage. The real Church of the Pilgrimage (now Unitarian) was formed at Scrooby, Eng., in 1602.

the new pastor elect. Called on Dr. Kendall<sup>1</sup> and Dr. Thacher.<sup>2</sup> Kept at Mr. Russell's.<sup>3</sup>

23. Met with the council. Dr. Kendall and I sat as spectators. Mr. Hall appeared very well on examination. The council appear very well. Afternoon attended the ordination. The services were well performed. Was requested to preach in the evening, and had no sermon with me. I had a little time, and wrote notes and preached on 1 John i: 7. A full and attentive meeting. This people are united, and have the best prospect I think they have ever had. Mr. Blagden,<sup>4</sup> of Boston, preached very well at the ordination. Pleasant and cool.

24. Made several calls. Paid the Register of Deeds for Mr. Crosby, \$2.70. Saw the ancient charter of Plymouth.<sup>5</sup> Rode home. The stage proprietors furnished me a special conveyance. Paid for stage fare, \$4. Received a letter from Dr. E. W. Bull, of Hartford. Read. There are great rejoicings in consequence of the Whig successes at the West.<sup>6</sup> Attended our weekly evening meeting. Read late.

25. Wet and showery. Walked out. Wrote. Received a letter from Rev. Samuel Lee,<sup>7</sup> of New Ipswich, N. H. Wrote to Dr. Bull. In the afternoon we had a hard thunder-storm. It is a very wet season. Gave a poor man fifty cents.

26. Wrote the most of the day and finished my long sermon for the expected Fast. Cool. Walked and visited a sick woman. Read.

27. Preached a double sermon on Titus ii: 11-14. Full congregation. Have to walk to meeting. Last night we had a good deal of rain. Wrote. Spoke at the evening meeting on John xiv: 16. Have some headache.

28. Visited. Read. Received of my collector, \$29. Paid a cabinet-maker, \$10. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow. Attended our evening meeting preparatory to the Fast. After which rode to Bedford. Slept at a tavern.

29. Took the stage at four o'clock, and the railroad cars at Taunton, and arrived at Boston at 10 A. M. Much fatigued. Called on Gov. Everett. Looked at Dr. Prince's large library,<sup>8</sup> now for sale; purchased some valuable works. Looked at tracts. Did errands. At evening rode to Roxbury and tarried. Pleasant weather.

30. Rode to Boston. We have the grateful intelligence that the Whigs

<sup>1</sup> Rev. James Kendall, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> James Thacher, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> Nathaniel Russell.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> This ancient document is still exhibited to visitors.

<sup>6</sup> Things were beginning to shape themselves toward the election of W. H. Harrison, President in 1840.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Samuel Lee was a man of marked intellectual power. He was born in Berlin, Ct., 1803; graduated at Yale College, 1827,

and at the Yale Seminary, 1830. Was ordained pastor at Sherborn, Mass., 1830-1836. He was installed at New Ipswich, N. H., 1836, and remained till 1860. He lived there without charge till his death, 1881. He was a well-known writer and thinker of a somewhat radical order.

<sup>8</sup> This was not the Thomas Prince Library, now deposited by the Old South Church with the Boston Public Library for perpetual preservation and use, but one belonging to Dr. John Prince, who died in 1836.

carried the Rhode Island election yesterday by a large majority. A most important event. Rode to Cambridge and attended the Commencement. A wet day. The performance good. Not as many people as usual. Saw Judge Daggett,<sup>1</sup> of New Haven. Returned to Boston. Have met with a disappointment. Holy is the Lord.

31. Called early to see Mr. Holmes, of Bedford. He is quite ill. Took the cars to Bedford about noon. Rode home. Rapid traveling. Attended the evening meeting; the beginning of tomorrow's services. Read. Spoke at the meeting on Rom. x: 1.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. An interesting and solemn day. We observed the Fast recommended by the General Association.<sup>2</sup> Attended a private prayer-meeting at nine o'clock, and then had an ordinary service; and the same in the afternoon. Preached my double sermon lately written on Amos iii: 6.<sup>3</sup> The meetings were well attended. Had a solemn evening meeting. Much fatigued. I pray God to give a blessing upon this day.

2. Can do but little. Read. There is much rejoicing on the result of the Rhode Island election. Had company. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Spoke on Rom. xiii: 12. Walked out. Getting the number of the children for the school returns.

3. Preached with notes on Zeph. i: 12, and a sermon on Heb. xii: 16. Meetings full and attentive. Instructed a class in the Sabbath-school. Had a full and solemn evening meeting. Spoke on Prov. xxix: 1. The Lord be our helper. Read late.

4. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. On the 2d received a letter from S. H. Huntington,<sup>4</sup> of Hartford, and wrote to him in reply. Mr. Holmes, of Bedford, called here with company. He has returned from Boston quite feeble. Attended the monthly concert.

5. Wrote. Pleasant but cool weather. Wrote to Mr. Roberts, of Bedford. Read. Walked out and visited.

6. Visited. Rode to Bedford and Fairhaven. Saw my brother Francis's wife. She has had a bad fall and is quite ill. Paid the treasurer of the Education Society, \$4.50, of which I gave \$1. Received from Boston the books bought from Dr. Prince's library—four noble folios, two quartos, and six 8vos.<sup>5</sup> Paid freight, fifty cents. Visited Mr. Gould. Attended the

<sup>1</sup> David Daggett, LL. D., a native of Attleborough, Mass.; graduate of Yale, 1783; Law Professor of Yale, and Chief-Justice of Connecticut. He died 1851, in a ripe old age.

<sup>2</sup> The General Association of Massachusetts at its annual meeting in June made this recommendation, and Dr. Robbins had made special preparations. The Fast was in view of the wide-spread depression in business

<sup>3</sup> "Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? Shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it?"

<sup>4</sup> Samuel Howard Huntington, Esq., of Hartford, was a graduate of Yale in 1818, and was a member of the city government.

<sup>5</sup> We have already referred to the fact that folios were then in fashion, and Dr. Robbins was on the search for them.



evening meeting. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Taylor,<sup>1</sup> of Boston. Received of Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven, a present of a silver pepper-box from Miss H. Swan, of Medford, given to her, as she writes, by Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Hall, of that town, for me; the article originally belonging to Gov. Dudley.<sup>2</sup> A valuable and handsome present.

7. We have very fine weather. The Lord in mercy continue it. Wrote. Walked and saw the building of our new light-house. It progresses rapidly. Read the long dull Message of Mr. Van Buren. He is fully radical.

8. Wrote to Mr. Parmenter, the printer, at Bedford. Wrote on my library catalogue. It has been long neglected. Visited a school. Very warm. Thermometer about 80°. Visited.

9. Wrote a sermon on 2 Cor. v: 11. Walked out. Considerably affected with the heat. Thermometer 80°. Attended the funeral of a child. Wrote late. Rev. Mr. Briggs,<sup>3</sup> of Sniptuet, called on me.

10. Expounded on Acts vii: 1-37, and preached the sermon written yesterday. Instructed a class in the Sabbath-school. Baptized three children.<sup>4</sup> Spoke at the evening meeting on 1 Cor. ii: 1-2. Not very tired. The heat about the same as yesterday.

11. Read. Wrote to Mr. Charles C. Little,<sup>5</sup> Boston. Walked a distance and visited a school. Thermometer 78°. Afternoon wet. Received a letter from Isaac Perkins,<sup>6</sup> Esq., Hartford. Had appointed a Bible class, which was prevented by the wet.

12. Wrote to Mr. Roberts, of Bedford. Wrote to Dr. Bull, of Hartford. Read. Walked to the Neck and visited. Thermometer 77°. Read late.

13. Wrote a long letter to Rev. Samuel Lee, of New Ipswich, N. H., on ecclesiastical government.<sup>7</sup> Walked to Pine Islands and visited. Cooler. Read. Had our evening meeting at Dea. Hammond's, and preached on 1 Cor. ii: 2. The ground is quite dry.

14. Wrote to Miss H. Swan, of Medford, acknowledging the donation of my ancient pepper-box. Received a letter from Mr. Roberts, of Bedford. Read life of the ancient Mr. Eliot.<sup>8</sup> Visited. Cold last night, but, through mercy, very little frost.

15. Wrote. Wrote on my catalogue of books. Read. Visited the sick. Walked to Pine Islands and preached in the evening on 1 Cor. ii: 2. Quite cool. Have a fire in my chamber.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Edward T. Taylor, seamen's chaplain.

<sup>2</sup> There were two Gov. Dudleys—Gov. Thomas, first elected to the office in 1634, and Gov. Joseph, his son, from 1702 to 1715.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs, settled at North Rochester.

<sup>4</sup> The three children baptized were: Martha Mayhew, daughter of Allen Dexter; Thomas, son of Prentiss Crosby; and Mary Angeline, daughter of Lot Jones.

<sup>5</sup> Charles C. Little and James Brown made the firm Little & Brown, then 112 Washington Street.

<sup>6</sup> Isaac Perkins was a prominent man in Hartford, an alderman in 1830 and 1831.

<sup>7</sup> That was a favorite topic with Rev. Mr. Lee, and he inclined strongly to a mild form of ecclesiastical government.

<sup>8</sup> The ancient Mr. Eliot was probably John Eliot, Apostle to the Indians and pastor in Roxbury.

16. Wrote on my library catalogue. We have most grateful intelligence of the election in Maine. The change is wonderful; it is the mighty power of a merciful God. Received a letter from Dr. Bull, of Hartford. Walked out. Wrote. Mr. Roberts, of Bedford, came here to exchange tomorrow. Wrote to Capt. J. Weldon, of Fairhaven.

17. Rode early with Capt. Freeman to Fairhaven. Crossed to Bedford and went to cousin Alden's. Mrs. Robbins is better of her hurt. A young Mr. Palmer,<sup>1</sup> from Maine, called on me in the morning, and he preached in the forenoon. Preached in the afternoon on 2 Cor. v: 11, and in the evening on Matt. v: 5. This congregation is smaller, considerably, than ours. They have a fine house and a magnificent organ.

18. Did errands. Read. Dined at Fairhaven. Came in the stage home. Quite warm. A mason is altering the chimney of my chamber. A good improvement. At evening attended my Bible class; thin.

19. Had work done in my chamber. Read. Was called to see an intemperate man in a fit of apoplexy. He died a little before I saw him. Wrote to C. C. Little, Boston. Received a letter from E. W. Bull, Hartford. Wrote late.

20. Read the Bible. Wrote on my library catalogue. I now have 2,700 volumes. Walked and visited. Attended the evening meeting and spoke on Luke xiv: 27. Congress are in a divided state.

21. This morning there was a light frost. Read the Bible. Began a sermon on Ps. xcvi: 1, 2. Walked to the Neck and visited. Was out late.

22. Little or no frost. Mr. Sigourney,<sup>2</sup> of Hartford, called on me. I gave him a deposition respecting the business of the Phoenix Bank. Made oath before Esq. Meigs. Wrote on my sermon.

23. Had company. Walked out. Read. Wrote on my sermon on Ps. xcvi: 1, 2, and finished it in the evening. Read the Bible.

24. We have very pleasant weather. Expounded on Acts vii: 37 to the end. Afternoon preached the sermon on Ps. xcvi: 1, 2, on the loss of the brig Cadmeus, which sailed from here April 28, 1836, and was spoken at sea, bound home, November 28, and has not been heard of since. Their crew were fifteen; eleven from this town. Very full meeting. Baptized a child.<sup>3</sup> At the evening meeting spoke on Matt. xi: 28. Visited a sick family. Read.

25. Some frost. Am much fatigued. Walked out. Received a good letter from my brother James. Read. Wrote. At evening attended my Bible class.

26. Rode to Fairhaven and Bedford. Had a conveyance both ways

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<sup>1</sup> This was Rev. Ray Palmer, D.D., a native of Rhode Island; a graduate of Yale, 1830; pastor in Bath, Me., 1835-1850; pastor at Albany, N. Y., 1850-1865; afterward Secretary of Congregational Union. He has

published popular volumes in prose and poetry; the author of widely known hymns.

<sup>2</sup> Charles Sigourney probably, husband of Mrs. Lydia H. Sigourney.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph, son of Ebenezer Cannon.

kindly given me. Received money from the bank. Paid J. Richmond, my merchant tailor, \$25. Paid a silversmith, \$2.50. Warm. At evening attended a singing performance.

27. Rode to Rochester and attended the dedication of the new meeting-house.<sup>1</sup> A pleasant occasion. Dr. Storrs<sup>2</sup> preached very well. A good many ministers and a great collection of people were present. The pews sold well. The roads are very dry. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Taylor, of Boston. Attended the evening meeting. Read late. Yesterday received from a printer the copies of my sermon at Uncle Le Baron's funeral. Well done and a high charge. Paid my subscription for the Home Missionary Society, \$2.

28. Wrote to Mr. Taylor, of Boston. Received a letter from Mr. Metcalf,<sup>3</sup> of Dedham. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Metcalf. Preached at the preparatory lecture on Eph. iv: 1-16.

29. Worked some at my library. Read. We have cool weather, without frost. Called on sister Priscilla,<sup>4</sup> now in this place. At evening attended the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. We collect less than in years past.

30. Mrs. Robbins called on me. Dined with her at cousin John's. Began a sermon on Rom. viii: 6, but wrote but little. Wrote on the school business. On the 26th received a letter from Mr. Parmenter, of Bedford.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Warm and very pleasant. Preached with notes on Ex. xvii: 11, and a sermon on Ps. cvi: 15. Administered the sacrament. The church well out. My sister, Mrs. Robbins, was with us. Had a full evening meeting and spoke on John x: 27, 28. Distributed tracts.

2. Wrote to Rev. E. Maltby,<sup>5</sup> of Taunton, and to Charles C. Little & Co., Boston, and sent them, by Mr. Harlow, \$25. Rode to Rochester and met the school committee. We made out our returns for the State Treasurer, and made oath to it. Went into the town meeting. Visited at Mrs. Mayhew's. Attended the monthly concert; very thin. Wrote.

3. Worked at my newspapers. Walked out and visited. Rode with Mr. Crosby to New Bedford. He has a great task in preparing for his long tour. Distributed tracts.

4. Arranged old newspapers. Walked out and visited with tracts. Read. Rev. Mr. Taylor, of Boston, came here at evening and delivered a long, eccentric, very good temperance address.<sup>6</sup> The meeting-house was very full. We had a contribution for him. Quite cold.

<sup>1</sup> Where Rev. Jonathan Bigelow was settled, in the old Central Church of Rochester.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Richard Salter Storrs, D. D., of Braintree.

<sup>3</sup> Judge Theron Metcalf, LL. D., born in Franklin, Mass., 1784; graduated at Brown University, 1805; a well-known lawyer and judge.

<sup>4</sup> Wife of his brother, Rev. Francis Le Baron Robbins, of Enfield, Ct.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Erastus Maltby, pastor at Taunton, 1826-1883. His acting pastorate ceased, 1870, but he was not dismissed.

<sup>6</sup> That is a very good description of Father Taylor's style of work. He reached his ends in his own original way.

5. This morning we had a hard frost. The first, through divine mercy, to stop vegetation. Walked and distributed tracts. Some rain.

6. Mr. Crosby is fixing away, with more than fifty men, for Louisiana.<sup>1</sup> Went aboard the vessel and gave tracts. Received of James Dexter, \$38, and indorsed it on his note. Visited a young school. Wrote. Wrote on the school papers. Had also of Mr. Dexter an order of \$5; the indorsement is \$43. Wrote to W. Bourne, Esq., Middleborough.

7. Wrote on a sermon begun last Saturday. Am quite ill. Mr. Crosby, with his company, sailed this morning. Read. Could not finish my writing.

8. Preached with notes on Gal. ii: 16, 17, and a sermon on Rom. ii: 4. Quite cool. Wore my cloak. Had a class in the Sabbath-school. Had a good evening meeting and spoke on Matt. v: 17. Not as much fatigued as I expected.

9. We had a hard frost. Distributed tracts. Rode in the stage to Bedford. The ship Oregon, in which was my sister Robbins's son,<sup>2</sup> has been wrecked at Taheita in the Pacific; the men and about two thirds of the oil saved. My sister has a severe trial, with great mercies. Attended in the evening a magnificent exhibition of sacred music. Cold.

10. Rode home. Very dry. The mills are much in want of water. Wrote to H. Mann, Esq. Walked and visited with tracts. There is a great crop of potatoes of the best quality, and I think a good crop of corn. At evening attended my Bible class; thin.

11. Warm. Wrote. On the 9th paid Mr. Underwood, \$9.30; the amount collected May 14th for our Sabbath-school, for books received for the library. Quite warm. Thermometer about 80°. Visited a school. Mr. Breed, of Nantucket, came here to exchange on the next Sabbath. Attended the evening meeting; quite thin. Worked some at Mr. Crosby's hay, heating in the barn. Wrote.

12. Left home early and was conveyed to Bedford by Mr. Hammond, and took the steamboat and came to Nantucket. Had an unpleasant sickness during the passage.<sup>3</sup> Kindly received at Mr. Breed's. Find acquaintance and friends. Am quite feeble. Read.

13. Was kept very busy riding and visiting schools through the day. Dined out. A rainy day; refreshing to the dry ground. Was with Mr. Mann. He was here before me.<sup>4</sup> Visited former acquaintance. This town has borne the hard times well. Wrote.

14. The clouds did not pass away last evening till the eclipse<sup>5</sup> was mostly passed. Mr. Mann delivered an elegant and appropriate address to a respectable audience in the forenoon. The people, the leading men

<sup>1</sup> It has been before stated that they were going down there to cut timber.

<sup>2</sup> Gideon S. Alden.

<sup>3</sup> The voyage to Nantucket was not usually a pleasure voyage.

<sup>4</sup> This exchange was arranged, probably,

so that Dr. Robbins might be at Nantucket with Hon. Horace Mann on this business of the common schools.

<sup>5</sup> This was a total eclipse of the moon, commencing at 4.47 in the afternoon and ending at 8.19 in the evening.

of the town, formed a convention for the encouragement of common schools. Dined with a considerable company. At evening there was a much larger meeting; the convention passed several resolutions, approving of the Board of Education, etc., and there was considerable speaking. Made some calls.

15. Preached for Mr. Breed on 1 John i: 7, and Matt. v: 5. This is a large and fine congregation. Their meeting-house has been enlarged. Attended the Sabbath-school. The largest, I think, I have seen; near five hundred in the whole. The evening meeting was omitted, and by the special request of the school convention Mr. Mann repeated his address to a great audience in the Unitarian meeting-house. After the meeting was with some company. Took tea at Dr. Fearing's.

16. At nine o'clock took the boat with Mr. Mann and others and came to New Bedford. Was seasick the most of the way. Met Mr. Breed on the wharf. Stopped at Fairhaven, and came home at evening. Warm and pleasant. Attended my small Bible class. My passage was paid by Mr. Breed's people. His preaching here was highly acceptable.

17. Wrote. Read. Am fatigued with late labors. Visited. Walked to Dea. Hammond's, and preached in the evening on Matt. v: 17. Was up late.

18. Took the stage and rode to Barnstable; about thirty-five miles. The first time I have been on the Cape. Found Mr. Mann. This, Barnstable, is not as much of a town as I expected, and Sandwich is more. Quite cool.

19. In the morning rode three and a half miles to Yarmouth and back. Called there on Capt. Joseph Eldridge,<sup>1</sup> father of Mr. Eldridge, of Norfolk. A public meeting was held in the court-house on the subject of schools. Mr. Mann delivered his address. Delegates from most of the towns in the county were present. A very good spirit appeared. A cold day. In the evening rode to Yarmouth and tarried at Capt. Eldridge's. This family and their connections are quite respectable, and in good circumstances. Sandwich, Barnstable, and Yarmouth are towns of pretty good land.

20. Took the stage before daylight and rode home. Quite fatigued. Read. Afternoon rainy.

21. The stage fare of my last journey was high. Warm and pleasant. Mr. H. Barrows called on me. His sister here deceased this week at Dartmouth. Received a letter from their father. Mr. Emerson and Mr. Lord, from Bedford, were here some time. Wrote an addition to a sermon for the funeral. Wrote to my sister Battell.

22. Have much expected my brother to be here today. In the morning

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<sup>1</sup> His house, standing on a slightly elevated ground on the south side of the main street in Yarmouth, has been refitted, and has been occupied for several years by Azariah Eldridge, D. D., who is the younger brother of Joseph Eldridge, D. D., formerly

of Norfolk. Both these brothers married nieces of Dr. Robbins, they being the daughters of Joseph Battell, Esq. Dr. Joseph married the eldest daughter, Sarah Battell, and Dr. Azariah the youngest daughter, Ellen Battell.

expounded on Acts viii: 1-26. Attended the funeral of 'Miss Barrows.<sup>1</sup> Afternoon preached a sermon on Job xvi: 22. Very full meeting. Mr. Barrows preached at the evening meeting. Quite cool. Mrs. Crosby is feeble.

23. Took the stage and rode to Plymouth. They carried me in a wagon from Wareham. Warm. Kindly received as at Barnstable and Nantucket. Went with Mr. Mann and visited the high school for ladies; in fine order.<sup>2</sup> Spent the evening at Mr. Davis's.<sup>3</sup> Kept at Mr. Russell's.<sup>4</sup> Gave several of my sermons at Uncle Le Baron's funeral.

24. Went a little while into Supreme Court; the five judges present. A meeting was held in the town-house respecting schools. Delegates from most of the towns were present. They formed a county convention. Afternoon at a numerous meeting in Dr. Kendall's church Mr. Mann delivered his address, which was received, as at other places, with the highest approbation, and resolutions were passed. At the evening meeting, in the Universalist meeting-house, Mr. Brooks,<sup>5</sup> of Hingham, delivered an address on education, and other resolves were passed.

25. Rode home in the stage. Found my brother Francis and wife at Capt. Le Baron's. He spent last Sabbath at Fall River. He returned to Fairhaven. Attended the evening meeting. Visited. Stage fare between here and P. is reduced.

26. Wet. Wrote the preceding nine days of diary. Read. A steamboat has been lost with ninety lives near Cape Hatteras. Walked out. Took some cold.

27. Read. Wrote the most of a large report for our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. Wet, but little rain. Wrote to brother Francis.

28. Finished my report. Mrs. Crosby is quite feeble. Mr. Nott called on me. My brother came here from Bedford. Drank tea at Capt. Freeman's.

29. Cold and very rough easterly weather. My brother preached in the forenoon, at Fairhaven in the afternoon, and returned and preached for us in the evening in the vestry. I preached in the afternoon a sermon on John iv: 29. We closed our Sabbath-school for the present season. It has done well. Francis and I slept at Mrs. Mayhew's. He was quite fatigued.

30. Rode to Rochester on the business of the school committee. We dined at Capt. Freeman's. Cold. Rode with my brother to Bedford. At evening our cousin Alden had quite a party. There were seven ministers. Slept at Mr. Holmes's.

31. Looked at Mr. Hathaway's fine paintings. Met with our Association<sup>6</sup> at Mr. Holmes's. All the members present. My brother with us. Still cold and tedious wind. Attended ordinary business. The meeting in the even-

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<sup>1</sup> The body was brought from Dartmouth, where she died.

<sup>2</sup> For a man who is almost habitually feeble and out of health, Dr. Robbins accomplishes an almost incredible amount of labor.

<sup>3</sup> Judge John Davis, L.L. D.

<sup>4</sup> Nathaniel Russell, who married his cousin Martha Le Baron.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Charles Brooks.

<sup>6</sup> Old Colony Association.

ing, Mr. Nott preached. The meeting-house was very bad for hearing. Wrote to my cousin, Capt. J. Le Baron, and, on my brother's account, to Mr. Eben Parsons, of Enfield.

NOVEMBER.

1. Gave Mr. Briggs,<sup>1</sup> of North Rochester, towards their parsonage-house, \$1. Paid for repairing my watch, \$1. Paid for candles, \$1. My brother took on Monday twenty of Uncle Le Baron's funeral sermons for sister Battell, and ten for himself, and paid me \$1. We finished associational business. Crossed to Fairhaven and back, and settled the accounts of the Missionary Society with Mr. Church, the treasurer. At evening we had the annual meeting of our Old Colony Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. Read my report. The meeting was interesting and respectable. Rode home. The weather has become clear and mild. Found my brother and wife at cousin John's<sup>2</sup> and tarried there with them.
2. My friends, after a very good visit, left us for Plymouth and home. Read. Am fatigued with labors. Wrote on the records of our Home Missionary Society.
3. Walked a distance and distributed tracts. Read. At evening attended the Bible class; thin. Visited. Was out late.
4. Very pleasant. Wrote seven days of diary. Wrote one half of a sermon, begun some time since, on Rom. viii: 6, and finished it. Rev. Mr. Wilbur,<sup>3</sup> lecturer on astronomy, came here and tarried. Wrote late in the evening.
5. Wet and cold. Mr. Wilbur preached in the morning and at the evening meeting, and very well. Preached in the afternoon on Rom. viii: 6. Meetings thin. Some of the time quite rainy. Gave notice for Mr. Wilbur's lectures.
6. Cold and windy. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. We examined and approved of school-masters. At evening attended Mr. Wilbur's lecture. It was quite interesting and very well attended.
7. Took the stage and rode to Plymouth to see and hear Mr. Daniel Webster.<sup>4</sup> He delivered a public political address in the court-house yard. A performance worthy of his high character. A great collection of people. Was introduced to Mr. W. Tarried at young Mr. Russell's.
8. Rode home. Very cold. Received a long letter from sister Battell. Read. At evening attended our monthly concert, which had been deferred. Visited. Last evening had a second lecture, and left here this morning.

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs.

<sup>2</sup> John Le Baron.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Harvey Wilbur, probably, who received the honorary degree of A. M. from Dartmouth College in 1812. He died in 1852, aged sixty-four.

<sup>4</sup> In the fall before (1836) Webster had received the electoral vote of Massachusetts

for President. But it amounted to nothing beyond this local testimony in his honor. Webster was then fifty-four years old, and in the full tide of his strength. The fall campaign for State election was now on hand, and Edward Everett was re-elected Governor, and continued by re-election until 1840.

Last Sabbath brother Francis preached at Plymouth for Dr. Kendall and Mr. Hall,<sup>1</sup> and went on his journey on Monday.

9. Last night it froze hard. Read. Walked a distance and distributed tracts and visited. There is a zealous electioneering through the State.

10. Wrote. Warmer. Spend too much time reading newspapers. Am appointed one of the committee in this school district. Attended our Bible class; improving. Consulted with our district school committee. Wrote a long letter to sister Battell.

11. Began a sermon on Ps. cxix: 6. We have,<sup>2</sup> through divine mercy, most grateful news from the election in New York.<sup>3</sup> Much hindered by company. Wrote.

12. Rainy. The morning meeting quite thin. Preached with notes both parts of the day on Isa. lv: 3. After meeting rode to Orcoot<sup>4</sup> and visited an aged man apparently near dying. Returned and went in late to our evening meeting. Read late.

13. A remarkably mild, pleasant day. The annual election through this State. The subject of late has been very exciting. Read. They have done wonders in the State of New York. It is the good work of our fathers' God. Vote in this town, Whig, 271; V. B. 125. Wrote.

14. It rained and snowed all day. Afternoon a hard snow-storm. Read. Visited. Wrote to Benjamin Perkins,<sup>4</sup> of Boston, to Mr. H. Mann, of Boston, and to Mr. C. C. Cambreling,<sup>5</sup> of New York. Wrote late. Yesterday wrote school records.

15. The accounts of the elections in this State are most unexpectedly favorable. It is all of the grace of God. Looked over my old file of the Connecticut *Courant* and wrote a piece for that paper. The snow is three or four inches. Thermometer in the morning, 23°. Attended the evening meeting.

16. Read. Walked to the Neck, visited, and in the evening had a meeting. Preached on Ps. cxxiii: 2. Was brought home.

17. Read. The result of the elections in this State and New York is a matter of great thankfulness, and I think most powerfully affects the national government. Read. Dined out. Visited. Received a letter from Mr. E. W. Robinson,<sup>6</sup> a candidate at Assonet, and wrote to him. The snow wastes.

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<sup>1</sup> That is to say, he occupied the pulpits both of the Unitarian and the Trinitarian churches.

<sup>2</sup> But New York that year re-elected William L. Marcy, a Democratic Governor. The Whig gain was in the House of Representatives and Senate.

<sup>3</sup> This locality, which Dr. Robbins has several times mentioned, we have not identified. It seems to have been within the bounds of Rochester.

<sup>4</sup> Treasurer of the Massachusetts Home Missionary Society.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. Churchill C. Cambreling was born in Washington, N. C., 1786, and died at West Neck, L. I., 1862. He was a merchant, but was a Member of Congress from New York, 1821-1839.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Ebenezer W. Robinson, born in Granville, N. Y., 1812; graduated at Hamilton College, 1834; settled at Freetown (Assonet), Mass., May 2, 1838.



18. Warmer, and the snow is mostly gone. Wrote the most of the sermon begun last Saturday, and completed, on Ps. cxix: 6. Received a letter from Mr. Putnam,<sup>1</sup> of Middleborough.

19. A little wet in the morning, but a good day. Expounded on Acts viii: 16 to the end, and preached the sermon finished yesterday. Afternoon meeting quite full. Thermometer rose to 65°. Spoke at the evening meeting on 1 Cor. ii: 2. Read late in Bancroft's *History of the United States*.<sup>2</sup>

20. The late election in New York is producing a great effect in the country. Read. Hindered by company. Visited. Read Bancroft.

21. Warm. Wrote. Thermometer at 63°. Read. Walked to Pine Islands, visited, had a meeting in the evening, and preached on Matt. xxii: 42.

22. Wrote to Mr. Putnam, of Middleborough. My eyes are something weak. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Benjamin Perkins, of Boston. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting. Thin. Wet.

23. Wrote laboriously on a long piece I begun yesterday on abolition, for the *Recorder*. It requires much labor. Received of my collector, \$51.50. Paid Mr. Cannon for my new cherry book-case, \$5; with \$20 before, \$25. I have paid about \$5 for materials, making the cost \$30. Paid for furniture, \$3.21. Visited.

24. Wrote and finished a part of my abolition address. Warm. At evening Mr. Robinson came here from Assonet to exchange. Attended my Bible class.

25. In the evening we had a hard rain. Afterward set out with Mr. Jesse Hammond and rode to Assonet. Cold. Find here a full covering of snow on the ground, though there was none with us. Kept at Capt. Nichols's.

26. We had a cold night. Preached on 1 John i: 7, and Luke xxii: 15. After the afternoon meeting administered the sacrament.<sup>3</sup> This church is small, but appears well. Mr. Andros<sup>4</sup> was here from Berkley. Paid him for supplying me last June, \$10. Mr. Anthony,<sup>5</sup> the candidate, was here. Preached in the evening on Ps. cxix: 6. This people are small, but ought to be large; the only meeting of consequence in Freetown. Mr. Robinson is doing well here.

27. Sleighs might move well. Made calls. This village has more property than enterprise. Afternoon rode home. The ground is hard frozen. No snow this side of Freetown. Had company.

28. Thermometer this morning about 20°, but rose to 50°. Read. Wrote. Mr. Robinson performed here very acceptably. Began a sermon on Gen. xxxii: 10.

29. Wrote and finished my sermon begun yesterday. Occupied with

<sup>1</sup> Israel W. Putnam, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> The first volume of Bancroft's *History* appeared in 1834.

<sup>3</sup> This explains the reason for the exchange. Mr. Robinson being only a candi-

date, and not yet ordained, could not, by church usage, administer the sacrament.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Thomas Andros.

<sup>5</sup> Julius Cæsar Anthony, who studied theology, but did not enter the ministry.

company. Pleasant and warm. Wrote late. Paid for horse hire, \$1. Other things, \$1.15.

30. Thanksgiving. Preached my sermon on Gen. xxxii: 10.<sup>1</sup> Spoke on the subject of abolition. Full meeting. Most of the men wore no out-coats. Dined at Capt. Le Baron's, with company. At evening was at W. Barstow's. Yesterday we had a good letter from Mr. Crosby. We had our usual contribution for poor widows.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Rode to New Bedford. Did errands. Paid the printer one half of charge for Uncle Le Baron's funeral sermon, \$10. Paid my merchant tailor, \$15. For candles, ninety cents. Dined at Mr. Ricketson's.<sup>2</sup> Returned in the stage. At evening attended my Bible class. Read.

2. Rode to Rochester and met the school committee. We examined and approved of teachers. Received a letter from Mr. Brooks,<sup>3</sup> of Hingham, and one from Hon. C. C. Cambreling, of New York. Paid post office, forty cents.

3. Warm and pleasant. Preached with notes on Rev. ii: 7, and administered the sacrament. The church quite full. Afternoon had a full meeting and preached a sermon on Heb. vii: 25. At the evening meeting spoke on John vi: 33, etc.

4. Wrote to A. H. Seabury, Bedford. Read. There are unhappy troubles in Canada.<sup>4</sup> Dined out. Sawed wood. Attended the monthly concert of prayer. Read late. Wrote.

5. Very pleasant for the season. Visited a school. Read. The late mob in Alton, Ill.,<sup>5</sup> excites much attention. Received a letter from Mr. Putnam, of Middleborough. At evening attended the annual meeting of our singing society. Wrote to the editor of the *Columbian Centinel*, Boston.

6. Rode to Tripp's Mills; visited and distributed tracts. Saw Mrs. Hovey, aged ninety-four, and Mrs. Tripp, her daughter, who takes care of her, aged seventy-five.<sup>6</sup> Attended the evening meeting. Read.

<sup>1</sup> A curious text for an abolition (anti-abolition) sermon: "I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast showed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands."

<sup>2</sup> D. Ricketson, Esq.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Charles Brooks.

<sup>4</sup> What is known as the Papineau Rebellion was then in progress. Louis Joseph Papineau, born in Montreal in 1789, became a leader of the radical party, which, going on from step to step, finally outgrew its leader, who counseled more peaceable measures, and an open outbreak followed. The rebels were attacked and defeated at St. Eustace, Dec. 14, 1837, and again at Toronto, Jan. 5,

1838, by Sir Francis Head. This quelled the rebellion. Papineau lived to the age of seventy-two, dying in September, 1871.

<sup>5</sup> "On the night of Nov. 7, 1837, a mob attacked the premises at Alton, Ill., where the Rev. Elijah P. Lovejoy was printing his abolition newspaper, the *Observer*, in order to destroy his press, as had already been done once at Alton and once at St. Louis. After the attack had been repulsed once or twice by Mr. Lovejoy and a few citizens who stood by him, he was shot as he stepped out of his door. The leading rioters were tried and acquitted."—*Haydn's Dictionary of Dates*.

<sup>6</sup> Born when her mother was nineteen years old.

7. Wrote an extract of my Thanksgiving sermon for the newspaper. Sawed and carried up wood. Visited a school, and preached in the evening in an out neighborhood, to a good number, on John x: 10. People plowing.

8. Read the President's long, tedious Message. Attended my Bible class. Assisted in examining two school-masters. Wrote an extract from my late Thanksgiving sermon for the Bedford newspaper.

9. Read. Cold. We have had very pleasant weather this month, till last night it became cold. Thermometer this morning at 16°. Afternoon rode in a chaise to Middleborough to exchange with Mr. Putnam; twenty miles. Met him on the road. Good traveling.

10. It snowed moderately through the day. Preached on Ps. cxix: 6, and 1 John i: 7. But few at meeting. The meeting-house is large and elegant. Had no evening meeting. Mr. P. has a pleasant family.

11. The snow is five or six inches deep. Read. Dark and snowy. Mr. Putnam got home after noon. Bad traveling. Wrote part of a long letter to Mr. Crosby. Rode with Mr. P. to the Four Corners,<sup>1</sup> and at evening attended a meeting of school committee and teachers. Tarried at Mr. Washburn's. A fine house and family.

12. Rode home. The most of the way the road was open and passable traveling. Capt. Le Baron took nothing for his horse and chaise. The snow here about the same as at Middleborough. Received a letter (a notice) from Gov. Everett. Read.

13. Wrote. There is a good deal of sleighing. Visited a sick child. Read abolitionism; poor enough.<sup>2</sup> On the 9th put on my flannel; not before. Wrote and finished my long letter to Mr. Crosby.<sup>3</sup> At evening we had a good meeting.

14. Cold. Thermometer about 10°. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper. Visited. Assisted in examining a school-master. Read in *Roman History*.

15. Received a letter from Mr. John Stoddard, of Fairhaven, with a present from Capt. Henry Huttleston of a silver coin, a Roman *denarius*,<sup>4</sup> found in England. Received of my neighbor and friend, Mr. Leonard Hammond, a present of \$25. Thermometer this morning about 5°, and rose with a clear sun to 26°. Read. At evening attended the Bible class. Sleighs and wheels move considerably.

16. Thermometer 8°. Visited. Wrote on the subject of capital punishments. Brought up wood. Dea. Crosby is quite unwell.

17. Thermometer 17°. Expounded on Acts ix: 1-23, and preached a sermon on Ex. ix: 26. It snowed some. People well out. Had a serious good meeting in the evening, and spoke on Luke xix: 10. Read.

<sup>1</sup> About two miles and a half.

<sup>2</sup> And this opinion, thus expressed without qualification, would be regarded now as not worth much.

<sup>3</sup> Dea. Crosby, it will be remembered, was now down in Louisiana cutting timber.

<sup>4</sup> The Roman *denarius*, so named as containing the value of ten pieces of the coin called the *as*, was worth about seventeen cents of our money. This piece was left in England, doubtless, at the time of the Roman invasion.

18. A violent storm of rain, which carried off the snow. Had newspapers badly wet by water leaking into the house. Wrote to President Adams,<sup>1</sup> Washington. Visited. Thermometer near 50°. Read.

19. Clear weather and not cold. Visited two schools. Received of my collector, \$15. Also, \$5. Read. Wrote on a piece for a newspaper.

20. Cold. Received a good letter from sister Battell. Received a letter from Dea. Emerson, of Bedford, and wrote him in answer. Walked to the Neck and visited a school. Was brought home in a cold evening. Wrote.

21. Thermometer 8°. Rode in the stage to Plymouth. Last evening our meeting was held without me. Kept at Mr. Russell's. Good wheeling. Made some calls. Took tea with Dr. Kendall. He is soon to have a colleague.<sup>2</sup>

22. Attended the anniversary services.<sup>3</sup> A cold clear day. Thermometer at 5°. We had a procession to Dr. Kendall's meeting-house. The doctor prayed very well, and Mr. Hall<sup>4</sup> delivered a very good address. Dined with several ministers at Esq. Robbins's.<sup>5</sup> At evening was at Mr. Davis's.<sup>6</sup> The Standish Guards appear well.

23. Thermometer 10°. The harbor here is frozen over. Was brought to Wareham, and then came in the Sandwich stage. Stopped a few minutes at home, and rode on to Fairhaven to exchange. Found Mr. Manning,<sup>7</sup> of Dartmouth, at Mr. Gould's, and he went to Mattapoisett. Made some calls.

24. Warmer. The ground is covered with snow. Preached on Ps. cxix: 6, and 2 Cor. v: 11. A good congregation. Went into the Sabbath-school. At evening preached without notes in the vestry on 1 Cor. ii: 2. Read. Quite fatigued. Visited a sick child.

25. Walked to Bedford. The snow wastes. Did errands. Visited Mr. Holmes. Took the stage and came home, gladly. Read.

26. Thermometer rose to 45°. The snow is about gone. Wrote. Dined out. Capt. Le Baron paid me \$10, one half the sum I paid the printer for his father's funeral sermon. Read. Am fatigued by late labors. Went into our singing-school. Read Graham's<sup>8</sup> *History of the United States*.

27. Cold. Walked and visited our north school. At evening we had a good meeting. Read late.

28. Received a letter from D. Ricketson, of Bedford. Went into two

<sup>1</sup> John Quincy Adams was President from 1825 to 1829. In 1831 he was sent to Congress, where by re-election he was continued till his death in 1848.

<sup>2</sup> He had been sole pastor thirty-eight years.

<sup>3</sup> Forefathers' Day.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Robert B. Hall.

<sup>5</sup> Josiah Robbins, Esq.

<sup>6</sup> Judge John Davis, LL. D.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Abel Manning, probably, born in Sterling, Mass., 1738; graduated at Brown

University, 1817; studied theology with Dr. Emmons.

<sup>8</sup> James Grahame, LL. D., born in Glasgow, Scotland, 1790. He was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, Eng. He first published two volumes of his *History of the United States* in 1827. In 1836 appeared an edition in four volumes, bringing the history down to 1776. Though born in Scotland, and educated in England, his work was in full sympathy with the American cause, as against England.

schools with Mr. Taylor.<sup>1</sup> Moderate weather. Went out to tea with Mrs. Crosby. Wrote, copying a piece for the newspaper.

29. Remarkably pleasant. Thermometer up to 45°. Wrote. Visited. Attended the Bible class. Abolition makes a good deal of disturbance in the country.

30. Warm. Thermometer about 50°. Finished copying three numbers for a Boston paper on capital punishments. Walked and visited. We have had thirty deaths this year. Yesterday and today have brought up a good deal of wood. Wrote an addition to a sermon on Jer. ix: 1 for the close of the year. Preparing for my journey.

31. Cooler, but not cold. Preached with notes on Ps. lxviii: 20, and a sermon on Jer. ix: 1. Spoke of the close of the year in the manner of the common New Year's Sabbath. We have had thirty deaths; the greater part children. At evening had the monthly concert. Spoke on Ps. xxii: 6. After the meeting rode to Bedford. Kindly accommodated at Dea. Emerson's. God be praised for the mercies of the year.

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Theodore K. Taylor, the Universalist preacher.

## 1838.

### JANUARY.

1. Was called early, after little sleep. Endeavored to commit my interests and those of the church to the keeping of his glorious grace for the coming year. Took the stage at five o'clock,<sup>1</sup> and rode to Taunton. Called on Mr. Maltby.<sup>2</sup> Took the railroad and arrived at Boston at half past eleven. The traveling very fine. Went into the Council Chamber, where the Board of Education had commenced business.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Mann made a very good report. Put up at the Bromfield House.<sup>4</sup> Did errands. Much fatigued.

2. Attended a session of the Board of Education. Engaged tracts for our next distribution. Paid Little & Brown, \$30.00, and procured of them some choice books; Burnham, of the antique bookstore, \$9.25, and balanced his account. Visited at Mr. Hastings's. Paid for the *Recorder* for this year, \$2.50. Walked to South Boston, and tarried at Mr. Fairchild's. The weather mild and pleasant. Paid for gloves, \$1.75.

3. Have taken some cold. The election day<sup>5</sup> excites little attention. Very pleasant. Walked in procession with the Legislature; few ministers present. Old South not filled. Walked to Roxbury. My cousin Peter and his wife absent. Returned to Boston. Find various acquaintance. The public men appear very harmonious. Dr. Storrs<sup>6</sup> preached exceeding well.

4. Took the cars and came to New Bedford in about five hours. The stage riding was hard; most of the frost is out of the ground. Rode home in the afternoon. Read. Walked out.

5. Am a good deal fatigued. Wrote. Worked at my wood. Read. There is much unhappy excitement in the country about abolition. Visited. At evening had a good Bible class.

6. Wrote. Walked out. Warm and pleasant. We have a remarkable winter. The mercury is often above 50°. Had company. Read expositors.

7. Expounded on Acts ix: 23 to the end. Preached a sermon on Luke xix: 41, 42. Had a full and solemn evening meeting. Spoke on John x: 23-28.

8. Received a letter from Little & Brown, of Boston. Made this my forty-third almanack and diary.<sup>7</sup> Wrote thus far. At evening rode out and

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<sup>1</sup> This helps to recall the old time ways of traveling.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Erastus Maltby, who was then in the eleventh year of his long ministry at Taunton.

<sup>3</sup> This journey to Boston was evidently in the interests of the Board of Education.

<sup>4</sup> Long one of the comfortable and home-like hotels of Boston, where many old travelers were wont to stop. It stood on the

spot now occupied by the Methodist headquarters on Bromfield Street.

<sup>5</sup> Election day here has its old-fashioned use, meaning the day when the Legislature came together.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Richard S. Storrs, D.D., of Braintree.

<sup>7</sup> The almanac for 1838 was the *Farmer's*, prepared by Robert B. Thomas, published and sold by Charles J. Hendee, Boston.

performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup> Visited a sick woman. Read. There are painful warlike commotions on our Niagara frontier.<sup>2</sup>

9. Read. Visited. Dined out. Walked to the Neck. Visited and preached in the evening on John x: 23, etc. Baptized two children.<sup>3</sup> Was brought home. Read late in Herodian's *Roman History*.<sup>4</sup> Received our tracts for quarterly distribution.

10. Read. Walked and distributed tracts. Visited a school. Preached in the evening at Dea. Hammond's, on Mark i: 40, 41. After long mild weather it is now colder.

11. Thermometer about 15°. Quite cold. Walked, visited, and distributed tracts all day. Dined out. Wrote. Mrs. Mayhew paid me \$1.00 for funeral sermons.

12. Warm again. Thermometer near 50°. Visited and distributed tracts. Walked to the light-house. At evening attended the Bible class. Read.

13. We scarcely have any freezing at night. People plow. Wrote a sermon on Rev. xxii: 11, one half by candle-light. Walked out.

14. Preached with notes on Rom. v: 6, and the sermon written yesterday. Walked to and from the meeting-house twice. Full meetings. At evening spoke on John viii: 12. Wrote to my neighbor, Esq. Meigs,<sup>5</sup> now a Senator at Boston.

15. Walked and distributed tracts. Visited. At evening attended the annual meeting of our Temperance Society. Last night a pretty hard rain. Read late. Dined out.

16. Busy in visiting with my tracts. Had company. Wrote part of a letter for my friend, Mr. Hammond, to go to Washington. Dined out. The country is a good deal agitated by abolition.<sup>6</sup>

17. Assisted Mr. Hammond with regard to his letter. Visited. Gave tracts. Had company. Paid Mr. Nye by Mr. Crosby towards my mahogany book-case, \$28.62. The whole cost is \$50.00. Wet; had no evening meeting. Wrote.

18. Wet and rainy, and quite warm. Worked at newspapers. Wrote on abolition for a newspaper. Have a bad cold, and am feeble.

19. Wrote on abolition.<sup>7</sup> Read. Rainy. Am quite hoarse. Received a good letter from brother Francis. Attended the Bible class. Visited.

<sup>1</sup> The persons united in marriage were Edmund Merrihew and Charity Simmons.

<sup>2</sup> This was in the time of the Papineau Rebellion in Canada, when many American citizens assisted the Canadian insurgents. Dec. 29, 1837, the American Steamer *Caroline* was attacked and burned by the British, in American waters. This led to complications between the two governments, which were finally adjusted without war.

<sup>3</sup> These were William George Cornell and John Mayo, sons of Mr. James Hammond.

<sup>4</sup> Herodian is supposed to have been a

Greek, born at Alexandria in Egypt, and living in the third century of the Christian era. He wrote a *History of Rome*, in eight books, reaching from the death of Marcus Aurelius to the death of Gordian III, A. D. 244.

<sup>5</sup> Joseph Meigs, Esq.

<sup>6</sup> This agitation never grew any less, but was continually on the increase until it involved the nation in civil war.

<sup>7</sup> Dr. Robbins took the conservative side strongly on this question of American slavery.

20. Cold. Thermometer about 20°. Visited and gave tracts. Read. Worked some. Wrote. Am feeble with my cold.

21. Thermometer last evening 20°, this morning higher. Preached a double sermon on Matt. vii: 13, 14. Am very hoarse, and speak with much difficulty. Morning meeting quite short. We had a collection to supply the stoves in the meeting-house.<sup>1</sup> Had a full evening meeting, and spoke on Eph. ii: 4, 5. I cough a good deal. Took medicine.

22. Kept my bed late. Am quite feeble. My cough is hard. Read. Wrote. Visited a little. Had company. Received of my collector, \$29.00.

23. Walked and gave tracts. Visited a school. Received a letter from Dr. S. B. Woodward, of Worcester.<sup>2</sup> My cough is burdensome. Wrote on abolition. Worked at my wood.

24. Remarkably mild and pleasant. Visited and gave tracts. Made two long visits. Attended the evening meeting. Wrote. My cough is bad.

25. Last night my cough became very hard. Slept little. Am quite ill. Did not go out of the yard. Read a little. Wrote to Dr. Woodward, of Worcester.

26. My cough is no better. I think it is the hardest I ever had. Took physic. Kept house closely. Wet and rainy. Read. Am quite weak.

27. Hope I am a little better. Walked out a little. My lungs are very irritable. Wrote.

28. Last night we had a hard rain. The frost seems to be wholly out of the ground. Last night, through mercy, rested quietly. My cough abates, but I am quite weak. Rode to meeting; had sermons read. The deacons performed. I assisted a little. Did not go out in the evening. Read the Bible. Wrote. Received of Capt. Freeman, \$10.00.

29. Wrote to S. G. Goodrich, Senator,<sup>3</sup> Boston; and to D. Thaxter, Fairhaven. Walked out a little. Read. Colder and snow-squalls. Dr. Perkins, of West Hartford, is dead, aged eighty-nine.<sup>4</sup>

30. Very cold through the day. Thermometer in the morning at 12°. It rose but little. Paid Mr. Barstow for Fairhaven Bank, \$55.13, and gave a new note of \$250.00. Read. Had company. Wrote copying a piece for a newspaper.

31. Thermometer at 6°, and rose in a clear day to 22°. My cough is better, but lungs are very weak. Wrote transcribing. Read Gibbon. At

<sup>1</sup> That is, to supply the fuel for the winter fires.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Bayard Woodward, M. D., one of the eminent physicians of New England. From 1832 to 1846 he was at the head of the State Lunatic Asylum at Worcester. He was born in Torrington, Ct., in 1787, and died in Northampton, Mass., in 1850.

<sup>3</sup> This was the same Samuel Griswold Goodrich (Peter Parley) whom we met often at Hartford, in the first volume of this diary.

He had now been in Boston several years. Books from his pen, especially the Peter Parley books, had an immense circulation, estimated at 7,000,000 copies.

<sup>4</sup> Many references have already been made to Dr. Nathan Perkins. His ministry was not only a notable one for its length, 1772-1838, sixty-six years, but also for the large number of theological students instructed by him, and the far larger number of boys fitted by him for college.



evening had a very ill turn in consequence of taking too much antimony. Sickness and vomiting. I hope it will prove salutary.<sup>1</sup>

## FEBRUARY.

1. Thermometer about 10°. Read. Our harbor was frozen over this morning, but broke up before night. Walked out. I find a need of exercise. Sawed wood. Visited. Wrote late.

2. Thermometer 18°. Worked some. Troubled with headache. Walked out and visited. Read. At evening attended a temperance meeting. Joined the Total Abstinence Society. Received a letter from Gov. Everett, and one from Dr. Woodward, of Worcester.<sup>2</sup> Paid a shoemaker, \$1.00.

3. Thermometer 14°. Weather cold and rough. Received pamphlets by mail. Walked out. Find the need of exercise. Wrote on my abolition. Read the Bible.

4. Thermometer 12°. Preached a double sermon on Rev. iii: 2. My hoarseness and weakness of the lungs continue. Spoke with labor and difficulty. Quite cold. Meeting thin. A very full evening meeting; spoke on Prov. xxix: 1. They have a good work of grace at Fairhaven. Read Gibbon. The ground is white with snow. A bare covering.

5. Thermometer 8°. Received a letter from Capt. Z. Barstow<sup>3</sup> at the General Court. Read. Walked and visited. Visited a school. Attended the monthly concert. My voice is in a poor state. Have considerable help at meetings. We have accounts of many appearances of revivals. The God of grace be our helper.

6. Thermometer about 12°. Wrote. We have a good deal of firm ice in the harbor. Finished my papers on abolition for the Connecticut *Courant*. Walked and visited. At evening attended a good spelling-school.<sup>4</sup>

7. Thermometer at 16°. Wrote on a letter to my brother Francis. Walked and gave tracts and visited a school. Am something lame in my feet. Had a good and full meeting. I hope we have some quickening. The work of grace goes on at Fairhaven.

8. Thermometer near freezing. The ground thaws and is muddy. Read. Good brethren called on me. My cough and hoarseness continue. Wet. At evening the brethren of the church had a meeting at my room, tender and solemn. We appointed a number to visit families. The Lord be our helper.

9. Rainy. The ground very wet. Visited a school. They have done poorly. At evening had a short Bible class, and then went to a prayer-meeting of church members. I think we have a revival in the church. Read.

10. Colder. Thermometer about 25°. Finished my letter to my brother.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins, like the people of New England generally, of his generation, was a great devourer of medicine.

<sup>2</sup> In answer to one written some days before. Dr. Robbins's correspondence with Dr. Woodward may have been *personal* rather than *professional*. Dr. Woodward

was a native of Torrington, Ct., where Dr. Robbins was well acquainted, and where he taught school forty years before.

<sup>3</sup> Zaccheus M. Barstow, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> The old-fashioned evening spelling-school was an institution greatly enjoyed by the young people.

Read the Bible. Walked out. Had company. Our religious prospects improve. Read the Bible.

11. Preached with notes on Zeph. i: 12, and a sermon on John iii: 3. Spoke with labor, but better, through mercy, than I feared. At evening spoke on John v: 25. Our meetings were full and very serious. I think we may safely say we have a revival in the church. Read late.

12. Last night we had a good deal of snow, six or eight inches. Rode to Orcoot<sup>1</sup> and visited a school. Visited and gave tracts. Sleighs move some. Thermometer this morning about 16°. Read. Mr. Gould<sup>2</sup> and some of his good brethren came and attended an evening meeting with us. It was very full and solemn. Several of our brethren are visiting families. The Lord be our helper. Read.

13. Thermometer about freezing. Was out early and visited. Wrote. The snow falls. Read. The snow thaws. Mr. Ricketson and Mr. Torrey, from Bedford, called on me. At evening attended our special church prayer-meeting. Very cordial and solemn. Dark and rainy. Tarried out. I think I have never seen the church in a more serious state.

14. Visited. Read. There is a great spirit of prayer among our good people. Very bad walking. Evening meeting full, with some engagedness. The brethren speak easy. Read late. Received a letter from S. G. Goodrich, of Roxbury, State Senator.

15. Cold. Thermometer 15°. Was out early and visited. It snowed the most of the day. Dined out. Rode in a sleigh and visited a sick woman. Poor sleighing. At evening went into our singing-school. Read.

16. Thermometer about 25°. Wrote. Rain and sleet. Kept in through the day. At evening wet and no Bible class. Walked a distance and attended a small prayer-meeting. Came home in rain and snow and water.

17. Very cold. Thermometer at 10° in the morning, and did not exceed 20° with a clear sun. At bed-time at 8°. Wrote a sermon on Acts xxviii: 23, 24. Finished in good season. Sawed and brought up wood.

18. Thermometer 14°. A considerable part of our harbor is covered with ice. The roads very icy. Preached with notes on Isa. ii: 17, and the sermon written yesterday. Quite cold, and the meeting not full. Evening meeting very full and solemn. Preached on Acts viii: 5-8. The brethren spoke after me. It seems as if the Spirit of God must be with us.

19. Thermometer at 9°. Rode in a sleigh to Bedford and Fairhaven. Good sleighing. A high wind, and very tedious. Did errands. Visited Mr. Gould and others. Our evening meeting full and very interesting. Three good men from Fairhaven were with us, and spoke very well.<sup>3</sup>

20. Thermometer 13°. No diminution of cold and wind. Read. Dined out. Very difficult walking. Dr. Cobb called on me. He was with me at the meeting last evening. At evening had our church prayer-meeting in

<sup>1</sup> This place, which sometimes has appeared in the diary as Arecoot, was one of the localities in the town of Rochester.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William Gould, of Fairhaven.

<sup>3</sup> Such visits of laymen to neighboring churches were common in former days.

Uncle Le Baron's room.<sup>1</sup> The brethren are much united and engaged. We hope and feel encouraged.

21. Thermometer 6°. The wind perhaps more severe than for two days past. The most of the ice is out of the harbor. But little moving abroad. Difficult walking. The ground is covered with thin snow and ice. Visited and dined out. Had company. Sawed wood.<sup>2</sup> At evening had a good meeting. Thermometer at evening 14°. Wrote late.

22. Thermometer 8°, and rose to near freezing. The high wind is abated. Read. Sawed wood. Rode in a sleigh to Tripp's Mills, visited, and visited a school.<sup>3</sup> The school well kept. At evening attended a small prayer-meeting. Very good. Received of my collector, \$20.00. Paid a merchant, \$4.00.

23. Thermometer 7°. Rode to Bedford. Visited Mr. Holmes. He is requested to take an extensive agency for a literary society in New York. Afternoon visited a school. They spell well; a rare attainment. At evening attended the Bible class. There were three neighborhood meetings. Pleasant, and it thawed some.

24. Thermometer 12°. Wrote a sermon on Gen. xxxii: 26-29. Pleasant. Thermometer up to freezing. Sleighing grows poor. Did not go out of our gate. Mr. Bullard, Sabbath-school agent,<sup>4</sup> called on me.

25. Thermometer at 3°. The lowest it has been this winter.<sup>5</sup> The latter part of last night it became very cold. Preached with notes on Luke xix: 27, and the sermon written yesterday. Meeting-house quite cold. Meetings very attentive, but not full. At a full evening meeting spoke on John i: 29. My hoarseness has mostly left me, through great mercy. Visited. Read. Thermometer at bed-time 14°.

26. Thermometer at 8°. For a number of days it has been the same at sunrise. Wrote. Our harbor is mostly covered with ice. No ingress or egress. Read. Mr. Roberts, of Bedford, came down and preached for us in the evening, very well, to a full meeting. Thermometer in the evening at 4°.

27. Thermometer before sunrise at 01°. The only time this winter as low as zero. Clear weather, and it thaws some each day. Read. Received a letter from Dr. Bull, of Hartford. A good work of grace in that town. Wrote an article for the newspaper. Had company. Attended the church prayer-meeting.

28. Thermometer 9°. There has been a disgraceful and fatal duel at Congress.<sup>6</sup> Read. Visited. Attended the stated prayer-meeting. Attended

<sup>1</sup> It will be remembered that his uncle, Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, died two years before. The meeting was held in his ancient study, for the sacred and hallowed influences of the place.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robbins still kept up the habit, to which he was trained in his youth, of working with his own hands.

<sup>3</sup> That is, visited families, and afterwards a school.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Asa Bullard, still actively employed (1886), at the age of eighty-two, in the same work.

<sup>5</sup> An unusually mild winter.

<sup>6</sup> The duel was between William J. Graves, of Kentucky, and Jonathan Cilley,

to a case of difficulty between two church-members. I hope it is well settled. Wrote late. Our evening appeared well.

MARCH.

1. Thermometer about 22°. The weather moderates. Rode to the Neck and visited a school that has done well. Visited. Returned in the evening, and attended a prayer-meeting; very solemn. We need exceedingly the mighty power of God.

2. Thermometer 16°. It thaws a good deal, and appears like the opening spring. Read. Wrote to my brethren, Holmes and Gould. Wrote Gov. Kent, of Maine.<sup>1</sup> At evening attended the Bible class. Visited.

3. Thermometer about 25°. Wrote a sermon on 1 Pet. iv: 18. Walked out. The snow thaws, and the surface is becoming wet. The late Congressional duel was most murderous and disgraceful. Had company. Received a letter from Mr. Holmes, of Bedford.

4. Thermometer about 16°. Very pleasant. Preached with notes on 1 Thess. v: 19, and the sermon written yesterday. Solemn and attentive audience. Afternoon very wet walking. Much of the snow is gone. The evening meeting, I think, was the fullest I have ever seen in the vestry. Preached on Isa. v: 1-6. Spoke with freedom. Appointed a fast for our people next Friday. Was out late.

5. Read. A pedlar broke my thermometer, by accident, hanging at the front door. I have had it, I believe, about twenty-five years.<sup>2</sup> Visited. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Roberts, of Bedford. Afternoon and evening a hard and violent rain. No evening meeting.

6. Pleasant spring weather. Read. Visited. The ground is very wet. At evening we had a good church prayer-meeting. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Bigelow.

7. It rained and snowed. Rode in the stage to Fairhaven, and attended meeting with Mr. Gould. A day of special prayer for divine influences on this vicinity. The good work of grace there continues. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Briggs,<sup>3</sup> of Sniptuet.

8. Rode home. Very bad riding. Wrote. Read. Afternoon visited with Mr. Taylor two schools. Our schools are very restless. Wet and it snowed. Had a small meeting in the evening. The ice is gone from the harbor.

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of Maine, and made a great sensation at the time. The encounter was at Bladensburg, Md., Feb. 24, 1838, with rifles, at eighty yards. Cilley was killed at the third fire.

<sup>1</sup> Edward Kent, LL. D., was born in Concord, N. H., in 1802, and was graduated at Harvard College in 1821. He studied law and established himself in 1825 in Bangor, and took high rank in his profession. Besides other offices, State and national, he was elected Governor of Maine in 1838, and

again in 1840. The large majority for Gov. Kent in September, 1840, was the harbinger of victory for the Whigs, and Gen. Harrison was triumphantly elected President in November following, after long years of Democratic rule.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robbins always kept a good thermometer, and took careful note of its changes. He had to pay more then for a good thermometer than it costs now.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs, of North Rochester.

9. We had set apart this day for fasting and prayer, for the influences of the Divine Spirit. We are frowned upon on account of the weather. Last night we had a snow of five or six inches. The going is very bad. Had no help from abroad as we expected. Our meetings were well attended. In the forenoon had a season of prayer; afternoon preached a sermon on Deut. xxxii: 35. Had a good meeting in the evening, and spoke on Isa. lxxv: 24. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Bigelow.<sup>1</sup> Much fatigued.

10. Rode to New Bedford. The roads are soft and very bad. Did errands. Called on Mr. Roberts. Returned to Fairhaven. Attended our evening meeting with Mr. Gould. Paid a merchant, \$4.67.

11. Mr. Gould went to Mattapoisett. Preached on Gen. xxxii: 35, and Rev. xxii: 11. At evening spoke on John i: 29. A good deal unwell. The work of grace here appears to be declining.

12. Had an ill night. Am quite feeble. Rode home in the stage. On the 9th one of our ships came into the harbor full of oil. Read. The ground is about covered with snow and water. Three good men came here from Fairhaven, and assisted at our evening meeting. It was full and solemn.

13. Walked and visited. Very pleasant. The snow is mostly gone. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Hall,<sup>2</sup> of Plymouth. Wrote to him, to Mr. Breed, of Nantucket, and Mr. Bigelow. The evening church prayer-meeting was here. I hope the Holy Spirit is with us.

14. Wrote to Capt. Barstow at the General Court. Walked and visited. Sawed wood. Had a good evening meeting. One woman has hopefully got religion. Read.

15. Walked and visited. The streets are getting dry. My cousin, Mrs. Jenney,<sup>3</sup> of Fairhaven, is here. Had a solemn evening meeting where, probably, there had never been one before. Am much occupied with the state of my people.

16. Visited. Dined out. It is a solemn time here. Read. Wrote. At evening had a very interesting meeting at my cousin Cannon's.

17. Took the stage and rode to Plymouth. Chilly, east wind. Mr. Hall has just gone to Mattapoisett.<sup>4</sup> Made calls. Saw Mr. Briggs,<sup>5</sup> Dr. Kendall's<sup>6</sup> colleague. Kept at Esq. Robbins's.<sup>7</sup>

18. We had a tedious snow-storm through the day, not freezing cold, but violent wind. We had meetings in the vestry. Preached on Rev. xxii: 11, and Gen. xxxii: 35. But few hearers. At evening a few neighbors came in, and we had a conference. There is some religious attention here.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, who was one of the ministers expected to be at the meeting.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Robert B. Hall, settled over the Third, or Pilgrimage Church, Aug. 23, 1837.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Jenney, it may be remembered, was the wife of Mr. Levi Jenney, and her father was Capt. Anselm Gibbs. Her mother was Lucy Le Baron, who, as Mrs. Gibbs, had been now for many years a widow.

<sup>4</sup> The correspondence just before was to bring about this exchange.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. George W. Briggs, a graduate of Brown University in 1825, was settled as colleague with Dr. Kendall in 1838, and continued in office until 1852.

<sup>6</sup> James Kendall, D.D., was settled in 1800.

<sup>7</sup> Josiah Robbins, Esq.

19. Made calls. Left Plymouth about noon for home. Heavy traveling. The snow about five or six inches deep. As much snow appears to have fallen here as at Plymouth. Mr. Hall had his afternoon meeting in the vestry, and did not go out in the evening; but the people did. Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow. He failed us at our evening meeting, which was well attended.

20. The snow wastes. The roads very wet. Visited. Attended the church prayer-meeting. Mrs. Crosby has received a letter from Mr. Crosby,<sup>1</sup> and I wrote one to him. Read. New Hampshire has not done as well as was hoped.

21. Wrote to Mr. Briggs, of Sniptuet, and Dea. Bartlett, of Dartmouth. Last night our light-house was lighted for the first time. Received a letter from Capt. Barstow at Boston, and one from Mr. Metcalf,<sup>2</sup> of Dedham. Walked and visited. A young woman has hopefully got religion. Read. The evening meeting full and solemn. Wrote late.

22. The snow is mostly gone except drifts. Read. Wrote to Mr. Barnard,<sup>3</sup> of the New York Legislature. One of our whale brigs came in with a good voyage. Frederic Bacon, one of our most promising youths, has died at sea of a fever. Have a good deal to do for a school. Attended the evening meeting. Wet. Visited the afflicted family. Was out late.

23. Wrote. Dined out. Read. New Hampshire has done rather poorly at the late election.<sup>4</sup> We have constant dark, chilly weather. Visited. Attended our evening meeting at Cannonville.

24. Wrote a sermon on James iv: 14. Visited. The roads are mostly dry about our village.

25. Preached with notes on Luke xiii: 3, and the sermon written yesterday, on occasion of the late death of Frederic Bacon at Porto Rico. We had the usual service of a funeral. Had a full evening meeting and solemn, and spoke on Job xlii: 5, 6.

26. Worked considerably, as far as I was able, at sawing and bringing up wood. Received a letter from brother James; he has lately lost a daughter, his youngest child, six years. Read. Wrote to Rev. Messrs. Holmes and Roberts, of Bedford. A fine ship was launched here this morning; a good launch. Had a very full evening meeting; was disappointed of assistance.

27. Rode with company to Bedford and returned. Visited Mr. Holmes. Cold. The traveling is much improved. Afternoon and evening quite a snow-storm. The church prayer-meeting pretty thin. Read.

28. Wrote. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Roberts. Dined out. Visited. At evening we had a full and serious meeting. Our whalers have been much prospered the present season.

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<sup>1</sup> Absent on his Southern enterprise.

<sup>2</sup> Judge Theron Metcalf, LL. D.

<sup>3</sup> Probably, Frederick A. P. Barnard, D. D., LL. D., a graduate of Yale, 1828, and in later years President of Columbia College.

<sup>4</sup> Isaac Hill, a prominent politician and strong Democrat, but an able man, was chosen Governor in New Hampshire four years in succession, 1836, 1837, 1838, and 1839.

29. It snowed the most of the day. Read the Bible. Afternoon attended a preparatory lecture, and preached with notes on John xv: 9. Very bad walking. Attended the evening meeting. Both meetings quite thin. Received a box of books from Boston, a valuable addition. Read late.

30. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Bullard,<sup>1</sup> of Boston. Read. Paid a merchant tailor, \$9.50. Yesterday received of my collector, \$30.50. Wrote. The snow is mostly gone. Wrote to my brother James. Visited.

31. Wrote. A very worthy woman in this neighborhood has hopefully got religion. Congress are doing better; in great confusion. Last evening read in Prescott's *Ferdinand and Isabella*.<sup>2</sup> A good work. Wrote a sermon on Ps. cxlii: 7. Have hindrances.

#### APRIL.

1. Preached with notes on 1 Thess. ii: 10, and the sermon written yesterday on Ps. cxlii: 7. Administered the sacrament. The church pretty full. A number of members are absent. Cold. My health and voice, through mercy, are good. Had a very full evening meeting, and spoke on Job xxvii: 8. Read.

2. We have cold north winds, and the ground is mostly dry. Worked for the family. Read. Visited. Attended the monthly concert. Was out late.

3. Worked some. Wrote to F. L. Alden, of Bedford. Read. Visited a woman in a severe gloom. Visited a school. Attended the church prayer-meeting.

4. Received a letter from Mr. Nott, of Wareham, and Mr. Breed, of Nantucket. Received of my collector, \$23.00. Wrote a sermon on Rom. vii: 13. My nerves are something affected.

5. Fast. Very pleasant. Preached a sermon on Lev. xxiii: 26-31, and the sermon written yesterday. At evening had a full meeting, and spoke on Heb. iv: 11. Visited. We have most grateful intelligence of the issue of the election in Connecticut. An emancipation from long bondage.<sup>3</sup> Much fatigued.

6. Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston. Received a letter from F. L. Alden, Bedford. Read. Am quite feeble. Wrote. Walked a distance and preached in the evening on Isa. v: 4. Read late.

7. Rode in stage to Fairhaven. Visited Mr. Gould. Saw Capt. Baylies,

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Asa Bullard, before noticed.

<sup>2</sup> This work by William H. Prescott, first published in 1838, in three volumes, made a great impression upon the public, and established Prescott's fame as an elegant and able historical writer. Before that time he was known for able articles in the *North American Review*, and as a contributor to Sparks's *American Biography*. Afterwards followed his *Conquest of Mexico* in 1843, his *Conquest of Peru* in 1847, and his *History of Philip II*

*of Spain*, 1855-1858. Mr. Prescott was born in Salem, 1796, graduated at Harvard, 1814, and died in Boston, 1859.

<sup>3</sup> In 1838 Hon. William W. Ellsworth was elected Governor in place of Hon. Henry W. Edwards, who had held the office by re-election for three years. The Democrats had been for some years in power both in the State and in the nation, and it was time for a change. Mr. Ellsworth filled the Governor's office nobly for four years.

of the Vineyard. Crossed to Bedford. The election success in Connecticut improves, and makes great rejoicing. Did errands. Paid \$1.50, a charge for glass for my mahogany book-case. Put up at Mr. Alden's. Read.

8. Preached on Ps. cxix: 6, and Gen. xxxii: 26. This congregation, I think, has had some increase. Mr. Roberts went yesterday to Mattapoisett. Had a small evening meeting at the vestry, and spoke on Heb. iv: 11. The Connecticut news produced a great commotion at Washington.<sup>1</sup>

9. Last night had considerable rain. Rode home by stage. Am something unwell. There was company here to look at the library<sup>2</sup> on Saturday after I left home. Read. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting.

10. Wrote to Mr. Nott, of Wareham. Read. Walked to the Neck, visited, and gave tracts. Had a meeting in the evening, and preached on Isa. v: 4. Tarried out. People are plowing. Cold.

11. Came home. Visited. Wet. Wrote to A. H. Seabury, Bedford. Attended the evening prayer-meeting; pretty thin. Wrote.

12. Capt. Freeman carried me early to Bedford, and I took the steamboat and went to Nantucket by noon. Was seasick the most of the passage.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Breed went to the Main yesterday.<sup>4</sup> Cold. Am feeble. Called on some friends.

13. Read. Visited two schools; in fine order. Visited Mr. Lincoln and others. A good deal of shipping here. The season about the same as with us.

14. Visited Mr. Thomson's school, and the Coffin school of one hundred and twenty-five scholars. Cold and rainy. The schools of this town are in the best order, and some of them very large. Read the *Great Teacher*,<sup>5</sup> an excellent work. Had company.

15. Pleasant, but cold. Preached on Ps. cxix: 6, and Gen. xxxii: 26. This is a very good congregation, the largest, I suspect, in the south part of the State. Went into the Sabbath-school. Pupils and teachers about four hundred. At evening had a meeting on account of seamen. Spoke on Isa. lx: 5. There is a prospect of the establishment of an Episcopal church here.

16. Went early to the steamboat. The wind was high and cold, and they delayed and delayed till after one o'clock, and concluded not to go. I was glad to stay. Visited. Had company. Read. Called at Capt. Carey's.

17. Took the boat at six o'clock, and came to Bedford in five and one half hours. Was partially sick the most of the passage. Came home in the stage. Received a box of books from Boston, Bayle's<sup>6</sup> great *Dictionary*,

<sup>1</sup> It portended, like the election in Maine, a change of power, which came two years later.

<sup>2</sup> Company to see the library was doubtless a very frequent circumstance. The fame of Dr. Robbins's great library was noised far abroad.

<sup>3</sup> That was his usual experience when he went to Nantucket.

<sup>4</sup> They were on an exchange.

<sup>5</sup> This was a work by Rev. John Harris, and made a strong impression. He was the author also of *Mammon; or, Covetousness the Sin of the Church*.

<sup>6</sup> Pierre Bayle, born in Carlat, France, 1647, one of the most learned scholars of his time.



French, six large folios.\* Saw Mr. Breed at Bedford. His labors here were very acceptable. His health is poor. Exchanged with him; paid nothing for my passage. At evening attended a small meeting. Very dark.

18. Am much fatigued. Wrote. The New York city election has been just saved.<sup>1</sup> Read. Received a letter from Little & Brown, of Boston, and one from C. C. Nichols at Assonet, and many pamphlets. Took the stage, and rode to Bedford. Attended a meeting of persons from several places who formed a Sabbath-school society for the limits of the Old Colony Association. At evening we had a public meeting. Mr. Bullard spoke very well. Wet. Tarried at my cousin Alden's.<sup>2</sup>

19. Rode home. Rainy. Read. Wrote. Had no evening meeting.

20. Cold for the season. Wrote. Dined out. Visited and gave tracts. At evening attended a small prayer-meeting.

21. Wrote a sermon on divine sovereignty on Rom. ix: 14, 15. I cannot write as fast as I used to do physically, and, I believe, not mentally. It is a long and hard day's work for me to write a sermon.<sup>3</sup> The spring advances slowly. Gave tracts.

22. Preached with notes on Rom. xiii: 12, and the sermon written yesterday. Full meeting. Our Sabbath-school commenced. It appears well. At evening we had a public temperance address from a Mr. Nichols, of Assonet,<sup>4</sup> in the Universalist meeting-house. Wrote.

23. Gave tracts. Received a letter from Gov. Everett, and one from Seth Sprague, Esq.,<sup>5</sup> of Duxbury. They have been about a week at Rochester post office,<sup>6</sup> and the object is lost. I was called to a meeting of the Board of Education last Wednesday. Read. Visited. Collected money for Foreign Missions. At evening attended our Sabbath-school meeting.

24. Yesterday wrote to Mr. Mann,<sup>7</sup> of Boston. Rode in a chaise to Middleborough to attend Association. Quite cold. Called on Mr. Briggs at Sniptuet. The Association rather thin. In the absence of the appointed preacher I preached on Rom. ix: 14, 15. At evening preached without notes at the factory village on Isa. iv: 5. Some attention there. Tarried at Judge Wood's.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> That is, saved to the Whigs. That was when the population of the city was not far from 300,000, and much more largely American than now.

<sup>2</sup> Francis L. Alden, whose name so frequently recurs, was, as may be remembered, son of Gideon S. Alden, who married Priscilla Le Baron. This Francis was united in marriage in 1828 with Eudora, daughter of Zabdiel Sampson.

<sup>3</sup> We should say that a sermon written in one day was written with great rapidity.

<sup>4</sup> The same man, probably, who sent him the pamphlets four days before.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. Seth Sprague, of Duxbury, was

not only a leading man in that town, but in that part of the State. He had been, as a youth, a soldier in the Revolutionary army, and in his riper years had many public trusts. He was twice a member of the Electoral College. He died in 1847, four days after he had passed his eighty-seventh birthday. He was the father of Hon. Peleg Sprague, LL. D.

<sup>6</sup> At Rochester Center, instead of Mattapoisett.

<sup>7</sup> Hon. Horace Mann, explaining the reason of his absence from the recent meeting of the Board of Education.

<sup>8</sup> Judge Wilkes Wood.

25. Attended to associational business and closed. Afternoon we had the Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society's annual meeting. Well attended. Paid to the treasurer, \$48.00. Rode through Plympton and Kingston to Duxbury. A great deal of wheat is sown this spring in these towns. Tarried with Mr. Sprague. Attended to school business. Vegetation is not much advanced.

26. Mr. Sprague rode about the town with me. A good deal of wealth here and population, but poor land. There is much ship building; saw a ship just launched, of six hundred and forty tons. Rode to Plymouth. Called on my cousins Mr. and Mrs. Jackson.<sup>4</sup> The afternoon was rainy, and concluded to remain at Mr. Russell's.<sup>5</sup> He came home at evening from the General Court. The banks at New York are beginning to resume specie payments. Two great steam-ships have arrived at New York from England. Read. At evening attended a meeting with Mr. Hall.<sup>6</sup> Was up late.

27. Rode home. Called at Rochester. Received various papers by mail. At evening attended a meeting at the Baptist Missionary House on the death of Mr. White,<sup>4</sup> their late minister, who died in Cuba. Elder Howe<sup>5</sup> preached. Am much fatigued. Received a letter from Mr. Henry Barnard,<sup>6</sup> of Hartford.

28. Received a church letter from the church and society in Assonet, requesting assistance at an ordination. Wrote a sermon in reference to our Sabbath-school on Deut. vi: 6, 7. Walked out. They have done unexpectedly well at Baltimore.

29. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached the sermon written yesterday, and a sermon on Ps. 1: 22. Walked between home and the meeting-house four times. At evening meeting spoke on Acts xiii: 38.

30. Wrote to Capt. Levi Snow, of this place, at sea. Dined out. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Read late. Received of Capt. Le Baron, the society treasurer, \$40.00.

#### MAY.

1. Rode with my neighbor, Jesse Hammond, a delegate, to Assonet<sup>7</sup> to attend the proposed ordination. Quite cold. The council examined a candidate, Mr. Robinson,<sup>8</sup> publicly, who appeared very well. The people are much united. At evening Mr. Maltby<sup>9</sup> preached. Kept<sup>10</sup> at Dea. Burt's. Saw a daffa blossom.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas and Sarah (Le Baron) Jackson.

<sup>2</sup> Nathaniel Russell, whose wife was Martha Le Baron, daughter of Isaac.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Robert B. Hall, of the Third Church.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Mr. White has been several times mentioned, as taking part with Dr. Robbins on funeral and other occasions.

<sup>5</sup> Where Elder Howe was then settled we do not find.

<sup>6</sup> This was probably the beginning of a long and important correspondence touching the destiny of Dr. Robbins's library.

<sup>7</sup> Assonet was the Indian name of what is now Freetown. It lies about eight miles south of Taunton, and twelve miles north-westerly from New Bedford.

<sup>8</sup> Ebenezer W. Robinson, who was a native of Granville, N. Y., and a graduate of Hamilton College in 1834. He remained at Freetown until 1845.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. Erastus Maltby, of Taunton.

<sup>10</sup> This word, *kept*, which often recurs in such connections, is so used as to make one doubtful whether it is passive for *was kept*, or active in the sense of *stayed*.

2. Attended the services of the ordination. Mr. Cobb,<sup>1</sup> of Taunton, preached well, but strong Hopkinsianism. A good collection of people. I pray God to build up this church and people. Abolition is very strong in this place. Rode home. Attended the evening meeting. Visited. Read late.

3. Rainy. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston. Wrote the preceding nine days of diary. Read. Visited.

4. The whale brig, Mattapoissett, sailed this morning. Read. Wrote a long letter to Mr. H. Barnard,<sup>2</sup> of Hartford, now a Representative at New Haven. Wrote for Mrs. Crosby to Mrs. Lucas, at Dartmouth. Quite cold.

5. Rainy through the day and cold. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, Hartford. Yesterday wrote in a lady's album. Read. Filed letters. Walked out. Received of my collector, \$19.25. Read the Bible.

6. Last night we had a hard rain. Preached a double sermon on 2 Thess. ii: 13. Very pleasant. Our Sabbath-school does well. At the evening meeting spoke on Luke xvii: 22. I fear we are getting back to stupidity.

7. Rode with Mr. Barstow to Bedford. Paid Mr. Taber, \$11.37. Paid my merchant tailor, \$10.61, and balanced the accounts. There has been a very great fire at Charleston, South Carolina.<sup>3</sup> We hear of disastrous steam-boat explosions on the Western waters. Vegetation is backward. At evening attended the monthly concert. Pretty thin. Visited. Wrote.

8. Yesterday purchased a fine, large thermometer at the price of \$5.00. Visited a school. Mr. Bull and Mr. Lee,<sup>4</sup> Episcopal clergymen from Bedford, visited me. Walked a distance, visited, and distributed tracts.

9. Walked and gave tracts. Read. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Thin. Coldness seems to be returning upon us. Gov. Ellsworth's<sup>5</sup> speech is a highly excellent and honorable production.

10. Examined a school-teacher; well qualified. Visited the sick and others. Visited a school. Wrote. Wrote to W. H. Prescott, Salem, the historian.

11. Wrote again to Henry Barnard, at New Haven, respecting schools. Showery. Read. Visited. At evening attended a small meeting.

12. Wrote a sermon on Acts xiii: 38. Walked out. Received a letter from Mr. Sprague of Duxbury.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Alvan Cobb, pastor of the First Church at Taunton nearly forty-six years, until his death, in 1861. In theology he was a follower of Dr. Emmons, who was a modified Hopkinsian.

<sup>2</sup> This was in answer to the one received from Mr. Barnard a few days before, probably on the subject of Dr. Robbins's library.

<sup>3</sup> "At Charleston, S. C., 1,158 buildings covering 145 acres" were burned, April 27, 1838.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Messrs. Bull and Lee were not Episcopal ministers, as we understand, settled in New Bedford. An Episcopal church was organized there a few years before, and Rev. Mr. Bent was rector.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. William W. Ellsworth, a native of Windsor, Ct., son of Chief-Justice Oliver Ellsworth, was a model of a Christian magistrate. Before this he represented his State at Washington four years, and was Judge of the Supreme Court of Connecticut 1847-1861.

13. In the morning visited Mrs. Willis; quite low with consumption. Preached with notes on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, and the sermon written yesterday. Pleasant, but cool. At a full evening meeting spoke pretty poorly on Luke xii: 8, 9. I retire too late.

14. One of our ship builders has failed. A worthy man and a member of the church. Read. Afternoon rode to Bedford with Mrs. Crosby. Did errands. Received a letter yesterday from Mr. Lee, of Bedford. Went into the new Unitarian meeting-house. It is very elegant. O that the Divine Redeemer would take it into his own hands. Our evening meeting thin.

15. This morning there was considerable frost. I have yet seen no blossoms. Wrote in a young lady's album. Distributed tracts and visited. Visited two schools. Wrote. Received a letter from Dr. E. W. Bull, with a draft on Suffolk Bank of \$45.00.

16. Took the stage for Plymouth. At Wareham had to take a horse and chaise. Saw peach blossoms. Dry and dusty. Attended a meeting of the County Association for schools. We have a project for an institution for the education of teachers.<sup>1</sup> This business occupies much of my time. Kept at Mr. Russell's, Junior.<sup>2</sup>

17. Rode to Wareham. Something rainy. Got some wet. Took stage and came home. There was a Quaker funeral at Pine Island, the first that has been in Mattapoisett since the 22d of last October. Distributed tracts. At evening attended an informal school meeting.

18. Last night and this morning a hard rain. Quite cold. Read. Wrote to Rev. Asa Bullard, Boston, and gave an account of our Sabbath-school. Rev. Mr. Atkinson,<sup>3</sup> of Mendon, came here and tarried. Gave him to assist his small people<sup>4</sup> in building a meeting-house, \$2.00.

19. Visited Mr. E. Cannon, Jr., who has failed. He is very deeply afflicted. Read. Wrote. Afternoon rode with company to North Rochester to exchange with Mr. Briggs. Met him on the way.<sup>5</sup> Quite cold.

20. Preached on Ps. cxix: 6, and Gen. xxxii: 26. This congregation is quite small, but I hope improving. They have a good parsonage house. Towards evening rode home. Attended our evening meeting, and spoke on John v: 3, etc. Cold wind.

21. Divided a large school. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston. Read. Last evening J. W. Barber<sup>6</sup> came here from New Haven and tarried.

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<sup>1</sup> A hint of the first Normal School in Massachusetts, which was afterward planted at Lexington and removed in 1848 to West Newton.

<sup>2</sup> Nathaniel Russell, Jr., whose mother was Martha Le Baron. He was born in 1801, and was married, 1827, to Catherine Elizabeth Elliott.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Kinsman Atkinson, who is still living. He closed his studies at Andover the year before. He was gathering money

to build a meeting-house at what is now Millville, Mass.

<sup>4</sup> This was long one of the smallest and weakest churches in the Commonwealth, and has now for many years been virtually extinct.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs.

<sup>6</sup> J. W. Barber has been several times noticed in previous years. He was the author of the well-known volumes of *Historical Collections of Various States*. He was

Had company from Fairhaven. Mr. Barber went to Bedford and returned. Attended our small evening meeting.

22. Rainy and foggy. Wrote to Gov. Everett. Wrote. Mr. Barber is unable to take an observation for our village. Read.

23. Still dark and wet. Took the stage and rode to Fairhaven. Am a good deal fatigued. Crossed to Bedford. Afternoon attended the dedication of the new Unitarian meeting-house. Mr. Dewey,<sup>1</sup> of New York, preached. A very elegant house.

24. Tarried last night at Mr. Alden's. Did errands. Attended the Ecclesiastical Council for the installation of Mr. Peabody,<sup>2</sup> and the ordination of Mr. Morison.<sup>3</sup> The music very good. We had a splendid dinner at the Mansion House; salmon and green peas. No peas here in the blow. Rode home. Wet and dark weather. Read. Mr. Barber got his observation here yesterday, and went on his way. The Council at Bedford was very large.

25. Still wet and rainy. Wrote. Yesterday saw a Baptist preacher of Lynn, Philemon Robbins Russell, and descendant of Mary Robbins, the eldest sister of my grandfather.<sup>4</sup> Had company. Visited and distributed tracts. Was out late.

26. Renewed my note at Fairhaven Bank, and paid \$5.13. Dined out. No rain, but cool. Received of my collector, \$35.00. Wrote. Visited.

27. Attended and opened the Sabbath-school. Expounded on Acts x: 1-39, and preached a sermon on Heb. xii: 14. Rode to Capt. Southworth's, and visited the aged Mrs. Clarke; very low. Spoke at the evening meeting.

28. Am quite feeble. Set out late in the morning for Boston. Rode to Middleborough and to Scituate. Kindly entertained at Col. Collamer's. Saw the first apple-tree blossoms in the upper part of my parish, and this way they are generally coming out. The county school committee met here today, but adjourned before I arrived. Rode in a chaise. Very pleasant.

29. Col. Collamer rode with me to Boston. Vegetation advances rapidly. A great deal of wheat is growing. Kindly entertained at Mr. Holmes's. Paid Little & Brown, \$50.00, including the draft received from Dr. Bull, of Hartford. Procured Wood's *Athenæ Oxonienses*.<sup>5</sup> Attended a public meeting

then at Mattapoisett to take the sketch of the village, which appears in his volume on Massachusetts.

<sup>1</sup> Orville Dewey, D.D., born in Sheffield, Mass., 1794, graduated at Williams College in 1814, and died in Sheffield, March 21, 1882.

<sup>2</sup> Ephraim Peabody, D.D., born in Wilton, N. H., 1807, graduated at Bowdoin College, 1827, pastor at New Bedford, 1838-1846, then called to King's Chapel, Boston. He died in Boston in 1856.

<sup>3</sup> John H. Morison, D.D., born in Peterborough, N. H., 1808, graduated at Harvard

College, 1831, for many years Unitarian pastor in Milton, Mass. He is still living.

<sup>4</sup> His grandfather was Rev. Philemon Robbins, minister of Branford, Ct., and the father of Philemon was Nathaniel, of Cambridge. His daughter Mary was born 1701, and was married in 1724 to Mr. Joseph Russell.

<sup>5</sup> The *Athenæ Oxonienses*, by Anthony Wood, is a work of great labor and value, in which are gathered the records of all the chief scholars educated at Oxford University during the early centuries of the existence of that institution. Wood was born in Ox-

on the Prison Discipline Society. At evening spoke at the meeting on Home Missions. The public meetings are very full. In the afternoon the Pastoral Association had an excellent sermon from Dr. Ide.<sup>1</sup> Attended the meeting of the same body.

30. Did errands. At ten o'clock met with the Board of Education; our annual meeting. The two of Berkshire absent. After a long session went to the meeting of the Antiquarian Society. They had finished their business. Dined with them at a splendid dinner at Gov. Winthrop's.<sup>2</sup> Went to the meeting of the Ministers' Convention. It was just closed. Toward evening rode with Mr. Baker<sup>3</sup> to Medford; five miles. Saw many valuable antiquities at Mr. Dudley Hall's, from the ancient Dudley family.<sup>4</sup> Tarried with Mr. Baker. Paid for primers, \$1.26. Traded, \$2.13. Warm.

31. Called on Mr. Stetson.<sup>5</sup> This is a beautiful town. Vegetation is in its glory. A good deal of ship building here. Returned to the city with Mr. Baker. Sat with the Board of Education. An important and laborious sitting. Could not attend the meeting of the Convention and the sermon of Dr. Storrs. Dined at the public dinner of ministers. The most of them were Unitarians. Did errands. Quite warm. Traded, \$2.11. Very difficult to find neck-handkerchiefs such as I wear. At evening attended and spoke at the meeting on Foreign Missions.

#### JUNE.

1. Attended the morning prayer-meeting. Left with Gov. Everett a bill of my expenses at three meetings of the Board, \$36.00. We had another diligent session, and closed at two o'clock. We have concluded to establish two or three normal schools.<sup>6</sup> Breakfasted at Mr. Willis's.<sup>7</sup> Dined at Judge Davis's.<sup>8</sup> Left the city at half past four o'clock. Rode to South Bridgewater. Warm and dusty. The ride is less than five hours. There is a very great blowth on the fruit-trees.

2. Rode early, and got home at half past ten. Have had, through divine mercy, a prosperous journey. It has been very pleasant weather through the

ford, England, in the year 1632. He died in 1695.

<sup>1</sup> Jacob Ide, D.D., was born in Attleborough in 1786, graduated at Brown University, 1809, was settled in West Medway, Mass., 1814, where he continued till his death, in 1880, in his ninety-fifth year. In his later years he had a colleague. In 1815 he married Mary Emmons, daughter of Dr. Nathanael Emmons, of Franklin, Mass. They lived together sixty-five years, and his wife survived him.

<sup>2</sup> Lieut.-Gov. Thomas Lindall Winthrop.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Abijah R. Baker, who had been settled over the Second Congregational Church at Medford the previous April.

<sup>4</sup> The ancient Dudley family embraced

two early Governors of Massachusetts, Joseph and Thomas Dudley.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Caleb Stetson, a man of great heartiness and good cheer. He was a native of Kingston, Mass., born in 1795, graduated at Harvard, 1822, and was settled over the First Church in Medford (Unitarian) in 1827. He died in 1870.

<sup>6</sup> It was a period of a few years before this plan was fully carried out.

<sup>7</sup> Dea. Nathaniel Willis.

<sup>8</sup> John Davis, LL. D., born in Plymouth, 1761, graduated at Harvard, 1781, died in Boston, 1847. From 1801 to his death, he was United States District Judge for Massachusetts. This was another man than Gov. John Davis, but both were eminent.

week. Found Mr. Crosby at home. He arrived from Louisiana Thursday eve, after an absence of nearly eight months. I had appointed a preparatory lecture for yesterday. The church had a prayer-meeting. Much fatigued. Mr. Kelton, a Baptist preacher, school-master, called on me. Read.

3. Preached with notes on Ex. viii: 22, and a sermon on Prov. i: 31. Administered the sacrament. The church full. Dea. Hammond was absent; quite unwell. At five o'clock we had a temperance address in the Baptist meeting-house, by Mr. Bryant, formerly preacher and school-teacher here. Had no evening meeting.

4. Wrote to Mr. Morton, of Plymouth. Read. There has been a great fire at Nantucket.<sup>1</sup> Wrote nine days of diary. On the last Sabbath I left off my flannel. Our monthly concert prevented by the occupancy of the vestry.

5. Rainy. A great and needed supply of water fell. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Davis,<sup>2</sup> of Westfield. Read. Wrote to Mr. Gallaudet,<sup>3</sup> Hartford, Ct. The banks are resuming specie payments. Congress have achieved an important victory over the executive.

6. Wrote. Visited a school. Gave tracts. Walked and visited. Dea. Hammond<sup>4</sup> is very unwell with bad complaints. The Lord be his helper. I was out, and by mistake did not attend the evening meeting. Vegetation is rapid.

7. Wrote to Mr. Mann, of Boston. Walked a distance and distributed tracts. Wet. Visited two schools. Visited. Capt. Mayhew came in from a whale voyage last night.

8. Wrote. Read the Bible. Walked a distance, distributed tracts, visited a school; in good order. Warm.

9. Wrote a sermon on Ps. xiv: 2, 3. The thermometer about 83°. I have never seen vegetation so flourishing in this place as it is now. Could not finish my writing by daylight. Considerably fatigued.

10. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Ps. cxix: 97, and the sermon written yesterday. I conclude the thermometer was about 85°. Weather most favorable. Full meetings. People suffered some with the heat. Rode up and saw Dea. Hammond. At the evening meeting spoke on Rev. i: 13.

11. Am quite feeble. Yesterday had some hoarseness. Received an

<sup>1</sup> Not so large as one that occurred a few years later, in 1846, which destroyed not far from three hundred buildings.

<sup>2</sup> Emerson Davis, D. D., a man of noble character and solid judgment. He was born in Ware, 1798, graduated at Williams College, 1821, settled at Westfield, 1836, where he remained till his death, in 1866. Trustee and Vice-President of Williams College. Dr. Davis was on this early Massachusetts Board of Education. As we understand its organization and membership, they were as follows: Gov. Edward Everett was *ex officio*

its chairman, and Horace Mann was its secretary. The other members were George Hull, James Gordon Carter, Edmund Dwight, George Putnam, E. A. Newton, Robert Rantoul, Jared Sparks, Thomas Robbins, and Emerson Davis. This was the Board as constituted in 1837-1838. Of course changes have been taking place in it from year to year ever since. Membership in the Board expires by rotation in six years.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum.

<sup>4</sup> Dea. Amittai B. Hammond.

unpleasant letter. Received a letter from Mr. Henry Barnard, of Hartford. Wrote to Gov. Everett. Wrote. Read. Thermometer 84°. Visited. At evening had a meeting in lieu of the monthly concert, which was prevented last week.

12. I am much burdened. May God be my helper. We have steady, warm weather days and nights. Visited and gave tracts. Read. The Connecticut Legislature have done very well.

13. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Brooks, of Hingham. Thermometer nearly 87°.

14. Received a letter from Mr. Ichabod Morton,<sup>1</sup> of Plymouth. Wrote. Walked and visited and gave tracts. Have a severe trial. The Lord be my helper. Dea. Hammond is in a critical state. Thermometer 80°.

15. Wrote an elaborate letter to Mr. Bacon, of New Haven. Read. Am quite languid. Walked a distance and visited. Thermometer 82°.

16. Wrote a sermon on Matt. xix: 17. Did it by daylight. Walked out. The ground is getting dry. Have had an anxious and trying week, but a merciful God has been my helper.<sup>2</sup> Thermometer 81°.

17. Wrote early. Preached with notes on Gen. xxii: 13, and the sermon written yesterday. Attended the Sabbath-school. We have fogs. In the morning visited an aged woman; very low. Thermometer about 77°. At the evening meeting spoke on Luke vii: 23.

18. Rode early to Plymouth, and met with the county committee on the subject of schools. Attended to the business till toward evening. Visited the Rock and Burying Hill. Made calls. Called on Mr. Hall.<sup>3</sup> Foggy and wet. Tarried at Mr. Russell's.

19. Much cooler. We get little rain. Rode home. Very dusty. Mrs. Haskell died Sabbath night, and the funeral services at the house were performed when I got there. Mr. Kelton<sup>4</sup> prayed. I went with the mourners to the grave. Have not attended a burial here in almost eight months. Visited a sick child. Dea. Hammond, in great mercy, appears better.

20. This morning there was considerable frost.<sup>5</sup> Received a letter from Gov. Everett. Read. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow. Wrote to my sister Battell. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

21. Walked a distance, and gave tracts. Was out the most of the day. The frost of yesterday morning did a good deal of injury. Garden vegetables and some corn are hurt. The ground is very dry. Read. Received an interesting letter from Mr. Bacon,<sup>6</sup> of New Haven.

22. Wrote. Read. Afternoon we had a most grateful shower. Walked and visited. Was out late.

<sup>1</sup> This was doubtless the Mr. Morton, of Plymouth, to whom he had written a few days before.

<sup>2</sup> His trouble came probably from that "unpleasant letter" he recently received, though what the nature of the letter was does not yet appear.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Robert B. Hall.

<sup>4</sup> He was the man before mentioned, as teacher and preacher.

<sup>5</sup> Quite unusual to have frost on the south shore of New England as late as June 20. It is not common even fifty miles north.

<sup>6</sup> This letter from Dr. Leonard Bacon was in answer to one which had been recently sent.



23. Am quite languid. Wrote the most of a sermon on 1 Peter iv: 7. One of my eyes is very weak.

24. On account of my inflamed eye, I could not write last evening. Wrote a page this morning, and finished my sermon on 1 Peter iv: 7, and preached it in the afternoon. Mr. Anthony called on me in the morning, and preached for me in the forenoon.<sup>1</sup> Rode to Tripp's Mills, and preached a written sermon on Gen. xxxii: 26, at five o'clock in the old Baptist meeting-house. Mr. Anthony attended a meeting the same hour at the vestry. Warm and sultry. Was out late. Thermometer about 77°; 23d at 80°; 22d 82°.

25. My eyes are weak. Walked and visited a sick child; very low. Wrote. Am pretty feeble. Thermometer 76°. Attended our evening meeting for the Sabbath-school. Quite thin. Visited. Was out late.

26. Walked out. Rev. Mr. Pratt<sup>2</sup> and wife came here from the Cape. Thermometer 84°. Took stage and rode to Fairhaven. Crossed to Bedford. Attended the meeting of the General Association. Mr. Sheldon,<sup>3</sup> of Easton, moderator. In the evening Mr. Blagden,<sup>4</sup> of Boston, preached. Tarried at Mr. Alden's.

27. Attended the morning prayer-meeting, and the session of the body. The accounts of the state of religion in the afternoon were gratifying. Manifest improvement, through divine mercy, since last year. The foreign delegates are few. There is but one from each part of the Presbyterian church. Rode home in a chaise, and brought Mr. Worcester,<sup>5</sup> of Salem, with me. We attended our evening meeting.

28. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston. Rode with Mr. Worcester to Bedford. Attended the session of the Association. Had to defend the Board of Education against a wanton attack. Rainy; very much wanted. Afternoon we had the sacrament. On account of the wet but few of our people were present. The session was closed. Came to Fairhaven. Very tired.

29. Rode home in the stage. A very hot sun. Great news from Congress. The House of Representatives have rejected the famous Sub-Treasury Bill, the great object of the administration, by a majority of fourteen. A holy God has done it. Visited Mrs. Willis; very low. Mr. Hall,<sup>6</sup> of Plymouth.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Julius Cæsar Anthony, who had been graduated at Andover three years before, and was licensed to preach, but concluded not to follow the profession of the ministry.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Stillman Pratt, a native of Reading, Mass. He was graduated at Amherst, 1831, and at Andover, 1834. From 1835 to 1839 he was pastor at Orleans on the Cape. Settled in other parishes, and died in Middleborough, 1862.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Luther Sheldon, D. D., a native of Rupert, Vt., and a graduate of Middlebury College, 1803. Pastor at Easton, 1810-1855,

when he resigned his charge. He died Sept. 16, 1866.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Samuel Melancthon Worcester, D. D., son of Samuel Worcester, D. D., one of the Corresponding Secretaries of the American Board. The father died in Brainerd, Tenn., 1821. The son was born in Fitchburg, 1801, graduated at Harvard, 1822, Professor of Rhetoric at Amherst for some years, and from 1834 to 1860 was pastor of the Tabernacle Church, Salem. He died in 1866, an able son of an able father.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Robert B. Hall.

made me a good visit, and dined with Esq. Robbins.<sup>1</sup> The mercury 88°. The warmest day we have had. My right eye continues much inflamed.

30. Wrote. Unable to write a sermon on account of my eyes. Thermometer 84°. Wrote to Mr. Mann, of Boston. Am very languid. Visited.

JULY.

1. Misty and wet. Sabbath-school thin. Preached a double sermon on Eph. ii: v. Am requested to preach shorter than I have done. Had an evening meeting at six o'clock. Married Capt. Atsatt's daughter.<sup>2</sup> Baptized a child.<sup>3</sup>

2. Am quite feeble. My eyes continue inflamed and sore. Read. Worked at my books. Attended the monthly concert. Thin. The mercury yesterday 76°; today 85°. At the third meeting yesterday spoke on Rom. iii: 1, 2.

3. Walked in the heat up to Solomon's, and saw sick Mary. Began the distribution of a new tract. The heat very oppressive. A very hot afternoon. After three o'clock the mercury was at 90°. At evening married Jane Le Baron.<sup>4</sup> She is well connected with Mr. Sanders, an Englishman.

4. Walked and gave tracts. A very hot morning. About nine o'clock thermometer was at 89°. Afternoon at 90°. Vessels went a sailing, and a good deal of riding; every vehicle that could be moved. Dined at Capt. Mayhew's. Am very languid. Attended the evening meeting. We had a very grateful shower. We have very warm nights. Read.

5. Wrote. Walked and gave tracts. We have a very growing season, while some of the neighboring towns are much in want of rain. The mercury rose between one and two o'clock to full 94°, in a dead shade with clear circulation of air.

6. Visited and gave tracts. Read. Worked at my books. Cooler. Thermometer but 84°. The gardens and fields abound in flowers.

7. Distributed in the forenoon twenty-five tracts. Received a letter from sister Battell, one from Mr. Holmes, and one from D. Ricketson, of Bedford. The House of Representatives in Congress have done nobly. My eyes are still weak. Wrote. Thermometer 85°. Wrote to Rev. J. C. Brigham,<sup>5</sup> of the American Bible Society, New York.

<sup>1</sup> Josiah Robbins, Esq., who was one of the deacons of Mr. Hall's church, and probably came with him.

<sup>2</sup> The marriage was between Isaiah Purington and Mary Hicks Atsatt.

<sup>3</sup> The child baptized was William, son of William Merrithew.

<sup>4</sup> Jane Le Baron, who was married to Thomas Sanders, July 3, 1838, was the daughter of Lazarus and Priscilla (Hammond) Le Baron. She was born June 10, 1819, so that she was nineteen years old at her marriage. After the death of her mother, her father

married Elizabeth Hammond, probably a sister of the first wife.

<sup>5</sup> John C. Brigham, D. D., was a native of the town of New Marlborough, Mass., and was graduated at Williams College in 1819. He came from plain life among the Berkshire hills, and was one of the early men assisted by the American Education Society. He was graduated at Andover in 1822. After a few years' service for the American Board, in 1826 he was made Assistant-Secretary of the American Bible Society in New York, and two years later was made head

8. Expounded on Acts x: 34 to the end, and preached a sermon on Job viii: 13. Spoke at the six o'clock meeting on John ix: 4. Very tired. Thermometer about the same as yesterday. Mrs. Willis died this morning. Baptized a child.<sup>1</sup>

9. Was called in the morning to Mr. N. Barstow's, and saw his child die. A very hot day. The mercury was variable, but rose to 93½°. Visited. My eyes are much affected. Had a small evening meeting.

10. Had a very hot night. Rested poorly. The thermometer yesterday was at 95°, and it was, I think, the warmest day we have had. Wrote. Afternoon attended the funeral of Mrs. Willis; a numerous collection. Mr. Taylor<sup>2</sup> preached full Universalism. After which attended the funeral of Mr. Barstow's child. A ship was launched here this morning. Thermometer 88°.

11. My eyes are quite weak and troublesome. Can do but little. Walked in the heat and gave tracts. Thermometer 91°. Read *Paradise Lost*. Attended the evening meeting; short. Use brandy for my eyes. The ground is becoming dry.

12. Very hot nights. Congress has adjourned, and well resisted the executive grasp for arbitrary power.<sup>3</sup> The mercury at 93°. People are getting their hay. Today and yesterday the mercury was at 88° at four o'clock. Received a letter from Mr. Sprague,<sup>4</sup> of Duxbury, and one from Mr. Morton,<sup>5</sup> of Plymouth. Wrote.

13. The inflammation of my eyes, I fear, is extending. Can read but little. Last night and this morning we had a most grateful rain. Afternoon visited and gave tracts. Attended the funeral of the aged Esq. Hammond, who died yesterday. Rode to New Boston and visited two sick men. My forehead became much inflamed. Was out late. Thermometer about 76°.

14. My complaint has become an erysipelas over my face. Had quite an ill night. Alarming pain. Consulted my physician, and made applications. Can do but little. Wrote. Thermometer 7°.

15. Rode to meeting. Am considerably relieved from my illness, but quite weak. Preached at the two services a sermon on Ps. lxxxiv: 2. Spoke at the third meeting on John xii: 20, 21. Was carried through the day better than I expected. Thermometer about 82°.

16. Am quite feeble. Visited. Afternoon we had a shower which wet a

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Secretary, which office he held thirty-four years, till his death, in 1862. In Williams College he was a classmate of William A. Hallock, D.D., who, for forty-five years, 1825-1870, was Secretary of the American Tract Society at New York. Hallock was the first scholar of the Williams Class of 1819, and Brigham was the second. At Andover in the class of 1822, the two were again classmates, and they were there associated with Rufus Anderson, D.D., who

was Assistant-Secretary and Secretary of the American Board for forty-four years, 1822-1866.

<sup>1</sup> The child baptized was Edward Payson, son of Rowland Howland.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Theodore K. Taylor, the Universalist minister.

<sup>3</sup> This was during the first year of President Van Buren's administration.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. Seth Sprague.

<sup>5</sup> Ichabod Morton.

great deal of hay. The mercury before noon was  $92\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ . Read. Attended our thin Sabbath-school meeting.

17. Wrote. My eyes are quite weak. Read. Visited a school. Visited and gave tracts. Was out late. Received from the town as school committee, \$8.00. Paid a tax, \$1.34. Thermometer  $80^{\circ}$ .

18. Wrote. Visited with tracts. Mr. Nash,<sup>1</sup> agent of the Education Society, came here and tarried. Showery. Very fine for the new mown grounds. Paid Mr. Holmes, my neighbor, for wood, \$10.00. He gave in a part. An evening meeting was prevented by the wet. Thermometer  $84^{\circ}$ .

19. Wrote. Walked and made calls with Mr. Nash. The sun is bright and scorching. Read. At evening we had a meeting in the vestry, and Mr. Nash spoke well for the Education Society. He collected \$32.25. Thermometer  $86^{\circ}$ .

20. Wrote, but it affects my eyes considerably. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston. Mr. Nash went away after dinner. Mr. Crosby, of Newburyport, came and delivered a very good temperance address in the evening. Thermometer  $87^{\circ}$ .

21. Rode in a very full stage to Bedford. Did errands. A burning sun. Looked at my accounts at Dea. Underwood's. Paid him for books, \$8.00. Visited Mr. Holmes. Read. Paid for coins, .63. The ground is dry. People are harvesting.

22. Young Mr. Roberts,<sup>2</sup> now supplying his brother, went yesterday to Mattapoisett. Went into the Sabbath-school. Much smaller than ours. Preached both exercises on Ps. lxxxiv: 2. Kept at Mr. Alden's. In the evening other meetings were suspended to attend a temperance meeting. We had a very good address from Mr. Putnam,<sup>3</sup> of Roxbury, but without reference to future retributions.

23. Read. Louisiana has done remarkably well.<sup>4</sup> Had a good deal of company. Wrote to Mr. Nott, of Wareham. Rode home in the stage in the morning. The people here were pleased with Mr. Roberts.<sup>5</sup> Visited a sick woman. Attended at evening a small Sabbath-school meeting. Thermometer Saturday  $87\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ ; Sabbath  $80^{\circ}$ ; today  $86^{\circ}$ .

24. Sailed in one of our vessels to Edgartown. Had a pleasant passage. This is an interesting town; increasing, the land light, and not well cultivated. The harbor very fine. Called on Capt. Baylies, and looked at his father's books. Made several calls. Saw Mr. Thomas,<sup>6</sup> from New Jersey,

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Ansel Nash.

<sup>2</sup> This was probably Rev. Jacob Roberts, a native of England, who was settled in Fairhaven, Mass., the year following (July 17, 1839), where he remained twelve or fifteen years. In 1856 was installed in East Medway, Mass., where he remained pastor till 1870. He has now retired from any stated connection with a parish and is living at Auburndale, Mass.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. George Putnam, D. D., associated with Dr. Robbins on the Board of Education.

<sup>4</sup> Referring to its last election.

<sup>5</sup> He must then have been a young man, and his education must have been chiefly in England.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. David Tilton, who had been settled a few years at Edgartown, had been dismissed the previous March.

now preaching here. Kept at Dea. Mayhew's. Saw in the burying-ground an expensive monument, erected by a man now living for himself.

25. Wet, but little rain. The ground here is very dry. Mr. Baylies let me have ten old books, including a broken Eliot's Bible. Paid his mother, \$7.00. Made calls. Saw the place of Gov. Mayhew's grave. Visited a school. At evening we had a good meeting in the new house. Went with Mr. Thomas, and preached on Ps. cxix: 6. Expected to have returned today, but the packet did not go. Was up late.

26. Mr. Thaxter gave me two old volumes. Read. The packet did not sail for want of wind till noon. Have been kindly treated. We came on slowly. Had some seasickness. Left the packet and took a Mattapoisett vessel, and got home about dark. Have been prospered.

27. Looked over my old books. Find that I have got parts of three copies of the Indian Bible. Read. We have a glowing account of the coronation of Queen Victoria, June 28th.<sup>1</sup> Wrote to C. Little & Co., Boston. The mercury for three days past I conclude has been about the same as three days preceding. Today 89°. Received of my collector, \$122.00. Paid a post office bill of \$12.37. Paid Dea. Crosby, for horse hire, \$12.00. Walked and visited a sick woman.

28. Read. Wrote a good deal of diary. My eyes are weak. Paid for a stamp of my name, .75. Thermometer 82. Walked out and visited.

29. We had a warm night, and the morning was exceeding hot. At eight o'clock the mercury was at 88°; at twenty minutes past nine, when I went to meeting, it was at 95°. It was seen several times during the day, and we do not know that it was any higher. It was at 95°, and near that several hours. Vegetation seemed to sink under the scorching sun. We had a special prayer for rain. Towards night God gave a hard and most grateful shower, with hard thunder. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Job xlii: 5, 6, and a sermon on Matt. vii: 12. Spoke at six o'clock meeting on Ps. cxlvii: 8. The shower gladdens all hearts. Meetings thin.

30. Not quite as hot as yesterday. The mercury at 93°. Read the account of the solemn and splendid coronation of Queen Victoria. Attended evening meeting. Read Dr. Mayhew's *Sermons*.<sup>2</sup> Paid Mr. Crosby, \$15.00.

31. Rode in a chaise to Sippican, and met with the Association. A good number present. Attended to the usual business. Mr. Adams, now at Dartmouth, preached.<sup>3</sup>

#### AUGUST.

1. The Association had a useful session. Afternoon we had the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Education Society. Well attended. We have made

<sup>1</sup> The real accession of Queen Victoria to the English throne was June 20, 1837. Her coronation was deferred for a year to give time for the mighty preparations.

<sup>2</sup> These were the sermons of Dr. Jonathan Mayhew, pastor of the West Church,

Boston, from 1747 to his death, 1766. A volume containing some of his sermons with a memoir had just been published (1838) in Boston, by Alden Bradford.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Richmond had been dismissed from Dartmouth the year before.

a good collection this year. Came home. Evening meeting thin. Thermometer 84°. Yesterday 78°.

2. Received a letter from Little & Brown, Boston. Wrote to them for an old, very old Bible. Wrote to Mr. Bacon,<sup>1</sup> of New Haven. Preached a sacramental lecture with notes on Rom. viii: 14. Rode to Bedford and met with a committee on the subject of having a week of public anniversaries in that town. Tarried at Mr. Merrihew's. Thermometer 83°.

3. Did errands. Visited the schools under the care of Dea. Emerson.<sup>2</sup> Crossed to Fairhaven. Was at Mr. Jenney's. His garden is very fine. Rode home in the stage. Visited Capt. Freeman.<sup>3</sup> Thermometer 80°.

4. Walked a distance and visited several sick persons. Oppressed with a hot sun. The ground is again very dry. Read. Wrote. Gave tracts. Thermometer 85°.

5. Visited a sick woman. Attended the Sabbath-school. The heat oppressive. Preached with notes on 1 Peter i: 24, and a sermon on Prov. viii: 17. Administered the sacrament. The members mostly present. Afternoon meeting thin. We prayed for rain. Spoke at the third meeting on John v: 39. Visited the sick.

6. Wrote to Rev. Alfred Greenwood,<sup>4</sup> of West Barnstable. Visited the sick. The sun is scorching. Read. Yesterday the mercury was 87°. Today 92°. Afternoon we had most grateful thunder-showers. Wrote.

7. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. Organized for the year, and did other business. Hired a horse and wagon. Visited the sick. Received a letter from sister Battell. The ground is greatly refreshed. Thermometer 87°.

8. My eyes continue weak. Wrote to Mrs. Battell. Read. Visited. Attended our evening meeting. Thermometer 82°.

9. Last night I was taken quite ill. Had a sick day. Read a little. Received a letter from Mr. Worcester, of Salem.<sup>5</sup> Yesterday had some company from Boston. Thermometer 86°.

10. Last night we had a moderate, reviving rain. Last evening took physic from my physician, and am much better. Am very weak. Read the Bible. Walked out. Languid weather. Had company. Thermometer 81°. Read. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Worcester, of Salem.

11. Am quite feeble. Read the Bible. Walked out. Poorly able to attend to the appropriate duties of the day. Occupied with company. Thermometer 82°.

12. Warm and very hot sun through the day. Attended the Sabbath-

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Leonard Bacon, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Dea. John F. Emerson. He was a graduate of Dartmouth College in the class of 1825.

<sup>3</sup> Capt. Seth Freeman, with whom he boarded on first going to Mattapoisett.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Alfred Greenwood was born in

Boston, 1801, graduated at Harvard, 1824, and at Andover, 1827. Most of his ministerial life was passed at the West. He was pastor at West Barnstable, Mass., 1836-1840. He died in Grantville, Mass., 1868.

<sup>5</sup> Samuel M. Worcester, D. D., pastor of the Tabernacle Church, Salem, Mass.

school. Expounded on Acts xi. Preached a sermon on Acts xxiv: 25. Am feeble, but was carried through the services better than I feared. Thermometer 87°. Spoke at the third meeting on Luke v: 24. Meetings well attended. On the 9th Capt. Freeman made me a present of \$5.25.

13. We have cooler nights. Had company. Visited. Read. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Greenwood, of West Barnstable. Wrote. Thermometer at 85°. At evening we had our meeting for the monthly concert.

14. Cooler. Completed my packet to go to Copenhagen, and sent it to Providence with a letter to Dr. Thomas H. Webb.<sup>1</sup> Had an ill turn. Had company. Read. Thermometer about 75°.

15. Walked to the Neck and visited, and gave tracts. The crops generally come in unusually well. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Streams are getting very low. Thermometer 76°.

16. Windy and wet. Reviewed books for schools. Wrote. Preparing for my journey. Thermometer at 70°.

17. Set out on a journey to the Cape. Rode to Sandwich. The ground very dry, and the sand very deep and heavy. Rode through Sandwich woods, long and lonely, and tarried at Mr. Goodspeed's,<sup>2</sup> west part of Barnstable. Towards night my horse fell, and broke the carriage, and I was thrown out with great violence, falling on my head. The preservation was very merciful. Went on with difficulty, but great mercy.

18. My face is lacerated, and my neck stiff and sore. Had an ill night, but am not materially injured. Made applications. Mr. Greenwood fixed up my carriage. Rode to Cotuit, the Marshpee district.<sup>3</sup> Called on Mr. Fish:<sup>4</sup> an excellent man. Rode with him and saw his Indian meeting-house. Old and recently repaired. Warm, and the country here suffers much with drought. Rode into Barnstable. In this town and Sandwich there is a great deal of un-inclosed land, with light wood. Kindly received at Mr. Howland's.

19. Preached at Great Marshes, on an exchange with Mr. Greenwood.<sup>5</sup> Met him at Sandwich, going to Mattapoisett. Preached on Rev. xxii: 11, and 1 Cor. i: 21. This church and meeting-house very ancient. A good congregation. Opened and addressed the Sabbath-school. Went at noon to Mr. Jesse Crosby's, the old minister's place, Mr. Shaw's.<sup>6</sup> Returned to Mr.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Webb has been mentioned before, as one of Dr. Robbins's friends in Providence. He was graduated at Brown University in 1821, and at the Harvard Medical School in 1825. It appears by the Harvard Catalogue that he was a member of the Royal Society for Northern Antiquities, which was founded at Copenhagen in 1825. This is the reason why Dr. Robbins sends his package for Copenhagen by Dr. Webb.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robbins, by one of those mental lapses to which the most exact men are liable, has twice written this name *Goodspeed*. He wrote it correctly in his entry August

6, but in the entry August 13, he wrote it Greenwood, and now Goodspeed, though he has been at his house.

<sup>3</sup> Home of the Marshpee Indians.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Phineas Fish, a native of Sandwich, 1786, and a graduate of Harvard College in 1807. He was settled at Marshpee in 1812, and was there more than thirty years. He died in 1854.

<sup>5</sup> Here he has the name right again.

<sup>6</sup> This whole sentence means that he passed the intermission at the house of Mr. Jesse Crosby, which was the house in which the old minister, Rev. Oakes Shaw, lived,

Howland's. At evening had a good meeting at his house, and preached on Matt. xv: 21, etc. Afternoon spoke on Foreign Missions, and they had an annual contribution.

20. Rode to Osterville to Mr. Crosby's. He is confined, paralytic, and quite feeble. This is a good village, industrious and thrifty; fifty vessels. Made calls. Find in all places friends and connections of my own people. Saw the Baptist preacher. At evening had a meeting at Mr. Crosby's, and preached on Matt. xv: 21, etc.

21. The people are much engaged getting their salt hay. Rode to Barnstable Centre and attended the County School Convention. Mr. Mann delivered an excellent address. Mr. Reed<sup>1</sup> presided. The court house very full. Rode with Mr. Fish<sup>2</sup> to Cotuit, and tarried with him. Kindly received in all places. My face still bears the marks of my fall.

22. Mr. Fish has a handsome place. Paid him for an Eliot's Indian Bible, imperfect, \$5.00. Paid Mrs. Hawley, for twenty-four volumes, books of the late Gideon Hawley,<sup>3</sup> Indian missionary, \$15.84. Left Mr. Fish's, and at ten o'clock rode home. A tedious time. The most of the way had a severe heat; burning sun. My horse walked the most of the way from Sandwich to Wareham. The sand is deep. Attended our evening prayer-meeting, and spoke on 1 Cor. iii: 11. The mercury today has been 92°. The days that I have been gone about 80°.

23. Much fatigued with my journey. Received a letter from Dr. Webb,<sup>4</sup> of Providence. Wrote. My old books make a good addition to my library. Dined out. Visited a lad; very sick. Visited a family, Unitarian, who have buried a child in my absence. Read. My eyes are still weak. Thermometer 83°.

24. Visited the sick, and a school. Wrote. Thermometer 84°. Looked over books for school libraries.

25. Very hot and scorching sun. Thermometer at 86° about ten o'clock, and continued about the same some hours. Wrote on a paper for Cambridge.

26. Last night God gave us a most reviving rain, with much thunder. Instructed a class in the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Ex. iv: 31, and a sermon on Luke xvi: 25. Spoke at the third meeting on Matt. viii: 21. Cool. Thermometer about 70°. Visited the sick.

27. Wrote. Walked a distance and visited the sick. Preparing for my

who was pastor there, 1706-1807. The father of Rev. Oakes Shaw was Rev. John Shaw. Two of Rev. Oakes Shaw's brothers were ministers, and one of his sons was no less a personage than Chief-Justice Lemuel Shaw, one of the most learned and able jurists that ever graced the Massachusetts bench.

<sup>1</sup> Hon. John Reed, of Yarmouth, son of Rev. John Reed, D. D., of West Bridgewater. Hon. John Reed was a graduate of Brown University, 1803, and was member of Con-

gress from his district, in all, twenty-four years. He had a large law practice at Yarmouth, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Phineas Fish. See note, Aug. 18.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Gideon Hawley, a native of Connecticut, born in 1727, graduated at Yale, 1749, and licensed by the Fairfield East Association, May 23, 1750, had been Mr. Fish's predecessor, and was settled among the Marshpee Indians, 1758-1807. In the last-named year he died, at the age of eighty.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas H. Webb, M. D.



journey. Thermometer at 70°. Quite cool. Received a letter from Mr. Barnard,<sup>1</sup> of Hartford.

28. Last night we had a good deal of rain. Sent off books for schools to Boston. Last week Mr. Crosby paid me \$50.00, and I endorsed it on his note. Yesterday paid David Cannon, \$10.00. At evening attended our weekly prayer-meeting. After which set out on a journey and rode to Bedford. Slept at a tavern.

29. Was called early, and took the stage at three o'clock and rode to Taunton; took the cars and rode to Boston. Rode to Cambridge, and went in to the Commencement exercises after they had begun. The speaking was good, and a very full house. A fine day. In the honorary degrees my name was read most unexpectedly for D.D.<sup>2</sup> I know not by whose recommendation. I bless God for the favor. Dined at the public dinner, and attended the meeting of the Alumni. Returned to Boston; very tired.

30. Did various errands. Received of the State Treasurer as expenses for the Board of Education, \$36.00. Paid Little & Brown, \$40.00. Dined with Mr. Osgood. We had a hard and grateful shower. Paid for books, \$1.50.

31. I keep at the Bromfield House.<sup>3</sup> Did errands. Attended the Board of Education, and on a committee the most of the day. Paid Burnham for books, \$3.69. For hose, .75. Rode to Roxbury and tarried with Dr. Robbins.<sup>4</sup>

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Came into Boston in a shower. Paid for tracts, \$5.37. Met with the Board of Education, and finished our business. Had a second hard shower. Paid my host, \$3.37.<sup>5</sup> Took the cars near four o'clock to Taunton. Came in the stage to the Head-of-the-River. Kindly entertained by Sheriff Wilbur. Fare, \$2.88. Have been much prospered.

2. Mr. Wilbur sent a lad with a carriage, and conveyed me to Mr. Bigelow's.<sup>6</sup> He had gone to Mattapoissett. Cool. Preached the first time in this new meeting-house on Phil. iii: 13, 14, and Rev. xxii: 11. Administered the sacrament. The church and congregation appear well, though not large. Rode with Esq. King to his house. At sundown set out with him on a journey and rode to Bridgewater. A cold evening. Tarried at a tavern.<sup>7</sup>

3. I do not perceive any frost. Rode early to Hanover. Met with the Plymouth County Convention for Common Schools. Mr. J. Q. Adams,<sup>8</sup> whom

<sup>1</sup> The correspondence about the library goes on.

<sup>2</sup> It had, however, been contrived to have him present. It will be remembered that only four days before (August 25), he was at work preparing some paper for Cambridge. This was doubtless in response to a request which had been made, and which would ensure his attendance. Doubtless he had no suspicion of what was to happen. He would not naturally expect such a title from Harvard.

<sup>3</sup> Where he had stayed before.

<sup>4</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>5</sup> The keeper of the Bromfield House.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, of the old church in Rochester, with whom an exchange had been arranged. Sheriff Wilbur, who sent him to Rochester, was probably Jonathan Wilbur (or Wilbor).

<sup>7</sup> They were on their way to an important meeting.

<sup>8</sup> The residence of John Quincy Adams, at Quincy, was only ten or twelve miles dis-

I saw for the first time, and Mr. Webster,<sup>1</sup> were present. Mr. Mann delivered his address. We had a great assembly in the Episcopal church. Messrs. Adams and Webster spoke on Character in the afternoon. Three members of the Board were present. A very interesting meeting. Rode to Plymouth. My eyes are very weak. Tarried at Mr. Thomas's.<sup>2</sup>

4. Rode home. Esq. King brought me a part of the way from Rochester, and the rest I walked. Mrs. Tobey, seventy-five, has died, and was buried last Sabbath. Am fatigued, but, through mercy, my health is good, with weak eyes. Received letters from an agent of the Board of Education, N. M. Davis,<sup>3</sup> Plymouth, E. W. Bull, Hartford, and S. Haskins, New Bedford. Read. Have received many expressions of approbation of the proceeding of the University towards me.<sup>4</sup>

5. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, Hartford. Last evening had fire in my room, but I believe there is no frost. Read. Rode to Bedford. Procured the books sent me some time since from Boston, and the bundle lately purchased. The former had St. Jerome's Bible, printed at Venice 1478,<sup>5</sup> in fine order. Cost, \$24.00. It is the most valuable book I have. My library has lately had an important addition. Attended the evening meeting.

6. Read. The Western elections have done well. Wrote diary. Looked over my new books. Visited. Warm. Thermometer 77°.

7. Visited mourners. Had company. Very dry, and the country is filled with grasshoppers. In some places quite destructive. Read.

8. My eyes are so weak that I am unable to write a sermon. Visited, and gave tracts. Am quite feeble.

9. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Luke xxii: 46, and a sermon on 2 Cor. v: 19. Full meetings. Baptized a child<sup>6</sup> with whooping-cough at home. Spoke at the evening meeting on Mark vi: 46. My eyes are tender. The Universalists make a good deal of exertion.

10. Read the Bible. Am quite unwell. Wrote. Read *History of Ferdinand and Isabella*. At evening attended the monthly concert. Took physic.

11. Am very feeble. My medicine, I think, has been beneficial. Read. Visited. Attended the funeral of a child. Afternoon rainy.

12. Rainy the most of the day. Had company. Wrote. Received a

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tant from Hanover, the place of the meeting. Mr. Adams had finished his term of the Presidency in 1829, and was then on that long stretch of membership in Congress, reaching from 1831 to his death, in 1848. This meeting at Hanover was in the recess of Congress.

<sup>1</sup> Two or three years before this, Mr. Webster had bought his estate in Marshfield, which was not more than eight miles from Hanover.

<sup>2</sup> Probably at Mr. John B. Thomas's, who married Mary Howland Le Baron, daughter

of Isaac, and therefore own cousin to Dr. Robbins.

<sup>3</sup> Nathaniel Morton Davis.

<sup>4</sup> Congratulations on his title of D. D.

<sup>5</sup> This was the very old Bible about which he wrote to Little & Brown several weeks before. It was a Latin Bible, St. Jerome's revision of the Vulgate, completed about A. D. 400. The value of this book was that it was among the very early books published after the art of printing was discovered.

<sup>6</sup> The child baptized was Elijah Mead, son of Nathaniel Clarke.

letter from E. W. Bull, of Hartford, with a dividend from the Phoenix Bank of \$60.00. Had no evening meeting.

13. Had high wind with the rain last night. The ground is well wet. Read. Worked at pamphlets. Visited and gave tracts. Visited a school.

14. Warm. Looked over periodicals. Visited and gave tracts. Invited out. Wrote.

15. Began and wrote a part of a sermon on Ps. x: 6. Am so unwell, and my eyes so weak, that I could write but little. Walked out. Received a good letter from sister Battell.

16. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached a double sermon on Job xxix: 2-5. Cool. The Universalists here make great efforts. After meeting rode to Tripp's Mills, and had a meeting at Mrs. Hovey's. She is ninety-five; her daughter, Mrs. Tripp, seventy-six.<sup>1</sup> Preached on Matt. v: 6. In the evening visited and gave tracts. On the 14th visited a school. Tarried out.

17. Wet. Am quite unwell and feeble. Visited the sick and others, and gave tracts. Rode home. Visited the sick. We have a number of cases of fever. Read. Maine has been unfortunate in her election.<sup>2</sup> Was out late.

18. Cloudy. Saw but little of the great eclipse.<sup>3</sup> Read. Wrote. Received a letter from Dr. Bacon, of New Haven. Had company. My people are talking about a new meeting-house.

19. Wrote to my sister Battell, and to Esq. King,<sup>4</sup> of Rochester. Read. Had a good evening meeting.

20. Walked to the Neck. Visited and gave tracts. Had a neighborhood meeting in the evening, and preached on Rom. iii: 1, 2. Rev. Jonathan King<sup>5</sup> came to the Neck, and I rode home with him in the evening. He has an agency. Received a letter from Dr. Thacher,<sup>6</sup> Plymouth.

21. Rainy the most of the day. Mr. King and his wife went away. Read. Visited the sick. Wrote to Dr. Thacher, of Plymouth, and to my brother Francis. Wrote late.

22. Visited the sick. Walked a distance. Gave tracts. Mr. Holmes's daughter is very sick. Rainy the most of the day. Read.

23. A rainy day. Preached with notes on Job v: 19. Afternoon meeting quite thin. Omitted my sermon I had designed, and preached without any notes on Matt. v: 6. Thin evening meeting. Spoke on John xv: 16. Read.

<sup>1</sup> It is rare to find a mother and daughter standing in such relations of age, both in old age, and the mother only nineteen years older than the daughter.

<sup>2</sup> Gov. Edward Kent drops out, and Gov. John Fairfield comes in. But Gov. Kent is to come in on a strong popular wave in the autumn of 1840.

<sup>3</sup> This was an annular eclipse of the sun, September 18, beginning at 3.30 P.M., and

ending at 6—between ten and eleven digits eclipsed.

<sup>4</sup> George King, Esq., the same who went with Dr. Robbins to Hanover.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Jonathan King was a native of Rochester. From 1823 to 1829 he was pastor at Dartmouth.

<sup>6</sup> James Thacher, M.D., author of *History of Plymouth*. He died in Plymouth, May 23, 1844, aged ninety.

24. Wrote. Read. Walked and gave tracts. Wrote part of a letter to brother James. Paid last week for a pair of shoes, made for me, \$2.25.

25. Very pleasant weather.. Rode in the stage to the north house in the parish, and walked and visited all the families in that neighborhood, and gave nineteen tracts: Visited the sick. Read. Received of my collector, \$56.50, and paid Mr. Crosby, \$16.50. My eyes continue weak.

26. Wet and rainy. Visited the sick. A very promising young woman is apparently sinking in a consumption. Received a good letter from brother Francis. Worked at my library. Received a valuable supply of Bibles from the American Bible Society, New York, for gratuitous distribution, with a letter from Rev. John C. Brigham.<sup>1</sup> Had no evening meeting.

27. Wrote on my library catalogue. Wet and rainy and warm. Walked and visited. Read. Was out late. My health, through much mercy, is improving. Received an old letter last week from N. Crosby, temperance agent.

28. Visited the sick. Read. Wrote on my library catalogue. Walked to Pine Islands, visited, and gave tracts.

29. Quite rainy through the day. Did not go into the street. Finished a long letter to my brother James. My eyes continue weak. Read expositors. Wrote.

30. Very pleasant. The ground is quite wet, and the grass grows very much. Last evening Mr. Crosby had news that his father is dead. Early this morning the four brothers went off to bury their father. Instructed a class in the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Deut. xxxii: 20, and a sermon on 1 Cor. i: 23. Had a full evening meeting. Commenced a series of lectures on the lives of the ancient patriarchs. Abel, on Heb. xi: 4. Warm. Much fatigued. Read. I have now, through the great mercy of God, preached the gospel, with great deficiencies, forty years. My first was at Goshen, Sabbath, September 30, 1798.<sup>2</sup> I have equal reason to adore God's mercies and long suffering, and to be humble and condemned for my unfaithfulness and small success.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Maltby, of Taunton. Walked with Capt. Barstow, and looked at a site for a meeting-house. Wrote. Very warm and pleasant. Attended the monthly concert. Thin. Major J. M. Goodwin,<sup>3</sup> of Hartford, called on me. Read.

2. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Mr. Holmes is gone to the West on an agency.<sup>4</sup> Mr. Dale<sup>5</sup> supplies him. Paid Mr. Underwood for books,

<sup>1</sup> John C. Brigham, D.D. See note, July 7.

<sup>2</sup> His first sermon was preached when he was twenty-one years old, and his preaching services since would run into the thousands.

<sup>3</sup> James M. Goodwin was a prominent citizen of Hartford; in 1842 elected a member of the Common Council.

<sup>4</sup> The diary has given us a hint of this

before, but has not told what the agency was, except that it was *literary*.

<sup>5</sup> Without doubt this was James W. Dale, D.D., M.D., who closed his studies at Andover in 1835, and whose ministerial life was diversified between the Presbyterians and Congregationalists. He died in Pennsylvania in 1881.

\$12.00. Crossed to Fairhaven. Visited Mr. Gould. Tarried at Mrs. Gibbs's. Received a letter from sister Battell.

3. Rode home. Visited. Read. Received of my collector, \$15.00. Attended our evening prayer-meeting, after which had our annual Auxiliary Home Missionary Society meeting. Visited the sick.

4. Walked a distance, visited the sick, and gave tracts. Preached at the preparatory lecture on 2 Chron. xxix: 5. Visited. Cool, but hear of no frost.

5. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Cobb,<sup>1</sup> of Sandwich. Paid Fairhaven Bank, \$63.90. Received a letter from Mr. Maltby, of Taunton. Wrote to Mr. Jenney, of Fairhaven. Warm. Thermometer at 72°. Visited with friends. Read.

6. Am quite feeble, not able to write as I hoped. Wrote a part of a sermon on 1 Tim. i: 15. Received a letter from Mr. Caleb Barstow, of New York, with a present of two fine volumes, one Washington's *Fac-Similes*; very valuable. Wrote to Pres. Quincy,<sup>2</sup> Cambridge. Sent him some ancient publications of the college. Had company.

7. The morning rainy. Forenoon meeting thin. Preached with notes on Ps. li: 12, and a sermon on Matt. v: 16. Administered the sacrament. Evening meeting lectured on Enoch, Heb. xi: 5. Afternoon and evening meetings full. Visited.

8. Two vessels went off for the winter. Visited the sick. Cool. Wrote. Read. Walked and visited. Wrote a letter to President Van Buren.<sup>3</sup>

9. Wrote to H. L. Ellsworth,<sup>4</sup> of Washington, and enclosed to him a letter to the President. Walked and visited and gave tracts. This morning we had a pretty hard frost. The first this fall. In the evening walked to Bedford. Slept at a tavern.

10. Took a stage with a good deal of company, and rode to Taunton and attended a meeting of the Bristol County Association for Common Schools. Mr. Mann delivered his address. Dined with Mr. Maltby; afternoon the Governor<sup>5</sup> spoke. A large and very respectable meeting. Returned to Bedford. Evening rainy.

11. Last night tarried with Mr. S. Rodman. Treated very kindly. He brought me home. Windy. Received a letter from W. H. Taylor, of New

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Asahel Cobb.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Josiah Quincy, President of Harvard College, 1829-1845. He was born in Boston, 1772, and died in Quincy, 1864, ninety two years old.

<sup>3</sup> He does not tell us the subject or object of this letter.

<sup>4</sup> Henry L. Ellsworth was a native of Windsor, Ct., the youngest of the four sons of Chief-Justice Oliver Ellsworth. Dr. Robbins, while at East Windsor, was intimate with the Ellsworth family on the other side

of the river. After graduating at Yale in 1810, Mr. Ellsworth practiced law at Windsor and Hartford, until he was appointed by President Jackson, Indian Commissioner, to reside among the Indian tribes, south and west of Arkansas. At the time when this letter was sent to him, he was Commissioner of Patents at Washington, filling that office from 1836 to 1845. Gov. William W. Ellsworth, of Connecticut, was his brother, as also Major Martin Ellsworth.

<sup>5</sup> Gov. Edward Everett.

Bedford. Wrote to him in reply. Wrote to Mr. Caleb Barstow, of New York. My eyes quite weak.

12. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Cobb, of Sandwich. Wrote to him in reply. Walked to the Neck, visited, and gave tracts. At evening rainy; we have rain almost every day.

13. Visited the girl in a consumption; very low. Wrote the most of a sermon on 1 Tim. i: 15, and finished it. My eyes are weak, but wrote three pages in the evening. Cold. Visited a sick man.

14. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Ps. iv: 6, and the sermon on 1 Tim. i: 15. Evening lecture on Noah, Gen. vi: 27. Full.

15. Wet and rainy through the day. Visited the sick. The young woman in consumption died yesterday morning. Had company. Gave tracts. Wrote.

16. Walked and gave tracts at Pine Islands. Rode to Sippican and attended the funeral of the aged Miss Hathaway. Had my new cherry book-case brought in; a very fine one. At evening had company. Moved a large book-case and books.

17. Mr. Cannon put up the new book-case for lexicography. Paid him \$10.00. Walked a distance and visited a school. Attended the evening meeting. Quite thin. Reckoned with Mr. Crosby an account of nearly two years. My boarding bill is \$130.00 a year.<sup>1</sup> Paid \$28.62 toward my mahogany book-case which he had paid. Paid him in a coat and a trunk, \$13.00. In sums charged, \$225.53. In cash, \$50.00. Endorsed on his note, \$29.91. He gave me a new note of \$230.00. Balanced accounts to October 18th. In my settlement with Mr. Crosby my board bill was paid to November 6th next.

18. A valuable man of twenty-eight died last night. Visited the family. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Caleb Barstow, from New York, authorizing me to subscribe for him one share, \$75.00, for our contemplated meeting-house. Walked to the Neck, visited, and preached in the afternoon on Matt. v: 6. Tarried out. Mr. Crosby's account against me included considerable sums for horse and carriage hire.

19. Was brought home. Attended the funeral of the man who died yesterday. Afternoon and evening a hard rain. Wrote.

20. Last night the storm was violent. Took the stage and rode to Wareham and Sandwich. A man went with the chaise from Wareham and carried me to Sandwich and made me pay \$3.00.<sup>2</sup> Met Mr. Cobb on the way. Mrs. Cobb is confined with a young child. Stayed at Mr. Bacon's.

21. Cool. Preached on 1 John i: 7, and Rev. xxii: 11. Addressed the Sabbath-school; not large. This is a good congregation; as large, I think,

<sup>1</sup> In other words, his board was two dollars and fifty cents a week, which, considering how many privileges he had, and how much of the house he occupied with his library, seems remarkably cheap to the men

of this generation. But it seemed a rather large price in those days.

<sup>2</sup> From Rochester to Wareham the distance was five or six miles, from Wareham to Sandwich, eight or ten miles.

as ours. Preached in the evening a sermon on Luke ix: 30, 31. Last evening attended a prayer-meeting. Slept at Mr. Cobb's.

22. This is a pleasant and flourishing town. Rode home in the stage. Received a letter from sister Battell. Visited. Mr. Crosby sailed today for Florida, near St. Augustine, to spend the winter; getting live-oak timber.<sup>1</sup>

23. Visited and gave tracts. Wrote. A good woman is quite low. My cousin, Mrs. Mayhew,<sup>2</sup> is quite sick with inflammatory rheumatism.

24. We had an incessant rain from sunrise till late in the evening. The ground must be quite wet. Worked at my library. No evening meeting. Walked out and visited at Capt. Freeman's. Received a letter from sister Battell.

25. Rode to Fairhaven and Bedford. Did errands. Roads wet. Visited Mr. Gould. Had books bound. Visited the sick.

26. Visited and gave tracts. Mrs. Mayhew is severely sick. Began a sermon on James iv: 14. The State of Ohio have done poorly.<sup>3</sup>

27. Wrote steadily, and finished the sermon begun yesterday. Visited Mrs. Mayhew; a little relieved. My eyes continue quite weak.

28. Expounded on Acts xii, and preached the sermon on James iv: 14. We closed our Sabbath-school for the season, and concluded to organize anew next Sabbath for the winter. Attended the funeral of an infant child. Afternoon wet, evening quite rainy.

29. Walked out and visited. Wrote a report for our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. Worked at my wood.

30. Rode in the stage to New Bedford. Did errands. Had some clothes cut. Crossed to Fairhaven. Met with our Association. Had a good number. Meeting in the evening. Mr. Adams,<sup>4</sup> of Dartmouth, preached. Received in the morning a letter from the Pilgrim Society, of Plymouth, requesting me to deliver a discourse at their approaching anniversary.<sup>5</sup>

31. Attended to the Association business, and finished it. Rode to Bedford and back. Last night we had rain with some snow. Cold. At evening we held the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. My people gave \$36.06, of which I paid \$3.00. We were much disappointed in not having Dr. Storrs<sup>6</sup> with us. I read my report, and others spoke.

<sup>1</sup> His other expedition for a like purpose was to Louisiana. He was employed probably by the ship-builders of Mattapoisett.

<sup>2</sup> His cousin, Mrs. Mayhew, was Lucy Le Baron, born 1778, daughter of William Le Baron, of Fairhaven, and who married Thomas Mayhew (sometimes spelled Mayo).

<sup>3</sup> In the October election in Ohio, 1838, Hon. Joseph Vance, a Whig, was superseded by Hon. Walter Shannon, a Democrat, who held the office two years.

<sup>4</sup> The Mr. Adams, then preaching at Dartmouth, was not settled, and was, without much doubt, Rev. William H. Adams, a

native of Portsmouth, N. H., born in 1807, graduated at Yale College, 1834, and at Yale Theological Seminary, 1837, afterwards settled in Wellfleet, on the Cape. He became a teacher.

<sup>5</sup> Here we have another striking illustration of the public esteem in which Dr. Robbins was held as a writer and speaker. It was not the custom of the Pilgrim Society at Plymouth to appoint inferior men to be their orators.

<sup>6</sup> Richard S. Storrs, D. D., it will be remembered, was acting as Secretary of the American Home Missionary Society.

## NOVEMBER.

1. The ground is hard frozen. Ice was nearly an inch thick. Rode home. Read. Visited. Mrs. Mayhew appears something better.
2. Walked out. Wrote. My eyes continue quite weak. Wrote to J. B. Thomas,<sup>1</sup> Esq., of Plymouth. Visited.
3. Wrote the most of a sermon on Ps. x: 6, and finished it. Warm and pleasant.
4. Wet and rainy. Afternoon meeting quite thin. Preached with notes on 1 Peter i: 9, and the sermon written yesterday. Had no company. Read. Mrs. Mayhew quite sick.
5. Rainy through the day, most of the time quite hard. The ground was flooded. Read *Ferdinand and Isabella*. Had no meeting as monthly concert.
6. Wrote. Visited a school, and the sick. Read. The ground has become very wet.
7. Rode in the stage to Bedford and back. Did errands. Attended the evening meeting. Our extra meetings have been much interrupted lately by the weather. Had company.
8. Wet again and rainy. Visited the sick and others, and gave tracts. Some of our sick are very low. Read in Irving's *Works*,<sup>2</sup> which I have lately procured. Wrote to Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven, and Mr. Brooks, of Hingham. Sent to Mr. Brooks, \$1.00 for the county school committee.
9. Walked and visited and gave tracts. Read. Wrote to President Quincy, acknowledging the receipt of my diploma. Mr. Bent and Mr. Ricketson, of Bedford, called on me. We have, through divine mercy, very favorable intelligence from New York.
10. Read the Bible. Cold. Received pamphlets. Paid for Mr. Cannon towards my book-case, \$6.00. Elizabeth Bacon, a member of this family more than five years, left us. Gave her \$5.00.
11. Quite cold. Preached a double sermon on Isa. lix: 17. Meetings pretty full. Attended the Sabbath-school. At evening concluded the biography of Noah on Gen. vi: 22. After which rode out and performed a marriage.<sup>3</sup>
12. Pleasant. Visited and gave tracts. New York State have done remarkably well, beyond all expectation.<sup>4</sup> The day of election through this State. Vote in this town, 278, 191.<sup>5</sup> Wrote to Little & Brown, and Rev. Asa

<sup>1</sup> John Boice Thomas, already briefly noticed, son of Joshua, was born, 1787, and married Mary Howland, daughter of Isaac Le Baron.

<sup>2</sup> Several of Washington Irving's works, as we now know them, were not then written. But the volumes which had already appeared in 1838 were numerous, including *Salmagundi*, 1808, a partnership work; *Knickerbocker History of New York*; *The Sketch Book*, 1820; *Bracebridge Hall*, 1822; *Tales of a Traveller*, 1824; *Life of*

*Columbus*, 1828; *Conquest of Granada*, 1832; *Tour on the Prairies*, 1835; *Abbotsford and Newstead Abbey*, 1835; *Legends of the Conquest of Granada*, 1835; *Astoria*, 1836; *Adventures of Captain Bonneville*, 1837.

<sup>3</sup> The persons married were Elias Merriethew and Mary Ann Nye.

<sup>4</sup> By the election in New York William L. Marcy, Democrat, was superseded by William H. Seward, who became one of the chief men of the nation.

<sup>5</sup> That is, 278 Whig, and 191 Democratic.



Bullard, of Boston. At evening attended the monthly concert for Sabbath-schools.

13. Wrote to Mr. Beane, of Bedford, and received a letter from Rev. Mr. Gould. Paid for woolen yarn, \$1.00. Visited the sick.

14. The accounts of the election in this State are more favorable than was feared. Warm. Read. Had company. Attended the evening meeting. Quite thin.

15. Wet. Wrote the most of an introductory address for our new lyceum. Worked at my wood. Received a letter from Mr. Beane, of Bedford.

16. Wet. Dined out. Wrote to Mr. Beane. Finished my address, and delivered it at evening to the lyceum. Gave them a good copy of Vattel's *Law of Nations*.<sup>1</sup> I hope the lyceum may be useful here.

17. Pleasant. Received a letter from S. Rodman, Esq., Bedford. Began and wrote one half of a sermon on Heb. x: 23-25, for dedication. Paid for pine wood, almost two cords, \$6.43.

18. Preached with notes on Job xxii: 23, and a sermon on 1 Kings xix: 9. Full meeting. The Sabbath-school does better than we expected.<sup>2</sup> Went to the evening meeting; mostly prevented by rain. Wrote to Gov. Everett.

19. Walked out. Delaware has done badly; New York very well; Massachusetts pretty well. Received a letter from Little & Brown, Boston. Wrote the latter part of my dedication sermon, and finished it. In the evening wrote pretty fast.

20. Rode in stage to Bedford. Paid for a fine India-rubber sack, \$2.50;<sup>3</sup> for a good pair of shoes, \$2.75; rather too much. Staid at Mr. Rodman's. Visited Mr. Emerson's<sup>4</sup> fine school. At evening heard a good lyceum address on education from Mr. Peabody.<sup>5</sup>

21. Quite cold. The ground frozen and rough. Crossed to Fairhaven, and came with Mr. Gould to the new meeting-house at Nashatucket,<sup>6</sup> and dedicated it. Preached my sermon on Heb. x: 23-25. In the afternoon Mr. Currier, Baptist, preached. Came home. Attended our evening meeting. Received a letter from Mr. Beane. Read late.

22. Received various papers by mail. Wrote. Worked some. Read *Ferdinand and Isabella*.

23. Worked at my wood. Rode to Bedford and attended the examination

<sup>1</sup> Emerich Vattel, 1714-1767, born in Neufchatel, France. His work was long regarded as authority, and was used in colleges and schools as a text-book. It has less authority now than formerly.

<sup>2</sup> It had not before been customary to have the Sabbath-school in the winter. Owing to the cold meeting-houses, the Sabbath-schools at first were kept only through the warm season.

<sup>3</sup> If asked the question, we should have

been inclined to answer that such a thing as an India-rubber sack was not then in existence.

<sup>4</sup> Dea. John F. Emerson.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Ephraim Peabody, D. D., Unitarian pastor at New Bedford, afterward at King's Chapel, Boston.

<sup>6</sup> This seems to be the Indian name for some locality within the town of Rochester, where a small church edifice had been erected.

of the academy. The performance very good. Did errands. Took tea with company at Mr. Rodman's. Walked to Fairhaven.

24. Rode home. Cold. Wrote. Walked out. Received of my collector, \$40.00. Yesterday received a good letter from my brother James. Paid for making a coat, without cutting, \$2.50.

25. Mr. Beane<sup>1</sup> came here early to exchange. Took his chaise and rode to Bedford. Severe cold. The mercury after sunrise was at 7°. Suffered in my ride. Preached a double sermon on Isa. lix: 17. The house not well warmed. This congregation, I fear, is diminishing. Mr. Holmes is absent a great deal. Preached at the evening meeting on Gen. xxxii: 26, etc. Staid at Mr. Beane's.

26. But little abatement of the cold. Made calls. Dined with D. Ricketson. Rode home in the stage. Read.

27. Thermometer in the morning about 18°. Wrote. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Bullard, of Boston. Began a sermon on Ps. cxvi: 12 for Thanksgiving. My eyes continue weak.

28. In the morning the ground was covered with snow. Thermometer about freezing. Yesterday wrote to Mr. Crosby in Florida. Wrote and finished my sermon begun yesterday. Received a very valuable new surtout made at Bedford; cost about \$40.00. Read. Put on my flannel on the 24th.

29. Thanksgiving. Thermometer about 15°. More Thanksgivings, I think, this year than in any preceding one. I believe in ten States.<sup>2</sup> Meeting thin. Preached on Ps. cxvi: 12. Dined at Capt. Le Baron's. Visited. We had our usual contributions for poor widows. Read.

30. Read. Had company. Walked and visited. Warmer. Read in Irving's *Works*.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. We examined and approved of teachers. Have little time to prepare for the Sabbath.

2. Mild and pleasant. Thermometer up to temperate. Preached with notes on Micah iv: 5, and a sermon on Ps. cxxxvii: 1. Attended the sacrament. Received a woman into the church. It is a long time since we received any by profession. Full meetings. At evening spoke on the life of Abraham from Heb. xi: 8, etc.

3. Examined and approved a school-master. Visited a school. Wrote. Attended the monthly concert. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Hall, of Plymouth.

4. Visited. Walked to the Neck, visited a school, gave tracts, and preached at an evening meeting on Matt. xi: 28. Baptized a child.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Samuel Beane, afterwards settled for a time at Little Compton, R. I., a graduate of Dartmouth, 1836, and then supplying the pulpit of Rev. Sylvester Holmes. He was a man of culture and ability.

<sup>2</sup> Thanksgiving, in the olden times, had been especially a New England festival, and had been slow in getting beyond New Eng-

land. It did not go into New York till this century was well under way.

<sup>3</sup> The child baptized was Edwin, son of James Hammond. The custom of baptizing the children so largely at evening meetings seems to have been peculiar to this place, or at least to that part of New England. It certainly was not general.

Tarried out. Received a letter from Dr. Erastus Robinson,<sup>1</sup> of Northbridge.

5. Rode home. Read. The canals and rivers are said to be frozen. Wrote some on a discourse, begun Monday evening, for the Plymouth anniversary. At evening Mr. Wolcott,<sup>2</sup> with whom I lived so long at East Windsor, came here. He went with me to the evening meeting. Wet, and the meeting thin.

6. Walked with Mr. Wolcott, and made calls. Sold him my land at East Windsor for \$312.00. Took his note, and gave him a deed. Dined out. At evening Mr. Wolcott went away. Wrote. Saw the President's Message. Very long.

7. Thermometer about 15°. Wrote considerably, but slow. Have hindrances. Read in the Message; pretty slim.

8. Received letters from Mr. Hall<sup>3</sup> and Mr. Morton,<sup>4</sup> of Plymouth. Wrote on my discourse. My eyes are poor. Examined and approved a school-master.

9. Cold. Gave some question books to the Sabbath-school. The meeting-house is poorly warmed. Preached a double sermon on Isa. lv: 6. One of our neighbors has lately died at Savannah. We had a contribution for wood at the meeting-house. At a full evening meeting finished the biography of Abraham on Heb. xi: 9, 10.

10. Received a letter from Marsh & Capen, of Boston. Wrote to Dr. Robinson, of Northbridge, and Mr. Morton, of Plymouth, and to Mr. Swift, of Falmouth. Wrote on my discourse.

11. Mrs. Crosby had a letter, after much anxiety, from Mr. Crosby at Florida. He had a long passage. Read. Pleasant weather. There is a bad mob in Pennsylvania. Examined and approved a school-master. The Universalist meeting-house here has got a clock. Visited. Wrote laboriously. Carried up wood.

12. Yesterday Mr. Cobb, of Sandwich, with friends, called on me. Read. Dined out. Capt. Le Baron paid me \$92.00. Paid for singing-school, \$2.00. Mr. Buckingham,<sup>5</sup> and wife, the famous English lecturer, called on me, with

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robinson seems to have been known for outside work as well as in the home practice of his profession.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Abiel Wolcott, whose name appears so frequently in the first volume of this work, was born in 1761, and was now seventy-seven years old. This was a long winter journey for him to take, but the object of his visit at once appears.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Robert B. Hall.

<sup>4</sup> Ichabod Morton.

<sup>5</sup> James Silk Buckingham, here referred to, was a man of very remarkable experience. Born as a farmer's boy at Flushing, near Falmouth, England, 1786, he early took to

the sea, and followed a sea-faring life for several years. In 1816, at Calcutta, India, he started a newspaper, in which he commented so freely on the East India government, that he was forced to leave the country. He went to England, and by his lectures and writings he so wrought upon the public mind that the government was compelled to respect his influence. *The Athenaeum*, now among the most influential of the weekly journals, was originated by him. He was a Member of Parliament for Sheffield, 1832-1837. He traveled and lectured widely through the United States. He died in 1855, after a life-work truly extraordinary.

Mr. Alden and others from Bedford. Attended the evening meeting. Cold and high wind. Wrote.

13. My writing is very laborious. Received a letter from Mr. Taylor, of Bedford. Wrote to Mr. Beane, of Bedford. Paid for cherry boards, \$9.52. Wrote and finished the first draft of my long anniversary discourse. Visited. Thermometer in the morning about 7°.

14. Walked a distance. Visited a school. Received a letter from Mr. H. Mann, of Boston. Began to copy my discourse.

15. Wrote what I could on my discourse. It precludes other things.<sup>1</sup> Received a letter from Mr. Swift, of Falmouth. Worked at my wood.

16. Cold. Preached with notes on Isa. lxiv: 8, and a sermon on Prov. viii: 4. At evening meeting life of Jacob on Ps. cv: 9-11. Quite fatigued.

17. Thermometer about 5°. Went to Orcoot and visited the school. On the 15th. visited Pine Island school. Visited. Wrote laboriously. Troubled with nervous affections.

18. Warmer. Last night we had snow and rain. Read. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Briggs,<sup>2</sup> of Sniptuet. Yesterday paid for knotting, \$1.20. Visited our two village schools, each containing above sixty scholars over nine years of age. In the evening wrote diligently. Read.

19. Have to exercise a good deal to bear my writing. Carried up wood. Rode to Tripp's Mills and visited a school, and gave tracts. Visited. Wrote to Rev. Jonathan King. Attended our evening meeting. Wrote late and finished my long and elaborate discourse for the Plymouth anniversary. Paid Mr. Wilkie, toward my late book-case, \$2.50.

20. Set out on my journey. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Attended the examination of Dea. Emerson's high school. Called on Mr. Holmes. At evening attended a very interesting lecture on Egypt by Mr. Buckingham. Pleasant for winter.

21. Rode to Plymouth in an extra stage in company with Mr. Alden,<sup>3</sup> Mr. Buckingham,<sup>4</sup> and others. Had a collation at Capt. Lombard's, Rochester. Received a letter from Dr. King, of Rochester. Put up at Mr. Russell's.<sup>5</sup> Wrote an addition to my manuscript.

22. Plymouth anniversary.<sup>6</sup> A comfortable day. The ladies of the town presented the Standish Guards an elegant standard. We went in procession from the Pilgrim Hall to the meeting-house, and had the usual exercises. I prayed and delivered my discourse; about sixty-five minutes. A large

<sup>1</sup> It was to be delivered in a few days, and therefore it was needful that it should take precedence of other things.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs.

<sup>3</sup> Francis L. Alden.

<sup>4</sup> James Silk Buckingham, to whom the celebration of Forefathers' Day would be a novelty.

<sup>5</sup> Nathaniel Russell.

<sup>6</sup> The Landing of the Pilgrims is said to

have been commemorated publicly at Plymouth for the first time in the year 1769, one hundred and forty-nine years after the real landing. Since that time there has not, we suppose, been a continuous and regular observance of the day, but for many years the Plymouth Celebration has been a fixed and important institution. The Pilgrim Society was organized in 1820, two hundred years after the landing.

assembly. Many people from abroad. Made a short extempore address to the Guards. At evening heard a long and pretty good temperance lecture from Mr. Buckingham.

23. Preached for Mr. Hall on 1 Cor. i: 21, and Acts xxix: 23, 24. I had engaged Mr. Beane, of Bedford, to supply my people, and Mr. Hall remained at home. This congregation not large. Mr. Hall preached in the evening. It came on cold and tedious. The Sabbath is not kept here as in the days of the fathers.

24. The mercury at 7°. Kept in. Wrote a letter to the Duke of Sussex, England, to procure the Bishop's Bible.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Buckingham took charge of my letter, and wrote an introduction for me to the Duke. At evening Mr. B. gave an interesting lecture on Palestine. Very cold.

25. Thermometer at 8°. Looked at Mr. Russell's new iron works; very fine. Last evening called on my cousin Chandler's<sup>2</sup> widow; and this morning his son's, the doctor,<sup>3</sup> widow. Both reside here. Took the stage and rode to Boston.

26. Put up at the Bromfield House. Met with the Board of Education. Had a good deal to do. Did errands. The Board had an afternoon meeting. Tarried with my cousin Chandler Robbins.<sup>4</sup> A good man for a Unitarian.

27. Attended the Board. We voted to establish a normal school at Lexington. Paid Little & Brown, on account for books, \$50.00. Paid for tracts, \$7.65. Traded, \$2.25. At evening rode to Roxbury and tarried with Dr. Robbins.

28. The Board were diligent in their business, and did not finish till evening. We shall probably have another normal school at Barre. Visited friends. Made out a bill of \$30.00, for expenses since last May, and left it with the Governor.

29. In the morning it snowed. Warmer. Took the cars and came in them and stage to Fairhaven. Walked home towards night and evening. Surface of the ground wet and very muddy. Found all well.

30. Last night it became very cold. Thermometer at 6°. Preached a double sermon on Eph. iv: 18. Meeting-house well filled. At the evening meeting spoke on the life of Jacob on Ps. cv: 9-11. Read.

31. Thermometer about 8°. Walked out. Went into a school. Received a letter from Mr. Beane, of Bedford. Read. My traveling baggage came down from Fairhaven. At evening we had a good prayer-meeting on the close of the year. Our harbor is frozen.

<sup>1</sup> The Bishop's Bible, so-called, followed the Geneva, or Breeches Bible. It received its name from the fact that eight bishops, assisted by seven other learned scholars, superintended its preparation and publication. It appeared in 1568, or more than forty years before our common King James version.

<sup>2</sup> This was Chandler, son of Chandler Robbins, D. D., of Plymouth. He was born

in 1762, died, 1834. He had been Judge of Probate at Hallowell, Maine. His wife, then widow, was Harriet Lothrop.

<sup>3</sup> Chandler Robbins, son of foregoing, graduated at Bowdoin College, 1815, and Harvard Medical, 1818. He died in 1836.

<sup>4</sup> Chandler Robbins, D. D., of the Second Church, Boston, son of Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D., of Roxbury.

## 1889.

### JANUARY.

1. Endeavored to take a proper review of the past year, with the great mercies of God, and to look to him for his merciful guidance and holy keeping for the year to come. Had many calls from children and others. Dined and took tea at Mr. W. Barstow's. At evening attended a spelling-school. Was up late.

2. Read. Walked out. The ground is very hard frozen and rough. Had company. James Dexter paid me \$175.80, and took up his note. I paid him a bill for work of \$11.42, and took a note against Wilkey & Jones of \$160, leaving \$4.38. Attended the evening meeting.

3. Very pleasant. Wrote fourteen days of diary. Sawed and carried up wood. Wrote to Mr. Ichabod Morton, of Plymouth. Walked a distance and visited. Read.

4. Wrote to Mr. A. H. Everett,<sup>1</sup> of Boston. Began a sermon for New Year on 2 Kings xx: 1. Read.

5. Wrote diligently and finished my New Year sermon. I write much more inaccurately than I used to. Very good traveling.

6. Preached with notes on Ps. i: 2, and the sermon mostly written yesterday on 2 Kings xx: 1. There was a funeral at the Universalist meeting-house, which took away many of our people. Spoke at a very full evening meeting on the life of Joseph, on Acts vii: 9. My eyes are still weak. Yesterday paid for sawing wood, \$2.

7. Read. Visited and gave tracts. Dined out. Received of Capt. Le Baron, \$11.50, completing my salary for the last year. Attended the monthly concert. Wet, and thin meeting. Read late.

8. Visited a school. Whole number of scholars, seventy-five. Read. At evening attended a spelling-school. Wrote.

9. Read. Wrote to Mr. Wolcott, of East Windsor. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Thin. Wet. Walked a distance and visited.

10. Rode to Bedford. The ground thaws. Paid Taber's bookstore bill, \$12.95. Paid for spelling-books, thirty-two cents. Attended a small prayer-meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> Alexander Hill Everett, LL. D., was not, perhaps, so distinguished as his brother Edward, but he was a highly cultivated and very superior man. They were sons of Rev. Oliver Everett, pastor of the New South Church, Boston, 1782 to 1792, who was dismissed because of ill health. His son Alexander was born in Boston, 1790; was

graduated at Harvard College, 1806, and died in Canton, China, 1847. He went to St. Petersburg in 1809 as *attaché* to the Legation, and was afterwards Secretary. He broke with the old Federal party in the War of 1812, and became an active Democrat. He was known as an accomplished writer and speaker. Both were poets occasionally.

11. Remarkably warm. Thermometer at 68°. Paid a merchant, \$10. The ice went out of the harbor. Dined out. At evening went into the lyceum.<sup>1</sup> The ground thaws fast. Read the Bible.

12. Walked a distance and visited the sick. Roads quite muddy. My people had a society meeting, and voted, conditionally, to move the place of worship. Wrote. Thermometer about 50°.

13. Expounded on Acts xiii: 1 and 44 to the end. Preached a sermon on Luke vii: 40-43. Full meeting. At evening meeting continued the biography of Joseph, on Acts vii: 9, 10. An attentive audience. Colder.

14. Last night and this morning I lay in bed twelve hours. Wrote. Made this diary,<sup>2</sup> my forty-fourth, by God's great mercy. Sawed and brought up wood. Attended the Sabbath-school concert. Thin. Visited.

15. Cold. The ground hard frozen again. Paid for nine ash-trees for shades, \$4.50. Read. Walked and visited.

16. Was out early. Worked with two men setting out my trees. Thermometer in the morning 15°. Wrote. Attended evening prayer-meeting.

17. Thermometer at 15°. Rode to Bedford with Mrs. Crosby. Very pleasant. Very good riding. Procured some valuable coins. At evening visited. Read.

18. Thermometer near freezing. Wrote. Had company. Read. Walked out and visited. Received a letter from A. H. Everett, of Roxbury, and one from Rev. Mr. Burt,<sup>3</sup> Head-of-the-River.

19. Went early to Capt. Southworth's and attended the funeral of his aged mother-in-law, and they went off to bury at Middleborough. Very pleasant. Received a letter from Mr. Putnam,<sup>4</sup> of Middleborough, and one from Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven. Wrote a sermon on John vii: 45, 46. Began at twelve o'clock and finished about eleven. More than half by candle-light. Much behind what I have done in years past.<sup>5</sup>

20. Last night it became very cold. Thermometer at 5°. Preached with notes on Rom. v: 12, and the sermon written yesterday. Have to teach a class in the Sabbath-school. At evening, with a full meeting, finished the life of Joseph, on Acts vii: 13-15. Spoke long.

21. Thermometer about 25°. Sawed and brought up wood. We have no snow. Read. At evening had a small meeting in behalf of seamen. Wrote.

22. Read. It snowed some. I hear Francis Mayhew<sup>6</sup> recite Latin lessons. Walked and visited. Received a railroad letter from William Savage, of Boston.

<sup>1</sup> The lyceum—the association of people together in town or village for debate and literary improvement—was then an institution comparatively new.

<sup>2</sup> The almanack he used for 1839 was, as in some former years, the *Farmer's*, by Robert B. Thomas, this year “published and sold by G. W. Palmer & Co., Boston.”

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Daniel C. Burt.

<sup>4</sup> Israel W. Putnam, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Far too rapid for any period of life. The general culture of that day did not demand sermons so carefully studied as those of the present day.

<sup>6</sup> A son, perhaps, of Thomas Mayo (or Mayhew) and Lucy Le Baron.

23. Mrs. C. received a good letter from Mr. C. The snow is three or four inches and sleighs move some. Rode to Bedford and attended a special meeting of our Association.<sup>1</sup> Thin. We examined and licensed Mr. J. M. Mackie,<sup>2</sup> of Wareham, to preach the gospel. At evening it came on tedious and very cold. Tarried at Mr. Holmes's.

24. Last night was very cold. Thermometer at Bedford in the morning was at eight below zero. Paid for candles, \$3. Rode home. Read. Visited and gave tracts.

25. Thermometer about 20°. The snow thaws and diminishes. Read. Sawed wood. At evening went into the lyceum. Our harbor is closed.

26. The mercury near freezing. Wet. The snow is mostly gone. Read. Wrote a long letter to sister Battell.

27. Thermometer about 25°. Preached a double sermon on Num. xxiii : 19. Last night we had a violent tempest of wind and rain. At a full evening meeting spoke on the life of Moses, on Acts vii : 20-22.

28. Thermometer about 12°. A very rough wind. Visited and gave tracts. Read. Had company. We have good news from our friends that are abroad at the South. Read the Bible. Wrote.

29. Visited and distributed tracts. Walked a distance. Thermometer in morning at 9°. Read late.

30. Read. Thermometer about 16°. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. We had some snow.

31. Thermometer about 20°. Received a letter from Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven, and one from Mr. Morton, of Plymouth. Visited and gave tracts. Wrote.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Visited. Thermometer at 20°. We have many accounts of the desolation of the great winter flood last Saturday. The storm was very severe at New York and Philadelphia. Read. Wrote to Mr. Putnam, of Middleborough. Wrote late.

2. Wrote to Col. S. T. Wolcott,<sup>3</sup> East Windsor. It snowed some. Made calls and gave tracts. The proprietors of our meeting-house had a meeting and voted not to move the house. Went to Fairhaven; attempted to walk, but rode the most of the way. Mr. Gould is feeble,<sup>4</sup> but preaches. Cold. Attended an evening prayer-meeting with Mr. Gould.

<sup>1</sup> Old Colony Association.

<sup>2</sup> John Milton Mackie was a graduate of Brown University, 1832, and was a tutor there 1834 and 1835. He did not enter the ministry, but became a well-known writer. He was born in Wareham, 1813. He was a contributor to Sparks's *Biographies*, wrote the *Life of Leibnitz*, and several other volumes. He was a contributor to the *North American Review*.

<sup>3</sup> Col. Samuel Tudor Wolcott, whose ac-

quaintance Dr. Robbins first made in 1808, when he went to board in his father's family. He was then a boy of eight years, now a colonel of militia, thirty-nine years old.

<sup>4</sup> Feeble from illness, not from age. He was born in 1790, so that he was then in middle life. He was settled in Fairhaven in 1822, having been previously settled for a short time in Dracut, and also in Darien, Ga. He lived on, however, for a good number of years after that.



3. Mr. Gould rode to Mattapoisett. Lectured in the morning on the early part of the life of Moses, on Acts vii: 20-22. Preached on John vii: 45, 46. Capt. Freeman came for me, and I returned after meeting. At evening meeting spoke on the life of Moses, from Ps. cv: 25-27. Cold and tedious. Thermometer in the morning 10°.

4. Read. We have very extensive accounts of the devastations of the late flood.<sup>1</sup> The rivers were generally broken up and the waters very high. Gave on a subscription for the Seamen's Friend Society, \$2. Thermometer in the morning 19°. Attended the monthly concert. Wrote.

5. Read. Sawed wood. Thermometer at 7°. Rode to Fairhaven. Visited Capt. Gibbs;<sup>2</sup> quite sick. Crossed to Bedford and attended a wedding at Mr. Holmes's. A great company. Recrossed to Fairhaven. Received a letter from Col. Wolcott, of East Windsor. The harbors are frozen. Paid stage fare to Plymouth, December 21st, \$3.50.

6. Rode home early by stage. Thermometer 8°. The ground very hard. Read. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Yesterday and today severe cold through the day. Paid a peddler, eighty cents. Wrote.

7. Rose early. Thermometer a little after sunrise 02°. Rode to Fairhaven, and took the stage and rode to East Bridgewater. Clear sun, but severe cold. Attended a meeting of the county association for schools. Rather thin. A fine school were present. Kindly treated at Mr. Goodwin's. Went and tarried at Mr. Sanford's.<sup>3</sup>

8. Weather moderates. Left Bridgewater at noon and came to Fairhaven. Walked home in the evening. It thaws. Thermometer this morning was 23°.

9. Thermometer above freezing. Wet. Visited a sick man. Read. Preparing for the Sabbath.

10. Thermometer at 11°. Preached a double sermon on John x: 27, 28. Full meetings. Spoke at evening meeting on the life of Moses, on Acts vii: 35, 36. It thawed some. Much fatigued.

11. It snowed some. Sawed wood. Read. Wrote to Mr. Crosby at Florida. At evening attended the Sabbath-school concert. A very interesting meeting. Visited.

12. Read. Visited. Thermometer about 15°. Dined out.

13. Very pleasant; like the decline of winter. Read. There is much excitement in the State respecting the license law. Walked a distance, gave tracts, and visited. Had our evening meeting at Cannonville. Preached on John xvi: 7, 8.

14. Walked to Randall neighborhood, visited, and gave tracts. It thaws

<sup>1</sup> The year following was remarkable for awful inundations in the Old World, especially in France. Some of the rivers in France were more swollen than they had been for two hundred years.

<sup>2</sup> Capt. Anselm Gibbs.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Baalis Sanford, born in Berkley,

Mass., 1801; graduated at Brown University, 1823; was pastor at East and West Bridgewater, 1827-1849, and at East Bridgewater again, 1850-1861. He resided at East Bridgewater till his death, 1880, at the age of seventy-nine. The original Bridgewater was broken into many parts.

considerably. One of my feet is quite sore and tender. My eyes continue weak. Read late.

15. It thaws and the road is muddy. A woman in this neighborhood died suddenly last night. Visited the family. Received a letter from my brother James.<sup>1</sup> Wrote. Walked and visited.

16. Thermometer in the morning about freezing, and rose to temperate. The ground thaws. Mr. Clay<sup>2</sup> has delivered a very fine speech on abolition. Attended the funeral of the woman lately deceased. Wrote notes for preaching.

17. Wet. Bad walking. Expounded on Acts xiii: 14-44, and preached with notes on John xvi: 7, 8. Pursued the biography of Moses, at evening, on Ps. cv: 36-38. Meetings well attended. Wrote. The ice is mostly gone from our harbor.

18. Stormy; moderate snow and rain. Walked to Tripp's Mills. Visited the schools and a large number of families, and gave tracts. Bad walking. The ground continues to thaw. Fatigued, but glad that I am enabled to perform such labor. Read.

19. Had company. Walked to the Neck and visited their school. Well instructed. Visited. Rode home. Thermometer in the morning about 20°. Received a letter from my sister Battell. Read late. My eyes are weak.

20. Thermometer near freezing. The surface of the ground very wet. Wrote. Spend considerable time with my scholar, F. Mayhew. We have lately collected here and sent to New York, \$22.30, for the Seamen's Friend Society.

21. Rode early to Fairhaven, and took the stage and rode to Bridgewater. The ground thaws and the traveling is very bad. Met with the association for schools. Mr. May<sup>3</sup> delivered an address, and there was much interesting discussion. Tarried with Rev. Mr. Gay.<sup>4</sup>

22. Wet and snow. Engaged some books of Mr. Gay. Had a pleasant visit with him. Took the stage and rode to Fairhaven. The wheels go heavily. Attended in the evening a great musical exhibition. Capt. Roland Gibbs was buried yesterday.

23. Rode home. Wet. There was a temperance meeting here last evening and Mr. McClish, a Methodist, delivered an address. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow. Paid a post office bill of \$5.37. I paid the greater part of my letters during the last year. Wrote.

24. Preached with notes on Jer. xxiii: 24, and a sermon on Ps. lxxxix:

<sup>1</sup> Still living at Lenox, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Henry Clay was a member of the United States Senate at four separate periods of his life. His longest connection was at this time, during the years 1831-1842. Though, like Webster, he was long in expectation of the presidency and always disappointed, he was, nevertheless, exceedingly popular.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel J. May, who has several times come into view in this volume.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Ebenezer Gay, a native of Walpole, Mass., born 1792; graduated at Harvard, 1814. Settled in Bridgewater, 1823. Mr. Gay, at the publication of the Congregational minutes for 1886, is reported as living at Tomkins Cove, N. Y. He has since died, at the age of ninety-four.

3, 4. At a full evening meeting finished the biography of Moses, on Ps. cvi: 23. These lectures have been very well attended. Very tired. Warm and the frost gets out of the ground fast.

25. Wet and rainy. Did not go into the street. Wrote to Judge Shaw,<sup>1</sup> and to J. P. Bigelow,<sup>2</sup> of Boston. Received of my former collector, \$16.

26. The mercury rose above 50°. Visited the two large village schools. Wrote to Gov. Everett, and to Little & Brown, of Boston. The children of this village, I think, have more than doubled since I came here.

27. Warm. Wrote. Read. They have some low characters in Congress.<sup>3</sup> Visited the Pine Island school; small, but well instructed. At evening attended our meeting; thin. Visited.

28. My eyes are still weak. Read. Walked to Orcoot and visited the school. The ground is much settled. Walked and visited the sick and others. Attended at evening a school exhibition

#### MARCH.

1. In the morning the ground was covered with snow, but it went off. Had company. Walked a distance to visit a school, and found the teacher absent. Visited and gave tracts. Received a letter from Secretary Bigelow,<sup>4</sup> of Boston. Wrote late.

2. It snowed the most of the day. Quite tedious. Meetings very thin. Preached with notes both parts of the day on Mal. iii: 1, 2. At evening clear, and it became very cold. Meeting prevented by an accident with the vestry stove. Walked out and performed a marriage.<sup>5</sup> Thermometer at twelve o'clock at 5°.

3. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow. Our people here send a remonstrance to the annual town meeting instead of going.<sup>6</sup>

4. Wrote. Read. It is fifty years this day since the commencement of our national government.<sup>7</sup> A merciful God has hitherto helped us. Wrote to sister Battell.

5. Walked a distance and visited a school. The snow continues on the ground. Thermometer this morning about 16°. Read. Visited.

6. Sawed and carried up wood. Received a letter from Little & Brown, of Boston. Visited a numerous school of little children. At evening attended our prayer-meeting. Very thin. On Monday evening attended the monthly concert.

<sup>1</sup> Chief-Justice Lemuel Shaw, holding office, 1830 to 1860, when he resigned. He was son of Rev. Oakes Shaw; was born in Barnstable, Mass., 1791; died in Boston, 1861.

<sup>2</sup> John P. Bigelow, Secretary of Massachusetts, 1836-1843.

<sup>3</sup> That is a remark which can be made with considerable safety at almost any time.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. John P. Bigelow, State Secretary, before mentioned, was graduated at Harvard

College, 1815, and received the honorary degree of A. M. from Dartmouth College in 1848. He died in 1872.

<sup>5</sup> The parties married were Hanneman Baker and Elizabeth Bacon.

<sup>6</sup> Probably a continuation of the old strife about the place of holding the town meeting, and this continued some years.

<sup>7</sup> 1789, when George Washington was unanimously elected President, receiving the sixty-nine votes.

7. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Got some coins. Pleasant, and the snow went off. Visited Mr. Coffin. Rode out. Visited Mr. Holmes. He is about taking a Bible agency at the West, to leave his people for five years. Paid Mr. Richmond,<sup>1</sup> \$10. Came to Fairhaven. Visited mourners.

8. Saw Mr. Gould a short time. He proposes to leave his people on account of ill health. A holy God is frowning upon us. Rode home in the stage. Read. The late session of Congress has done very little. Wrote. Read. Began a sermon on Dan. xii: 2.

9. Wrote the most of the day on a sermon begun yesterday. I write slow. In the morning the ground was covered with snow. But it went. Visited a family with a sick child. Went again and baptized the child;<sup>2</sup> very low.

10. Called at Dr. Southworth's. His child is a little revived. Preached with notes on John iii: 7, and a sermon lately written on Rom. ix: 15. Cold and windy. At a full evening meeting gave the biography of Joshua, on Heb. xi: 30.

11. Visited the sick and others. Walked a distance. Thermometer this morning about 20°. At evening had a good Sabbath-school concert.

12. Still cold. Sawed and brought up wood. Visited and gave tracts. We have a good many sick, particularly children. Visited the sick.

13. I must have taken cold yesterday; am quite unwell and have severe rheumatic pain in my back. Mr. Ricketson and Mr. Sabina called on me from Bedford, and Mr. Breed from Nantucket. He thinks of leaving there for the West. Visited a school. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting. Spoke feebly.

14. Last night I sweat. My pain is abated, through mercy, but am quite feeble. Read. Wrote to Prof. Thompson, of the East Windsor Institute.<sup>3</sup> Had company. Reckoned with Dea. Crosby and paid him, for horse, etc., at different times, \$14.73.

15. Yesterday received a letter from Gov. Everett notifying a meeting of the Board of Education on the 13th, having lain near a week in Rochester post office.<sup>4</sup> Pleasant. Wrote. My back is still lame. Wrote on the school returns for the town meeting.

16. Walked out. Read. Rode in the stage to New Bedford to exchange with Mr. Holmes. He has done badly; he went off this morning to Nantucket, and got young Mr. Mackie to supply me tomorrow. Did errands. Visited. Tarried at Mr. Alden's.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Richmond.

<sup>2</sup> The child baptized was Edward Newton, son of J. Newton Southworth.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. William Thompson, D. D., born in Goshen, Ct., 1806; graduated at Union College, 1827, and at Andover Seminary, 1832; was settled at North Bridgewater, Mass., in 1833, but was called away in 1834 to be one of the early professors at East

Windsor Seminary. At the end of fifty-two years from that date he is still connected with the same institution, now removed to Hartford. Since 1881 he has been Professor *Emeritus* and Dean of the Faculty, and is yet in active service.

<sup>4</sup> The common courtesies between Rochester Center and Mattapoisett seem to have been wanting.

17. My cold is oppressive and I am considerably unwell. Very pleasant. Preached on 1 Cor. i: 21, and Rom. ix: 15. This congregation, I think, has diminished. Was consulted about a minister for them. Crossed in a boat to Fairhaven, and a chaise came for me and I rode home. Attended a full evening meeting and spoke on the life of Gideon, on Heb. xi: 32. Spoke with labor.

18. Rode with Mr. Howes to Rochester and met with the school committee. Worked at the registers of the schools. The riding pretty good. Saw people plowing. Wrote.

19. Visited. A number of children are sick. Took the stage and rode to Bedford, and thence by stage and car to Boston. Made calls. Saw friends, members of the General Court. Staid at Bromfield House. Wet and dark weather.

20. Saw Mr. Mann and Gov. Everett. The Board of Education had a thin meeting last week. They appointed Mr. Jacob Abbott<sup>1</sup> preceptor of our first normal school. A very good appointment. Did various business. Received of the State Treasurer for expenses as member of the Board of Education, \$30, and paid the same to Little & Brown, booksellers. Sat awhile in the Senate, and also in the House of Representatives. Paid for tracts, \$1.60. Rode to Roxbury and spent the night with Dr. Robbins. Called on Mr. Abbott. I fear he will not accept his appointment.

21. My cousin Chandler Robbins,<sup>2</sup> son of Isaac,<sup>3</sup> is here; a promising young man. Rode in to the city. Rainy, with snow. Very bad walking. The members of the General Court are much perplexed with the license law. Saw my young cousin Thomas Le Baron.<sup>4</sup> Saw Dr. Webb and publishers of school-books. Left Boston at four o'clock and rode to New Bedford. Have been very kindly treated and much prospered on my journey. Walked late to Fairhaven. Much fatigued.

22. Tarried last night at Mrs. Gibbs's. One of my feet is quite sore. Read. Wrote to Pres. Humphrey, of Amherst. Visited one Universalist family that have lost a young child. Not so cold as at Boston.

23. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. We completed our returns for the Secretary of State and made oath to them. We have a number of sick. Wrote.

24. Expounded on Acts xiii: 44 to xiv: 19, and preached a sermon on Rom. x: 8, 9. After meeting rode to the Neck and visited the aged Mrs. Hammond; very sick. At the evening meeting read one of the *Village Sermons*.<sup>5</sup> Am something hoarse. My foot is quite sore.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jacob Abbott, so well known by his popular religious books and his writings for the young, was born in Hallowell, Me., 1803; graduated at Bowdoin College, 1820, and at Andover, 1825. He died in 1879. He did not accept his appointment to the normal school.

<sup>2</sup> This is a new Chandler Robbins, mak-

ing the fifth or sixth that has been brought to our notice.

<sup>3</sup> Isaac, son of the original Chandler Robbins, D. D., was, as will be remembered, a Methodist minister at the West.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas M. Le Baron, of Middleborough, who married, in 1830, Sarah E. Morse.

<sup>5</sup> George Burder's *Village Sermons*.

25. Wet. It snowed some. Read. My eyes are quite weak. Wrote. Visited. Wrote to my brother James and sent him an order for \$25 for his son Thomas.<sup>1</sup>

26. Sawed and brought up wood. Rode with Mr. Barstow to Bedford. Cold. Paid for a new-fashioned warming-pan, \$3.50, and gave it to Mrs. Crosby. Bought books, fifteen volumes, and paid for them, \$9. Wrote. Oil is at \$1.10 per gallon.

27. Wrote a sermon on Dan. ix: 10, eight pages, and finished by daylight. My eyes are very weak. At evening rode to the Neck and visited the aged Mrs. Hammond; very low.

28. Fast. Preached a part of an old Fast sermon and the sermon written yesterday. Meetings well attended. No other meeting here. Some playing ball. Very pleasant. Thermometer rose to 70°. At a full evening meeting gave the biography of Deborah and Barak, on Heb. xi: 32. Very tired.

29. Wrote. Brought up wood. Wrote, making out a summary of the registers of the schools, to be presented at the town meeting and to be sent to the Secretary of the Commonwealth. Had company.

30. Wrote and completed my laborious report. Read. Visited.

31. Preached a double sermon on Eph. ii: 12. Walked between home and the meeting-house four times. Full meeting. At evening spoke on the biography of Samuel and Hannah, on Acts iii: 24. Very full. Very tired.

#### APRIL.

1. Wrote to Gov. Everett. Received a letter from Prof. Thompson, of East Windsor. Rode to Rochester and attended the town meeting. Presented my school report. All of our people went up and appointed two additional selectmen. There appears to be a growing alienation between this and the town quarter of the town.<sup>2</sup> Attended the monthly concert.

2. Yesterday took cold and have a bad turn of rheumatism. Rode to the Neck with company and got some fine ash-trees for shades. At evening became quite ill. Had hard pain.

3. Last night took medicine and a sweat, and am relieved in a degree, through great mercy. Had my trees set out; paid for labor, \$1.10. Can do but little. Wrote. Yesterday received a good letter from Mr. Crosby. Was not able to attend the evening meeting.

4. My rheumatism continues painful. I am weak, but do not seem to lose my appetite. Received a letter from President Humphrey, and one from Mr. Mann, of Boston. Attended a thin preparatory lecture and preached with notes on 1 Cor. v: 8. News came that the brig Annawam of this place, coming home with a valuable cargo, was wrecked near Bermuda, and the men are reported missing. Several families are much distressed. Warm. Wrote to Gov. Everett.

5. Wrote to Rev. Jacob Abbott, Roxbury. Am something better. Dined

<sup>1</sup> Who was then in the junior class at Williams College.

<sup>2</sup> The two parts held together until 1857, when Mattapoisett was made a town by itself.

out. The Connecticut election, through the favor of a merciful Providence, has gone very successfully.<sup>1</sup> Visited afflicted families. Read.

6. Wrote. Visited a school. Visited the sick and afflicted.

7. Rode early to the Neck and attended the funeral of the aged Mrs. Hammond. Had a meeting last night and preached with notes on Matt. xxvi: 29. Received a woman into the church. Attended sacrament. The church full. Preached a sermon on 1 Cor. vii: 3. Warm. My strength held better than I feared. At evening spoke on Matt. xxvi: 29. Very tired.

8. Cooler, and the ground quite dry and dusty. Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston. Trimmed trees. Our mourning families are deeply afflicted. Wrote. Read. At evening attended the Sabbath-school concert.

9. Am quite unwell; rheumatic. I believe I took cold yesterday. Received a letter from Mr. Fowler,<sup>2</sup> of Fall River, and wrote to him. Can do but little. Took medicine.

10. Am very weak. Read the Bible. Mr. Seabury, of Bedford, called on me. Cold and very dry. Wrote. Attended the evening prayer-meeting; quite thin. Visited.

11. Read *Massachusetts Historical Collections*.<sup>3</sup> Looked over books. Wrote. I fear some of my books are lost.

12. Wet and rainy. At evening quite hard. Very grateful to the dry ground. Worked at my library. Wrote to Julius C. Anthony.<sup>4</sup> Visited.

13. Wrote a sermon on 1 Tim. vi: 12. Quite laborious. Wet and rainy and cold. Read. I feel the want of exercise. Received of my collector, \$34.50. My eyes are some better.

14. A tedious northeast storm, with not much rain. Preached with notes on Ps. li: 10, and the sermon written yesterday. Cold. Had a partial evening meeting. Visited. Wrote. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, of Hartford.

15. Painful news received here this morning from the brig Annawam, wrecked. Of twenty-one of the crew, fourteen, including the captain and mates, are lost; seven are saved. Seven from this place; four lost. Visited the afflicted and agitated families.<sup>5</sup> It makes a deep impression. The cargo worth about \$20,000. Clouds and darkness are about God. At evening it rained again.

16. Received a letter from Little & Brown, Boston. Pleasant. Paid Harlow & Le Baron, \$5. Rode to the Neck. Mr. Waterman is quite sick. Walked home. Visited and gave tracts. Our people have saved considerable wheat. New York city has done poorly.

<sup>1</sup> In April, 1839, Connecticut re-elected her excellent Governor, Hon. William W. Ellsworth, and continued to do so for the two years following.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Orin Fowler, afterwards Member of Congress.

<sup>3</sup> A most valuable series of books, which has been increasing year by year until now its number is large.

<sup>4</sup> Julius Cæsar Anthony, before mentioned, born in Taunton, 1804. He studied for the ministry, graduating at Andover in 1835; but became a planter in Texas, and died in Wheelock, Texas, 1864.

<sup>5</sup> Such, from time to time, are the sad experiences of sea-faring communities. All the towns on Cape Ann and Cape Cod share in such afflictions.

17. We have another cold and tedious storm. It rained and snowed. Visited. Wrote. Received a letter from Paul Folger,<sup>1</sup> of Nantucket. Mr. Breed is to be dismissed. No evening meeting. Wrote on my library catalogue.

18. Wrote to S. T. Wolcott, East Windsor. Received a letter from Mr. S. Hawes, Bedford. Read. Walked to Pine Islands and attended a funeral, and preached on Isa. xl: 6. Gave tracts. Visited. In the morning the ground was covered with snow, but it went off.

19. Received a letter from Rev. Jacob Abbott, of Roxbury. Read. Warm and pleasant. Wrote. Began a sermon on Ps. cvii: 23, 24,<sup>2</sup> and wrote considerably. Received a box of books from Boston; a valuable addition to my library.

20. Wrote diligently on my sermon. Afternoon attended the funeral of a young child. Gave tracts. In the evening finished my long sermon. Pleasant, but cool.

21. Quite cool. Preached with notes on 2 Kings vii: 3. Afternoon my sermon on the wreck of the brig Annawam, on Ps. cvii: 23, 24. The meeting-house very full. Some people from Fairhaven and Bedford. An affecting scene. At evening spoke on the biography of Samuel, on Heb. xi: 32.<sup>3</sup> Very much fatigued. We collected for our Sabbath-school library about \$11.70.

22. Am very languid. Have taken some cold and am hoarse. Read. Worked at my library. Attended the Sabbath-school prayer-meeting.

23. Read. We have a favorable season for vegetation. Made out the school returns of the town. Sent them to Secretary Bigelow.<sup>4</sup> My eyes remain weak. Have to work some for this family.

24. Worked at my library. Rode to Bedford and back in the stage. Saw Mr. Holmes; preparing to leave the town. Dr. Thompson and Mr. Ward, of Middleborough, came here, and Mr. W. gave a good lecture in the evening on the subject of common schools.

25. Visited. Warm. Wrote. Mr. Coffin, of Bedford, and Mr. Means,<sup>5</sup> a candidate preaching there, made me a visit. At evening heard a miserable abolition lecture; full of envy and ungodliness.

<sup>1</sup> The name Folger came to this country in 1660. In that year John Folger, with his son Peter, arrived at Martha's Vineyard. Peter went in 1663 with the early settlers to Nantucket. He was an important man on the island. His daughter, Abiah, was the mother of Benjamin Franklin. Peter Folger used his pen, and wrote some quaint poetry against religious intolerance. No doubt Paul Folger, here mentioned, is one of his descendants. Walter Folger from Nantucket was Member of Congress, 1817-1821.

<sup>2</sup> "They that go down to the sea in ships," etc.

<sup>3</sup> These discourses of Dr. Robbins on Scripture biography had been going on now for a long time, and were very popular.

<sup>4</sup> Secretary Bigelow held his office, 1836-1843.

<sup>5</sup> This, without doubt, was Rev. James Means, born in Amherst, N. H., 1813; graduated at Bowdoin College in 1833, and at Andover, 1838; a most delightful man as preacher and teacher. His first settlement was at Concord, Mass., 1840-1844. He died in 1863 at New Berne, N. C., where he was Superintendent of Contrabands. He was greatly beloved by those who knew him.



26. Saw a seaman, Chase, who was wrecked in the Annawam. His story is very affecting. Four promising youths of this place were lost. Wrote on my library catalogue; completed 1838, making 2,858 volumes. I bless God for the gift. On the 24th received a letter from Charles Delano,<sup>1</sup> informing me, officially, that I am elected an honorary member of the Alexandrian Society<sup>2</sup> of Amherst College. Have a good deal of rheumatic pain. Received of my collector, \$22.50, for wood for the last year.

27. Warm and pleasant; vegetation is coming on. Last evening paid for liquors, \$2.25. Worked, etc.

28. Expounded on Acts xiv: 19 to xv: 23, and preached a sermon on Prov. xxix: 1. Our Sabbath-school was reorganized. Am burdened with a hoarseness and rheumatic pain. At evening completed the biography of Samuel, on Ps. xcix: 6.

29. Read. Cooler. Collected money for foreign missions. Wrote.

30. Wrote. Rode with Capt. Le Baron, my delegate, to Rochester to attend Association. We first had an ecclesiastical council and dismissed Mr. Breed, of Nantucket,<sup>3</sup> on account of failure of his health. Mr. Maltby, of Taunton, was on the council. The Association proceeded to their usual business. Mr. Maltby preached. Slept at Dr. King's.

#### MAY.

1. Wet. Vegetation is forwarder here than with us. Yesterday we had asparagus. Afternoon we had a very interesting annual meeting of the Old Colony Foreign Missionary Society. I paid the treasurer, \$50. Mr. Spaulding,<sup>4</sup> from the Sandwich Islands, spoke. He is very feeble. Rode home. Wet, and we had no evening meeting.

2. In the morning we had some very grateful showers. Visited and gave tracts. Worked, and got a large maple-tree for a shade.

3. Showers. Had my tree set. Paid for getting and setting it, \$1. Read. Wrote. An agent for the Oberlin Institute, Ohio, Mr. Dawes, called on me to beg books. Gave him a few. It is a miserable concern.<sup>5</sup> He brought me a letter from Rev. John Keep.<sup>6</sup> Visited and gave tracts.

4. Wrote. Received a letter from Dr. E. W. Bull, of Hartford, with a draft on Suffolk Bank of \$124.57; \$49 from S. T. Wolcott, and \$75.57 from Mr. Bull; the latter nearly \$20 more than I expected. Paid Mr. Barstow,

<sup>1</sup> Charles Delano was, at that time, in the junior class at Amherst College.

<sup>2</sup> The Alexandrian Society.

<sup>3</sup> This council was held on the main-land for the convenience of the ministers and delegates. Mr. Breed had been in Nantucket about four years.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Ephraim Spaulding, born in Ludlow, Vt., graduated at Middlebury College, 1828, and at Andover Seminary, 1831. Went to the Sandwich Islands in 1831. Dr. Robbins speaks of his ill health. He returned to the Sandwich Islands, but died in the fol-

lowing year, June 28, 1840. He spoke at the anniversaries in Boston on the 29th of that same month.

<sup>5</sup> That is an *out and out* old-fashioned New England opinion about an institution which is now recognized as one of the best and noblest ever planted in the West. It took New England a long time to like Oberlin.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. John Keep, born in Monson, 1809; graduated at Amherst, 1829, and at Andover in 1835; after serving faithfully in the ministry of the East for many years, spent his later years at Wisconsin, and died there, 1874.

\$92.10 for the bank. Received of my collector, \$7. Afternoon went to New Bedford to exchange. Walked the most of the way. Gave tracts. Kept at Mr. Alden's.

5. Mr. Roberts rode to Mattapoisett, and returned after meeting. He had agreed to stay and attend my evening meeting. I was much disappointed. At evening attended a large temperance meeting. Mr. Holmes spoke.

6. Rode home in the stage. Am quite unwell. Read. Mr. Crosby came home from Florida, after an absence of six and one half months. He has been much prospered. He left St. Augustine last Monday. Attended the monthly concert. Very thin.

7. Preached last Sabbath on Rom. ix: 15, and Luke ix: 30, 31. Read. Quite cool. Visited and gave tracts. Wrote to Rev. Asa Bullard, Boston.

8. Read. Went into a school. Wrote. Wet and no evening meeting. Wrote to Charles Delano,<sup>1</sup> of Amherst College.

9. Visited and distributed tracts. Read the Bible. Read Scott. Warm. Received of Mr. Crosby, \$200, by which he took up one note and paid the most of another, which I held against him.

10. Received a valuable pamphlet from my cousin, Gen. Lawrence,<sup>2</sup> of the New York Legislature. Visited. A whale brig came in here that has done well. Began a sermon on Matt. vii: 12. The note I took yesterday from Mr. Crosby is \$37.66. My eyes are weak. Read.

11. Warm. Wrote and finished my sermon begun yesterday. My eyes are so weak that I cannot do much evenings.

12. Preached with notes on Ps. lv: 16, and the sermon mostly written yesterday on morality, from Matt. vii: 12. Full meeting. Attended the funeral of a child with Mr. Bryant. Evening meeting spoke on the life of David from Matt. i: 1. Cool.

13. Am feeble and very languid. Read. Walked out. At evening attended a good Sabbath-school concert.

14. Wrote. A rainy day. Grateful to the ground. Added a number of coins to my stock, which I have been some time collecting, to the value of about \$10. I have in the whole about 600. Am able to do but little. Read. Visited a woman very sick. Visited.

15. Warm and pleasant. Visited and gave tracts. Have to take the number of the children between four and sixteen years, by the school law. They are numerous in this village. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

16. Warm. Thermometer about 70°. Distributed tracts and numbered the children. Read. Wrote.

17. We have "vernal showers." Yesterday a whale brig came in with 600 barrels of sperm oil. Walked and gave tracts. In three days I have distributed eighty-eight. At evening there was a circus exhibition here.

<sup>1</sup> Who sent Dr. Robbins the notice of his election to the Alexandrian Society of Amherst College.

<sup>2</sup> J. W. Lawrence. Dr. Robbins calls him

cousin. This is by way of courtesy. He was, as we understand, the brother of the man who married his eldest sister, and really not at all of his kindred.

18. Wrote the most of a latter half of a sermon, begun some weeks ago, on Dan. xii: 2. Can do but little by candle-light.

19. Wrote the last page of my double sermon on the resurrection, and preached it, on Dan. xii: 2. At evening spoke on the biography of David. Full meetings. Wore no out-coat. Spoke in the evening on Acts ii: 29.

20. Rode to Middleborough and attended the funeral of my neighbor, Mrs. Harlow. Preached with notes on Phil. i: 21. Mr. Briggs, of Sniptuet, assisted. She formerly belonged to his church. Baptized her two children.<sup>1</sup> She had been prevented from having it done by ill health. The season there is forwarder than here; apple-trees are in full blowth, ours just beginning. Received a letter from Mr. Mann,<sup>2</sup> of Boston, and one from Mr. Sprague,<sup>3</sup> of Duxbury. Warm. Much fatigued.

21. Wrote to Mr. Sprague. Read. Gave tracts and took the number of children. Visited.

22. Received three dozen of question-books for the Sabbath-school. Wrote to Rev. Seth Bliss, of Boston. A man in the vigor of life died here with a short illness. Visited the family. Examined a school-teacher. At evening performed a marriage,<sup>4</sup> and did not attend the evening meeting.

23. Wrote. Chilly east wind. Read. Visited and gave tracts. I cannot perform a great deal of labor.

24. Read. Wet and rainy. Attended the funeral of Capt. Hammond. A most unexpected death. Visited.

25. Wrote the most of a sermon on Deut. xxxii: 29. Afternoon much hindered with company. Examined a school-teacher, Mary P. Ellis.

26. Finished the sermon on Deut. xxxii: 29, and preached in the afternoon. Preached in the morning with notes on John xv: 22. Rode to the small meeting-house at Noshatucket,<sup>5</sup> and preached at five o'clock with notes on Zech. xiii: 7. At our evening meeting had a sermon read.

27. Much fatigued with my late labors. Wrote. Set out late on my journey and rode to Bridgewater and Abington. Had a horse and carriage. Towards evening wet and rainy. Called on the aged Mrs. Niles.<sup>6</sup> Tarried at Rev. Mr. Ward's.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The children baptized were Abner Wood and Mary Stanton, "children of Abner Harlow, at the funeral of their mother."

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Horace Mann.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Seth Sprague.

<sup>4</sup> The persons married were Edward Oliver, of New Bedford, and Jane Edwards, of Falmouth.

<sup>5</sup> This is the meeting-house where Dr. Robbins preached the dedication sermon a few months before.

<sup>6</sup> Widow of the notable Rev. Samuel Niles, who had been pastor at Abington, 1771-1814, when he died. His wife had been a widow then twenty-five years.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. James Wilson Ward, a native of Alna, Me., 1803, graduated at Dartmouth, 1826, and at Andover, 1830. He was pastor at Abington, 1834-1856, and had short pastorates in other places. He was a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and Senate. He died in New York, by reason of an accident, in 1873. He was father of James Wilson Ward, Jr.—who was graduated at Amherst, 1860, and died, after short ministries, in 1875—as also of William H. Ward, D.D., of the New York *Independent*. The father was a very stirring and influential man in matters both of Church and State.

28. Rode to Boston. Put up at Mr. Munroe's,<sup>1</sup> now at the west part of the town. A long walk. Quite tired. Did errands. Paid Mr. Breed, of Nantucket, \$4 for a volume of Dr. Manton's<sup>2</sup> sermons. At evening attended a great temperance meeting at the Odeon. Saw Rev. J. Marsh, the secretary. Looked at Sabbath-school books. Paid for tracts, \$6.77. In the afternoon attended the Pastoral Association. Dr. Fay<sup>3</sup> preached well.

29. Attended the Pastoral Association. Met with the Board of Education. Some of the members absent. We have difficulty in getting teachers for our normal schools. Dined at Gov. Winthrop's, with a large company. Went late to the Convention of Ministers. At evening attended the meeting of the Tract Society.

30. Had the charge of the morning prayer-meeting at the Marlborough Chapel. The Board of Education appointed Prof. Newman,<sup>4</sup> of Bowdoin College, teacher of the normal school at Barre. Went with the Governor to the Historical Society; yesterday attended the meeting of the Antiquarian Society; on both of which I was appointed on a committee, with President Adams and President Quincy, on the subject of a history of the United States. Did errands. Paid for Sabbath-school books, the money sent for the purpose, \$12. For the *Recorder*, \$2.50. A volume of the *Missionary Herald*, \$1. Little & Brown, \$30. Handkerchiefs, \$2.50. Question-books, \$3.60. Primers, \$1.26. Evening visited with Mrs. Munroe. Much fatigued.

31. Did errands. Have procured books from Little & Brown, and Burnham. Left Boston after 10 o'clock A. M., and got home after 11 at night. Cool. It was warm while I was in the city. At Bridgewater paid Mr. Gay,<sup>5</sup> for four valuable folios, \$14.50. Seven folios, four quartos, and four 12mos—fifteen volumes—make me a good addition. Looked over my coins and added a considerable number, which I have been some time collecting. I have not devoted much attention to the object, nor expense, for some years. I have now of gold, 7; of silver, 185; of copper, 320; of cheap metals, 41; and a United States cent of the date of each year from 1794 to the present time, excepting 1799 and 1815, 43; total, 596.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> His old stopping place anniversary week. Mr. Munroe formerly lived near Park Street Church.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. T. Manton, a learned divine.

<sup>3</sup> Warren Fay, D. D., of Charlestown.

<sup>4</sup> Prof. Samuel P. Newman, Professor of Rhetoric at Bowdoin, 1824-1839. He accepted the call to Barre, and died there in 1842.

<sup>5</sup> It happened (March 26, 1886), as we reached this entry of May 31, that the morning papers of Boston reported the burial yesterday in Bridgewater of this Rev. Ebenezer Gay, at the great age of ninety-four. He was born in Walpole, Mass., in 1792, and graduated at Harvard College, 1814. There have been at least five Ebenezer Gays in the min-

istry. The first was Ebenezer Gay, D. D., graduated at Harvard, 1714, who was pastor at Hingham nearly seventy years. The next was Ebenezer Gay, D. D., graduated at Harvard, 1737, and settled at Suffield, Ct., 1742-1796. His son Ebenezer, graduated at Yale, 1787, was settled as colleague with his father, 1793, and continued till 1837. The next was the Rev. Ebenezer Gay, buried yesterday, and his son, Rev. Ebenezer Gay, Jr., who was present at his funeral; the last named being an Episcopal clergyman.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. Robbins's collection of coins was quite subordinate to his library. He was, however, on the lookout for old coins, which did not then bear so high a price as now, and he had many valuable ones.

## JUNE.

1. Received a letter from W. H. Taylor,<sup>1</sup> of New Bedford. Read. Afternoon attended the preparatory lecture and preached with notes on Deut. xii: 9. Wrote to Mr. Sprague,<sup>2</sup> of Duxbury, Mr. Morton,<sup>3</sup> of Plymouth, and Dr. Thompson,<sup>4</sup> of Middleborough. Wet.

2. Preached with notes on 1 Peter ii: 1-3, and a sermon on Ex. xxxii: 26. Administered the sacrament. The most of our members at home. At the evening meeting finished the biography of David, on Acts vii: 45.

3. Am quite feeble. Worked a little with Mr. Crosby. At the monthly concert read the wonderful account of the revival at the Sandwich Islands.<sup>5</sup>

4. Quite cool. Have a steady fire. Wrote. Mr. Sprague and Mr. Morton came here, and we had a meeting in the evening relative to a normal school. They spoke well. Was up late.

5. Rainy and wet. Read. Yesterday worked at my library. Wrote. My eyes continue weak and troublesome. Our evening meeting quite thin.

6. Visited a sick woman. Rode in the stage to Bedford, at the request of William H. Taylor in a letter received from him on Monday, to assist in examining their high school under Dea. Emerson.<sup>6</sup> Attended to it in the afternoon. Spent the night at Fairhaven. Mr. Jacob Roberts<sup>7</sup> is preaching here acceptably.

7. Attended both parts of the day to the examination of the school. It performed very well. Males and females about eighty. Mr. Seabury gave me a conveyance home.

8. Mrs. Sturdivant, one of our best women, is very sick. Wrote about half of a sermon on Matt. vi: 10. Was not able to finish it. Cannot do much in the evening.

9. Expounded on Acts xv: 23 to the end, and preached a sermon on Isa. xliii: 13. At evening spoke on the life of Solomon, from 2 Sam. vii: 12, 13. Visited Mrs. Sturdivant. I fear she cannot live.

10. Am quite languid. Very warm. Thermometer up to 80°. Read. Saturday received a letter from brother James. Visited a school. At evening attended the Sabbath-school concert. Visited the sick.

11. Took off my flannel. Wrote. We have good news from Virginia. Good Mrs. Sturdivant died this forenoon. Visited the deeply afflicted family. Wrote. Visited. Thermometer 82°. Capt. Swift, of Fairhaven, and Mr. Roberts called on me. They have given him a call to settle there.

<sup>1</sup> W. H. Taylor was on the school committee of New Bedford.

<sup>2</sup> Seth Sprague, Esq.

<sup>3</sup> Ichabod Morton, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Arad Thompson.

<sup>5</sup> In a letter published in the April number of the *Missionary Herald*, 1839, we are told: "About 5,000 have been received to the churches since our last general meeting (June, 1837), and there are about 2,400 that now stand propounded for admission."

<sup>6</sup> John F. Emerson.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Jacob Roberts was a younger brother of Rev. James A. Roberts, of New Bedford. He was born in England. He remained about fifteen years at Fairhaven, when, in 1856, he was settled at East Medway, and was pastor till Nov. 15, 1871. He is now living at Auburndale, Mass., without pastoral charge, but still preaching occasionally, subject to disability by serious trouble with his eyes.

12. Wrote on a report for the Historical Society. Visited. Wrote a letter to Capt. Samuel Mitchell, of Bangor, who took our seamen from the late wreck.<sup>1</sup> Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

13. Wrote. Quite cool. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Sturdivant. Three preachers were present. Wrote in the evening.

14. Finished my report for the Historical Society. Wrote to Dr. Harris,<sup>2</sup> of Boston. Walked a distance, visited a school and gave tracts.

15. Wrote. Took the stage and rode to Bedford. Did errands. Looked at the new market-house. A magnificent work. Crossed to Fairhaven.

16. In the morning quite rainy. Mr. Roberts went to Mattapoisett, and returned in the evening. Preached a double sermon on Dan. xii: 2. Mr. Gould was present and renewed his request for a dismission. At evening preached a sermon on 1 Tim. vi: 12. Quite cool.

17. Rode home by stage. Read. Wrote on my historical report.<sup>3</sup> At evening walked and visited. Quite cool. Have a fire.

18. Read. Wrote and finished a copy of my report for the Historical Society and sent it to President Adams, and a letter to him and one to President Quincy, Cambridge.<sup>4</sup> Was sent for and rode to Fairhaven, and attended a church meeting in the evening on the subject of Mr. Gould's request for a dismission. The church are much embarrassed.

19. Rode with Dea. Drew to Head-of-the-River and visited Mr. Gould. He and his wife feel disagreeably. Returned and conversed with sundry members of the church. Attended the adjourned meeting in the evening. Mr. Gould was present, and the church voted to accede to his request for a dismission. They passed several votes, very respectful to him, unanimously. Meeting held late. I hope I have been the means of doing good.

20. Was carried home. Quite cool, but I believe no frost. Received a letter from Dr. Harris, Boston. On the 18th received a letter from Rejoice Newton,<sup>5</sup> of Worcester. Wrote. Walked and visited.

21. Wrote, making another copy of my report. Cool. Have fire. Walked and visited. Worked at my library.

22. Rainy. Wrote the latter half of a sermon begun some time since. Read.

<sup>1</sup> A letter of gratitude, probably, from the families of the rescued.

<sup>2</sup> Thaddeus William Harris, M. D., an eminent naturalist, and Librarian of Harvard College, though his father, Thaddeus Mason Harris, D. D., was still living, and may possibly have been the recipient of the letter.

<sup>3</sup> On the 14th he thought the report was done, but in the meantime something more had occurred to him to add.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins, though not a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society, had asked that society to take measures to secure

the preparation and publication of a comprehensive history of the United States from the earliest European settlements. The society had so far acceded as to appoint Pres. John Quincy Adams, and Pres. Josiah Quincy, of Harvard College, to consult with Dr. Robbins. They suggested that he draw up a report embodying his views. This is the report upon which he had been so long laboring.

<sup>5</sup> Rejoice Newton, Esq., of Worcester, was, as we have before seen, actively connected with the American Antiquarian Society.

23. Wrote notes and preached with them on Rom. iii: 3. Afternoon the sermon finished yesterday on Matt. vi: 10. Full meeting. One hundred and twenty-five in the Sabbath-school. At evening spoke on the life of Elijah, on James v: 17.

24. Walked out. Mrs. Crosby is quite unwell. Walked to the Randall neighborhood, visited a school, and gave tracts. Attended at evening the Sabbath-school prayer-meeting. Wrote.

25. Walked a distance and gave tracts. On the 21st visited the two large schools in the village. Yesterday received of Capt. Freeman, \$32.63, completing my salary for 1837. Paid him interest, \$3.50. Visited with Mr. Taylor and Gen. Cobb. Assisted at a meeting preparatory to July 4th.

26. Wrote. Yesterday received a valuable letter from the venerable Noah Webster,<sup>1</sup> New Haven. Dined out and visited. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Rode to Bedford. Tarried at a tavern.

27. Took the stage at sunrise and rode in that and the cars to Boston. Met with Historical Society. President Quincy was there. President Adams not. Presented the report of our committee. It was laid on the table for further consideration.<sup>2</sup> I trust the movement will do good. Took the cars at four o'clock and returned to New Bedford. Much the furthest, 110 miles, that I ever rode in a day. Fare, \$6. Tarried at the tavern. Quite tired and something rheumatic. The Historical Society have a very valuable collection of books and other articles. Paid for Sabbath-school books, \$1.30.

28. In the morning crossed to Fairhaven, and rode home in the stage. Rainy. Wrote. Read. Had a good deal of company.

29. Wrote to Mr. Roberts, of Fairhaven. Our ship-yards are very busy. A corn doctor called and doctored the corn on my foot of eleven years' standing. Paid him \$1. Rode to West Middleborough to exchange. Mr. Barrows went to Mattapoissett.

30. Preached on Rom. ix: 15, and Matt. vi: 10. Attended the Sabbath-school; taught a class. The intermission was short. Towards night rode home. At evening a couple came here and were married.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Barrows is doing very well, and is very useful among his people. Warm and a fine time for vegetation.

#### JULY.

1. Our people are making active preparations for the 4th. I think I have never seen our ship-yards more busy. Visited the sick and others. Read. Attended a thin monthly concert.

<sup>1</sup> Noah Webster, LL. D., was then eighty-one years old, and died four years later.

<sup>2</sup> From the report of the proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society at a meeting held June 27, 1839, we copy the following: "Mr. Quincy, from the committee on the subject of Dr. Robbins's proposition, stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Adams, chairman of the committee, consent-

ing that Dr. Robbins should make the report as drawn up by him, but not concurring in all the opinions contained in the report. Whereupon, the report was read by Dr. Robbins, as drawn by him. *Voted*, That the report be laid upon the table," and there it seems to have remained.

<sup>3</sup> The parties married were Ebenezer Holmes, Jr., and Elizabeth Cushing.

2. Walked out and visited. Read the Bible. Wrote. Very favorable accounts respecting the crops through the country. Thermometer 82°.

3. Wrote. Wrote the most of the day on an address to the children<sup>1</sup> to be delivered tomorrow. Hindered by company. In the forenoon there was hard rain. We have a very wet season. Attended the evening meeting. Cannot write much by candle-light.

4. Wrote early and finished my address. We had a very handsome and pleasant celebration. All engaged in it, and a good many from other places. The children of the schools were numerous and did well. Mr. Bryant read the Declaration, Mr. Taylor delivered an anniversary address, I prayed and addressed the children. All was concluded by a tea-party in a grove.

5. Walked and finished my sermon begun yesterday. Wrote six pages in about four hours.

6. Capt. Tripp came for me, and I rode to Fairhaven. Thermometer about 80°. We have had no hot weather.

7. Preached on Luke xxii: 15. Received a man into the church. Administered the sacrament. This church is large. Spoke to them with regard to their expected ordination. Rode home in the intermission. Exchanged with Mr. Roberts<sup>2</sup> for the forenoon. Preached my sermon on 1 Cor. vii: 31. The shrubbery remains in the meeting-house.<sup>3</sup> At evening finished the biography of Elijah on Rom. xi: 2-4.

8. Went to the wharves. A whale brig went out with some of our valuable youths.<sup>4</sup> Read. Wrote. Thermometer 80°. Our Sabbath-school concert was prevented by the painting of the vestry. Visited the sick.

9. Visited Mr. Bryant's school.<sup>5</sup> He has done well in his school, but succeeds poorly with the Baptists as a preacher. He is going away. Had company. Walked and visited. Thermometer 87°.

10. Walked a distance in the heat, gave tracts, and visited the sick. Wrote to Dea. Emerson,<sup>6</sup> of Bedford. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Thermometer 85°.

11. Wrote to Noah Webster, Esq., New Haven. Read. Thermometer in the forenoon 83°. We had a pretty hard shower. Walked and visited.

12. Visited and gave tracts. Vegetation is prosperous. We have a number of sick. Received a letter from S. T. Wolcott, East Windsor. Wrote.

13. Wrote my second sermon, Morality, on Matt. vii: 12. I think I should have done it by daylight if not interrupted.

14. Preached with notes on 2 Pet. i: 9, and the sermon written yesterday. More than one hundred and thirty in the Sabbath-school. Thermometer 86°.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins almost always had some labor to perform on the 4th of July.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Jacob Roberts, who was to be settled at Fairhaven, and who had been supplying the pulpit.

<sup>3</sup> Placed there for the Fourth of July celebration.

<sup>4</sup> Busy thoughts are awakened, at such times, as to what may come to pass, especially in those long and distant whaling voyages attended with so many hazards.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Mr. Bryant, teacher and Baptist preacher, seems not to have been settled.

<sup>6</sup> John F. Emerson.



Spoke at a thin evening meeting on Isa. xlviii: 16-18. We had a contribution for the Colonization Society and collected \$11.00.

15. Received a letter from A. Warner,<sup>1</sup> of Gilmanton, N. H., requesting me to attend the examination of their theological seminary. Had work done at my shade trees. Dined out. Read Burns's *Poems*. Visited. Paid for tree work, .25. Wrote an addition to an ordination charge.

16. Read. Walked out. Quite warm. Received a payment from my collector, \$25.00. Took the stage and rode to Fairhaven. Crossed to Bedford; paid Dea. Underwood, \$4.50 for tracts, and \$9.91 for books, and closed an old account. Returned and called on Mr. Gould. Warm.

17. The council for the ordination met early. Mr. Gould<sup>2</sup> and some of his friends make much talk and delay, to no good purpose. He was dismissed and Mr. Roberts was ordained. I was moderator, and gave the charge. Mr. Hall,<sup>3</sup> of Plymouth, preached. The services were good. A large assembly. Quite warm. Was brought home. At evening had a very thin meeting.

18. Walked out. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Joseph Willard,<sup>4</sup> Boston. Visited. Thermometer 86°. Received a letter from Henry Perkins, of Philadelphia.

19. Worked at my library. Wrote to my brother Francis. Am quite languid. The mercury rose to 89°.

20. Worked at my books and wood. Had help. Dined out. Wrote. The heat and other calls prevents my writing a sermon. Thermometer 84°. A very fine week for haying. Conversed with persons respecting a profession of religion. Yesterday paid an old store debt, \$1.38.

21. Expounded on Acts xvi: 1-31, and preached a sermon on Matt. vi: 24. Taught a class in the Sabbath-school. Propounded two persons for our communion. After meeting rode to Tripp's Mills, and preached in the old meeting-house without notes on 1 Cor. vii: 23. Saw the aged Mrs. Hovey.

22. Visited families and the school, and gave tracts. Sultry hot. Rode home. Read. Received of the town collector as school committee, \$14.00. Paid a tax of \$1.36. At evening had a thin Sabbath-school prayer-meeting.

23. Worked at my books. Received a letter from Mr. Thompson,<sup>5</sup> of Middleborough. Rode in the stage to Bedford. The heat very oppressive. The mercury at 89°. Made calls. Visited Mrs. Holmes in a very feeble state. Kept at Mr. Coffin's. Paid for horse hire for Mr. Beane, \$1.50.

24. Attended the installation of Mr. Smith.<sup>6</sup> He appeared very well.

<sup>1</sup> Aaron Warner, D. D., born in Northampton, Mass., 1794, graduated at Williams College, 1816, and at Andover Seminary, 1819, Professor of Sacred Rhetoric in Gilmanton Theological Seminary.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William Gould had been pastor there since 1822.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Robert B. Hall.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph Willard, lawyer and antiquarian,

son of Joseph Willard, D. D., was a graduate of Harvard, 1816, and from 1829 to 1864, was Corresponding Secretary of the Massachusetts Historical Society. His letter may have had reference to the report which was left upon the table.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Arad Thompson.

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Mather Smith, D. D., son of Rev. Daniel Smith, of Stamford, Ct., was

Not a large audience. Not as warm as yesterday. Mr. Coffin gave Dr. Woods,<sup>1</sup> Mr. Smith, and me an interesting ride. I was scribe at the council. At evening attended a meeting with Mr. Smith, and spoke on Jer. iii: 15. Rode home late with Dea. Crosby.

25. Read. Worked some. Have difficulty in providing for Association next week. Mrs. Crosby is unwell. Thermometer about 80°. Visited.

26. Wrote to Mr. Gould, Fairhaven. Have much labor about Association.<sup>2</sup> Visited the sick. Wrote. Numerous and very favorable accounts of the crops and the season. Thermometer 84°. Walked and visited.

27. Very warm and dry. Rode to Middleborough; had the company of Mr. Harlow<sup>3</sup> the most of the way. Mr. Putnam<sup>4</sup> has had a sick turn, and is feeble. Mr. Bigelow<sup>5</sup> is to supply me tomorrow. Thermometer 86°. Called on Dr. Thompson, Four Corners.

28. Hot and dry. The ground here is becoming brown. Preached for Mr. Putnam on Matt. vi: 10, and Dan. xii: 2. Went into the Sabbath-school. The congregation is large. Had no evening meeting.

29. Rode; took Mr. Harlow at Mr. Wood's and came. People beginning their harvest. In Middleborough there is a good deal of wheat which looks very well. Walked out. Association is finally to be kept at Capt. Le Baron's.<sup>6</sup> Dr. Cobb preached here yesterday. The heat much as it has been.

30. Have much to do. The Association met here. Quite full. We went to Capt. Le Baron's, and kept there till evening. Had our meeting in the evening. Mr. Putnam preached; well attended. We had considerable business. Thermometer 86°, with a scorching sun. A want of rain.

31. The Association sat here till noon and closed their business.<sup>7</sup> We dined at Capt. Le Baron's. They were much pleased with their entertainment. Afternoon we had the meeting of the Auxiliary Education Society. The mercury was at 92°; cloudy. We had a most grateful spower with thunder.

#### AUGUST.

1. Cooler. We have had an uncommon length of steady, hot weather. Considerably unwell. Received a letter from Prof. Park,<sup>8</sup> of Andover, and

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born in 1797, graduated at Yale, 1816, and at Andover, 1820. He had been previously settled at Portland, Me., Fall River, Mass., and Catskill, N. Y. He was afterwards ordained in the Episcopal Church, and became Professor and President of Kenyon College, Ohio. He died in 1864.

<sup>1</sup> Prof. Leonard Woods, D.D., of Andover, probably preached the sermon.

<sup>2</sup> Because of the sickness of Mrs. Crosby, his landlady, he was obliged to entertain the Association elsewhere.

<sup>3</sup> Very likely this was Mr. Abner Harlow,

whose two children were baptized two or three months before, at the funeral of their mother.

<sup>4</sup> Israel W. Putnam, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow.

<sup>6</sup> Capt. William Le Baron, Dr. Robbins's cousin.

<sup>7</sup> In old times, when people journeyed in carriages and on horseback, the ministerial associations generally continued two days in session, coming together in the afternoon and remaining till the next afternoon.

<sup>8</sup> Prof. Edwards A. Park, D. D.

one from Mr. Eddy, of Bridgewater. Dr. Webb,<sup>1</sup> of Boston, and lady, called on me. Wrote. Had company. Visited. Thermometer 79°.

2. Wrote to Prof. Park. Read. My eyes are quite weak. Began a sermon on Gen. xiii: 8, 9. Visited. Thermometer 80°.

3. Wrote and finished my sermon in the evening. Am affected with my tremor. Received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Boston, one from G. A. Browne, New Bedford. Thermometer 86°. Afternoon preached our preparatory lecture with notes on Matt. viii: 2.

4. Very warm and dry. Preached with notes on Col. ii: 6, and my sermon on Morality on Gen. xiii: 8, 9. Received two good young women into the church. Administered the sacrament. The church quite full. Assisted in the Sabbath-school. Baptized a child.\* Had the third meeting at six o'clock, and spoke on John iii: 16. Very tired.

5. Rode to Bedford. The ground has become quite dry and dusty. There is a great supply of whortleberries. Did errands. Paid a book-store debt of \$11.02. Went to a colored family to get a woman for this family. We have very uniform hot weather. At evening attended the monthly concert. Quite thin. Francis Alden has been to Enfield, and gave me much information about my brothers.

6. Read. Visited two schools. Wrote. Thermometer at 85°. Had company.

7. Wrote to John F. Bacon,<sup>3</sup> Esq., Albany. Visited two schools. Vegetation is suffering. Thermometer 84°. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

8. Rode to Rochester and spent the most of the day in the new academy. It is in the best order, forty-five scholars under Mr. Bigelow, and a female assistant. Returned.

9. Rode to Bedford and attended the examination of the academy.<sup>4</sup> The performance was highly interesting and satisfactory. There is a thorough discipline. Called on the elder Mr. Roach. Visited with Mr. Green Mr. Arnold's garden. It is a wonder. Brought home a woman for Mrs. Crosby. We had a full but most grateful shower. A ship from this place with two thousand two hundred barrels of oil has been lost in the Indian Ocean; men saved. A severe loss.

10. Cooler. Visited a school. Worked some. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Barnard, of Hartford. Received an invitation from the city of Boston to attend their public schools' examination<sup>5</sup> next week.

11. How my life has continued from year to year.<sup>6</sup> Wrote notes and preached in the forenoon on Jonah ii: 8. Afternoon a sermon on Amos

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Hopkins Webb, M. D., whom we have hitherto found at Providence. He was graduated from Brown University in 1821, and from the Harvard Medical School in 1825. He died in 1866.

<sup>2</sup> The child baptized was Arvin, son of Watson Cannon.

<sup>3</sup> John Fairbanks Bacon, Esq., lawyer, re-

ceived the honorary degree of A. M. from Williams College in 1827.

<sup>4</sup> Under the care of Dea. John F. Emerson.

<sup>5</sup> The closing time for these schools now is in June. Almost all school and college anniversaries have been moved back.

<sup>6</sup> This was his birthday, and he was sixty-two years old.

iv: 12. Cooler and very dry. Heard a Sabbath-school class. A very full meeting. Spoke at the third meeting on Acts xx: 21. Baptized a child.<sup>1</sup>

12. Am quite languid. Wrote. Visited. Visited a school. Attended the monthly concert for Sabbath-schools.

13. We had a good deal of rain. Very grateful. Read. At evening set out on a journey to Boston. Rode to Bedford.

14. Rode in the stage and cars to Boston. The day of the general examination of the schools of the city. Went into two of about four hundred pupils each. They performed exceedingly well. Kindly treated. The stimulants to exertion are great. The public medals were given. Dined with the great company at Faneuil Hall. Did errands.

15. Returned to New Bedford; took our stage and came home. Last evening saw at B. Mr. Barnard,<sup>2</sup> of Hartford. Cool. Rode with my cloak. Much fatigued.

16. Made a fire in my room.<sup>3</sup> Read. Wrote. Rainy the most of the day. A great blessing. Attended the funeral of a child. Read. My eyes continue to be weak.

17. Rode to the Neck and visited and gave tracts. Mr. James Hammond has had a loaded wagon go over him, but I hope he will recover. Paid towards my trees, \$1.00.

18. Wrote notes and preached on Ex. v: 2. Afternoon a sermon on Eph. ii: 14. Attended the Sabbath-school. Warmer than it has been. Full meeting. Spoke at the third meeting on Luke xix: 5, 6. Visited a sick woman.

19. My cousin James Le Baron, and his family, from Bristol, made me a pleasant call. Read. We have bad news from Tennessee and Indiana.<sup>4</sup> Warm. I am quite languid. Dined out. Visited.

20. Walked in the heat and visited two schools. The sun is very oppressive. Visited. Some of our friends are going to sea. Read. Received a letter from Ethan Earle, of Middleborough. Thermometer near 80°.

21. A whale brig sailed from here. Gave them testaments and tracts. The heat very oppressive. Thermometer at 82° for about four hours. Visited a sick child. In the evening it died. Had a thin evening meeting. Received a satisfactory letter from John F. Bacon, Esq., of Albany. I hope to get a copy of the Bishop's Bible.<sup>5</sup>

22. Not quite as warm as yesterday. Rode to Tripp's Mills. Gave

<sup>1</sup> The child baptized was William Francis, son of Benjamin Bacon.

<sup>2</sup> Henry Barnard, LL. D.

<sup>3</sup> Very cool weather for the middle of August.

<sup>4</sup> Those States were too Democratic.

<sup>5</sup> This then was the subject of the letter which he wrote a short time before to Esq.

Bacon, of Albany. The Bishop's Bible, so-called, was published in a magnificent style, folio, in 1568 and 1572. It was issued in a kind of opposition to the Geneva Bible, but was not a success. Eight bishops, with helpers, were concerned in bringing it out. Its folio form would make it more desirable to Dr. Robbins.

twenty tracts and visited two schools. Paid for a pig<sup>1</sup> for Association, \$3.00. Escaped from a dangerous injury from my carriage. Read the Bible. Visited.

23. Wrote to John F. Bacon, Esq., Albany, and to Ethan Earle, Middleborough. Thermometer 80°. The sun very oppressive. A Mr. Goodwin, Episcopal minister in Maryland, a cousin, called on me. Read. Wrote.

24. The mercury at ten o'clock was at 85°. It soon fell, 83°. Began a sermon on Micah vi: 8. Am so languid I can write but little. Had company. Attended the funeral of an infant child.

25. Some little abatement of the heat. Preached a double sermon on Rom. v: 5. Full meeting. Baptized a child.<sup>2</sup> Thermometer at four o'clock at 80°. Spoke at the third meeting on Luke xiv: 16, etc. Much fatigued.

26. Wrote a piece for the *Recorder*. Read. Attended the evening meeting for the Sabbath-school. Visited. Thermometer at 84°.

27. A fine ship was launched here this morning. Took the stage to Bedford and thence to Boston. Sent \$10.00 from Bedford to J. F. Bacon, Esq., of Albany, for his Bishop's Bible. The ride from Bedford to Taunton in the dust and great heat was very tedious. Walked out.

28. Very pleasing news from Rhode Island. Rode to Cambridge and attended the Commencement.<sup>3</sup> The speaking and the most of the pieces were good. Attended the meeting of the Alumni. Returned to B., and rode to Roxbury. Tarried with cousin Peter.<sup>4</sup> The heat abates a little. Find many acquaintance.

29. Rode into the city. Cooler. Received from the State Treasury, \$20.00.<sup>5</sup> Paid Little & Brown on account, \$30.00. Paid Munroe for books, \$9.70; for tracts, \$1.73; gloves, \$1.38. Afternoon and evening rode to New Bedford. Cool.

30. Rode home. Afternoon and evening a cold and severe storm of rain. Grateful to the ground. Looked over books. Paid Richmond, at Bedford, \$10.00. Read. Wrote.

31. Wrote diligently, and completed the sermon begun last Saturday on Micah vi: 8. The wind last night was very severe. My eyes were better than I expected. Thanks be to God for a very favorable summer. Cold and had fire in my room. The late storm has been severe and disastrous.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Very pleasant. Expounded on Acts xvi: 25, to xvii: 5, and preached the sermon mostly written yesterday. Meetings and the Sabbath-school full. Spoke at the third meeting on Ps. xci: 1. Our Universalist and Baptist meetings appear to be declining. Visited.

<sup>1</sup> This was a pig, doubtless, which was roasted and eaten at the late meeting of the Association.

<sup>2</sup> The child was Lucy Bond, daughter of Ezra E. Washburn.

<sup>3</sup> Commencement, which had formerly been

in September, was then on the last Wednesday of August.

<sup>4</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>5</sup> For traveling expenses as a member of the State Board of Education. Beyond that the office was one of honor.

2. Wrote to Rev. L. Cobb, at Sippican. Received a letter, with a large number of my sermons on the Trinity, from Mr. Underwood,<sup>1</sup> of Bedford. Read Gordon's *History of the War*.<sup>2</sup> Visited. Wrote. Attended the monthly concert. We have had accounts of effects of ardent spirits in islands of the Pacific.

3. Read Gordon. Visited the ship-yard. A great centennial celebration today at Barnstable.<sup>3</sup> Worked some. Visited. Wrote to James Munroe & Co., Boston. Thermometer at 82°.

4. Worked setting guards at my trees. Dined out. Had company. Our evening meeting quite thin. Visited.

5. Read Warburton's *Julian*.<sup>4</sup> Visited the sick and gave tracts. Wrote to brother and sister Battell. Had company. Visited.

6. Wrote. Walked and gave tracts. Dined out today and Wednesday. Have many calls to see my library. Worked at my books. It is warm this week. Thermometer has been 80° and 82°.

7. Walked and gave tracts. Read. Rode to Sippican to exchange with Mr. Leander Cobb. Dr. Cobb has his two sons here from the West, with their families.<sup>5</sup> Quite warm.

8. Quite rainy. Nathaniel Cobb went to the meeting-house in the forenoon and preached to a few. We had a small meeting at Dr. Cobb's. I spoke on Mark iv: 38. Afternoon we went to meeting. Preached on Matt. vi: 10. Dr. Cobb baptized his son's child. Rode home after meeting. Attended our third meeting with Leander Cobb; he preached. At evening he and I looked over Bibles.

9. Read. Wet. Rode to Rochester and attended with Mr. Bigelow the funeral of Esq. Holmes, aged eighty-five. Gave tracts. At evening the Sabbath-school concert.

10. Last evening received a letter from Mr. J. M. Mackie,<sup>6</sup> of Wareham, enclosing a small piece of the table of Martin Luther, at Wittenberg, procured by himself. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Smith,<sup>7</sup> of Bedford. Walked and visited and gave tracts.

<sup>1</sup> Dea. Sydney Underwood. These copies of his sermons on the Trinity were such, probably, as had not been sold.

<sup>2</sup> *History of the Rise, Progress, and Establishment of the Independence of the United States*, in four volumes. William Gordon, D. D., the author of this work, was an Independent minister in England, who came to this country before the War of the Revolution, and was here during the war. In 1786, he returned to England, and there wrote this history.

<sup>3</sup> It was then two hundred years from its first settlement. It was in 1639 that Rev. John Lothrop led his congregation from Scituate to Barnstable.

<sup>4</sup> Bishop William Warburton, born in Newark, Nottingham County, England, in 1698, and died in 1779. Among his many able works was one entitled *Julian, or a Discourse Concerning the Earthquake and Fiery Eruption which Defeated that Emperor's Attempt to Rebuild the Temple at Jerusalem*. This work first appeared in 1750.

<sup>5</sup> These were Rev. Nathaniel Cobb, graduated at Brown University in 1821, and Leander, graduated at the same institution in 1824.

<sup>6</sup> John Milton Mackie, a graduate of Brown University, 1832. He was a man of fine scholarship, had been tutor in the college, and had probably been journeying abroad.

<sup>7</sup> Thomas Mather Smith, D. D.

11. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, Hartford. Worked at my library. Walked and gave tracts. Had a good evening meeting.

12. Distributed tracts. Yesterday paid for two mantel vases, \$2.50. Received a good letter from Mr. Battell, and wrote to him. Cooler.

13. Began a sermon on Micah vi: 8. Received a few books from Boston. Have fire.

14. Wrote and finished my sermon begun yesterday. Much of it pretty slow. Have tremor and various hindrances. Mr. Clark,<sup>1</sup> Secretary of Massachusetts Missionary Society, called on me and spent some time. My eyes held to write in the evening better than I expected.

15. Mr. Nathaniel Cobb preached for me morning and the third meeting. Very much scattered. Preached in the afternoon my sermon on Micah vi: 8. We had a contribution for the Education Society and got \$18.10. Our third meeting was late.

16. Rode to Bedford and attended the Bristol County meeting for common schools. Mr. Mann delivered an excellent address. Dined at Mr. Rotch's. Saw Mr. and Mrs. Arnold. Had considerable discussion at the meeting. Received a letter from Dr. Webb,<sup>2</sup> of Boston.

17. Received a letter from Dr. Bull, of Hartford, with a draft on the New England Bank of Boston for \$77.50. A fine dividend. Paid Harlow & Le Baron, \$18.87, and balanced his account. Thermometer at 78°. Walked a distance and gave tracts.

18. Distributed tracts. Last night we had a hard rain. Worked at my library. My books are mouldy. Rev. Joseph S. Clark came here and preached in the evening in behalf of the Home Missionary Society; very well. Was up late.

19. Mr. Clark left for Sippican and other places. Warm. Walked to Pine Islands, visited and gave tracts, and preached in the evening on Mark iv: 38. Had a good meeting.

20. Read. Visited and gave tracts at Cannonville. Went into a school. Visited a youth, very sick.

21. We have the painful news of the death of Nathaniel Freeman, a worthy man, and one of our best seamen. Visited. Walked a distance in the heat, visited and gave tracts. We have had three hot days,<sup>3</sup> and very pleasant evenings. Wrote.

22. Preached with notes on Num. xiv: 8. Mr. Goodwin, our Episcopal cousin, came into the meeting in the forenoon with his brother. He preached in the afternoon a short, good sermon.<sup>4</sup> I prayed and said a little after the

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<sup>1</sup> Joseph S. Clark, D. D., a man greatly beloved, a graduate of Amherst College in 1827, for many years Secretary of the Massachusetts Home Missionary Society, father of Joseph B. Clark, D. D., now Secretary of the American Home Missionary Society.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Hopkins Webb, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> The hot days of September that year were a little late.

<sup>4</sup> This was Rev. Henry Bradford Goodwin, graduated at Brown University, 1825. He was an Episcopalian of the catholic and generous type, and was afterwards a missionary in the West.

sermon. Spoke at the third meeting on Acts viii: 5. Am something unwell. Took physic.

23. Am quite feeble. Still quite warm. Set out on a journey to the Cape. Rode in the afternoon to Sandwich. Tarried at Mr. Cobb's.<sup>1</sup> My horse is something lame.

24. Rode to Barnstable. Found Mr. Mann. Attended the County Convention for Common Schools. Forenoon meeting thin, afternoon a good number. Mr. Mann delivered his fine address. We had considerable discussion. Met with my niece, Anna Battell.<sup>2</sup> Rode with her and Mr. Eldredge<sup>3</sup> to Yarmouth.

25. Rode with Miss Battell to Barnstable and Osterville. Visited the friends of my neighbors at home. At evening had a good meeting at Mrs. Crosby's; preached on Mark iv: 39.

26. Last night we had a hard rain with heavy thunder. My carriage is quite wet. Rode to Barnstable and left Anna and rode to Sandwich and Plymouth. The forenoon wet. Afternoon a high wind. The view from Barnstable Hill of the Great Marshes,<sup>4</sup> in a high tide, was magnificent and extremely beautiful. A good, but very lonely road from Sandwich to Plymouth. Met with much hospitality and kindness.

27. Rode in a stage to Kingston and attended the County Convention for Schools. A large collection of people, and good exercises. Returned. The Kingston people treated the strangers very well. Made visits at Plymouth. Cold. Some frost this morning; the first.

28. Rode home. Have had, through great mercy, a very pleasant journey. We have some sick.

29. Expounded on Acts xvii: 5 to the end, and preached a sermon on John ix: 4. Referred to the late death of Mr. Freeman. Spoke at the evening meeting on John ix: 11. Performed a marriage.<sup>5</sup> All the meetings are quite full.

30. Wrote diary. Visited the sick. Carried up wood. Received from my cousin S. P. Robbins,<sup>6</sup> a missionary in the East, a Siamese translation of the Gospel of Mark. Came by ship and mail.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Yesterday sent to Boston by Mr. Harlow, \$10.00 for Little & Brown, and the same sum, \$10.00, for Thomas Burnham, booksellers. Rode to Bedford and saw Capt. Nye. He failed to get the Bishop's Bible,<sup>7</sup> but will

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Asahel Cobb.

<sup>2</sup> Who still keeps the old family mansion, famed for hospitality, at Norfolk, Ct.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Eldredge, D. D. Yarmouth was his native place.

<sup>4</sup> Far along the north side of the Cape, the marshes covered in the high tide, and uncovered in the low tide, make a striking feature of the scenery. This feature is especially marked in Barnstable and Yarmouth.

<sup>5</sup> The parties united in marriage were Joseph M. C. Allen, from England, and Lydia Mendall.

<sup>6</sup> This was Rev. Samuel Prince Robbins, Jr., who finished his studies at Andover in 1835, and went as a missionary to Siam. He soon returned to this country because of ill health, and after preaching in various places, as he was able, died in 1846.

<sup>7</sup> He had secured one copy of the Bishop's



try again. Visited a school at New Boston. Worked at my books. At Bedford paid Mr. Howe, for books and binding, \$20.00, and Mr. Richmond, merchant tailor, \$10.00. Visited the sick. Read.

2. Visited and gave tracts. Wrote. Received a letter from my sister. Very pleasant. Attended the evening meeting. Thin. Visited.

3. Walked and gave tracts. Warm. Worked at my library. Visited. Read the Bible.

4. Read. Visited. Had company. Began a sermon on 1 Tim. iv: 8. My tremor retards my writing.

5. Wrote diligently and finished my sermon begun yesterday. My eyes are weak. We have had a week of very pleasant weather. Yesterday morning there was some frost.

6. In the morning we had a pretty hard frost. The first to kill vegetation. Yesterday we had our sacramental lecture; preached with notes on Deut. xxiii: 21. In the morning preached a sermon on 1 Pet. i: 11. Administered the sacrament. The church quite full. Preached the sermon mostly written yesterday on 1 Tim. iv: 8. Baptized three children of one family.<sup>1</sup> I have seldom seen our house so full. Sabbath-school omitted. Had a full evening meeting and spoke on John ix: 11. Read the *Columbiad*<sup>2</sup> quite late.

7. Walked a distance, and visited two afflicted families. It is supposed we have lost a schooner from this place; a good vessel, with its crew, on their passage from Philadelphia to Boston with coal, in the disastrous storm of August 30th. At evening had a thin monthly concert.

8. Dr. Cobb spent the most of the forenoon with me. Yesterday morning attended a wedding at Mr. Willis's. Mr. Taylor<sup>3</sup> performed the service. Wrote. Walked to the Neck and gave tracts. Slept at Capt. Southworth's.

9. Visited and gave tracts. Walked home. A very fine season for getting in crops. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Read Milton.

10. Wrote. Walked a distance, visited a school, and gave tracts. My eyes are quite weak. Difficult to read in the evening.

11. Visited. Looking over my books. Find an unexpected number missing. Paid for worsted hose, \$1.00.

12. The opening of the great Western Railroad last week was a great event.<sup>4</sup> We have a very long term of very pleasant weather. Wrote. Received a letter from sister Battell; her family are unwell. Rode to Bed-

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Bible supplied by Mr. Bacon, of Albany, but perhaps wanted another for some other person.

<sup>1</sup> The children baptized were Elizabeth Sears, Alfred Kendrick, and Franklin Kendrick, children of David Crosby.

<sup>2</sup> The *Columbiad*, by Joel Barlow, of Connecticut, was an epic poem which was ushered into the world in 1807, with great eclat. But it proved to be one of many epic poems,

which, when thoroughly tried, were found wanting. Still, there had nothing appeared before in this country, in the shape of an extended poem, equal to it.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Theodore K. Taylor, the Universalist minister.

<sup>4</sup> It was in this year, 1839, that the Western Railroad, starting from Worcester, was opened for travel as far as Springfield. It was some years later extended to Albany.

ford to exchange with Mr. Smith.<sup>1</sup> Called at Fairhaven. Their ecclesiastical matters are not in a good state. Mr. Smith went to Mattapoissett.

13. Last night we had a hard rain; after two weeks very pleasant. Something misty most of the day. Preached on John vii: 45, 46, and Micah vi: 9. The state of this congregation seems to be improving. Preached at evening without notes on Acts viii: 5. Called on Mrs. Holmes; very feeble. Mr. Smith came home.

14. Wet and rainy. Rode home. Looked over my books; many missing. Evening Sabbath-school concert prevented. Wrote.

15. A steady, rainy day. Worked at my books. A slow and long job. Visited.

16. Very pleasant. Wrote to brother Francis and to Mr. Battell. I conclude (*Deo Vol.*) to go to Connecticut next week. Rode to Rochester. They had a good examination and exhibition of their academy yesterday. Gave tracts. Visited. Attended the evening meeting.

17. Worked at my books. Very pleasant. Had company. Mr. Thompson, of Middleborough, called on me. I conclude to have him take my likeness. Wrote an article for the newspaper. Visited.

18. Warm. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Fowler,<sup>2</sup> of Fall River. Rode to Bedford. Attended in the evening a very entertaining lecture from Hon. Mr. Buckingham,<sup>3</sup> from England. Tarried at Mr. Ingalls's. Saw Mr. Holmes, lately from the West.

19. A steady, hard, rainy day. Warm. Saw Mr. Holmes and Mr. Smith. Crossed to Fairhaven and dined at Capt. Adams's with Mr. Buckingham and his family. Rode home. The ground very wet. Wrote to Rev. Messrs. Fowler, Nott,<sup>4</sup> and Bigelow.<sup>5</sup>

20. Quite cold. Preached a double sermon on 1 John v: 9. Morning meeting thin. Taught a class in the Sabbath-school. Spoke at the evening meeting on Rom. vii: 14. Wrote. Preparing for my journey.

21. Received of my collector, \$50.00. Set out on a journey to Norfolk. Rode to Bedford and Taunton by stage, and to Boston by cars. Made calls. Cold.

22. A hard frost this morning. A cold, chilly day. Rode in the cars to Worcester; then in the same way to Springfield. This second part of the great Western Railroad just opened, is a wonderful work. From Boston to Springfield we were less than six hours,<sup>6</sup> much of the way a rough, hilly country, ninety-nine miles, toll, \$3.75. Took the stage and arrived at Hartford soon after sundown. Traded, \$2.75. Took the stage at ten o'clock and rode to Norfolk; arrived here a little after daylight; one hundred and sixty miles.<sup>7</sup> A cold, chilly night, and an uncomfortable stage.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Mather Smith, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Orin Fowler.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. James Silk Buckingham, before noticed.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott, Jr., of Wareham.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, of Rochester.

<sup>6</sup> The fast express trains now make this distance in two hours and three quarters.

<sup>7</sup> This was the distance from Boston to Norfolk, by the way of Hartford.

23. Kept at Mr. Battell's. Toll to Bedford, .50; Taunton, \$1.50; Boston, \$1.50; Worcester, \$1.50; Springfield, \$2.25; Hartford, \$1.50; Norfolk, \$1.75; \$10.50. Quite weary. Occupied with company. This town is improving slowly.

24. Weather very pleasant. Wrote. Rode to brother Ammi's. He is something better, but does not walk. Returned; sister Battell was with me.

25. Read. Visited. The people here are preparing to erect an academy. Went into a church-meeting. Mr. Eldredge lives in my father's house, and is a good minister.<sup>1</sup> Walked with Mr. Battell over his lands.

26. Last evening took some cold. Visited a grammar school well instructed by Mr. Norton. Wrote. Made calls. At evening my brother James and his wife came here from Lenox. He is in usual health.

27. Preached for Mr. Eldredge on Acts xiii: 38, and Micah vi: 8. This congregation is large and continues undiminished. They have a large Sabbath-school; a good number of youths. Warm and pleasant. Attended the evening meeting and spoke on Mark iv: 38. My native town is pleasant.

28. Missed of going in the stage as I expected. Paid for domestic flannel, \$6.67. Afternoon set out for home. Rode with Mr. and Mrs. Battell, and tarried at Avon. The crops in this quarter have been good, but few apples.

29. Rode to Hartford. Warm. Find many old friends. Dined with Rev. Mr. Daggett.<sup>2</sup> The cities are much oppressed with the money embarrassments. Rode to East Windsor.<sup>3</sup> Mr. and Mrs. Wolcott are well.

30. Rode quite early in the stage to Enfield. A cold, frosty morning. Found my brother and wife well. Walked out with him. Mr. Thompson<sup>4</sup> is erecting a magnificent country-seat here. Brother's prospects here are good. He rode with me to Pine Meadow. They have regular public worship here.<sup>5</sup> Tarried at Mr. Haskell's.<sup>6</sup> Much fatigued.

31. Mr. and Mrs. Haskell rode with me to East Windsor. Mr. S. T. Wolcott is building an elegant new house.<sup>7</sup> Warm. Rode to Hartford. Received at Dr. Bull's four ancient volumes, a present from my cousin, James Humphrey,<sup>8</sup> of New York. A very acceptable gift. Did errands. This town is steadily improving. At evening attended at Mr. Day's<sup>9</sup> a meeting of the Committee of the Connecticut Historical Society, which has been revived. Was kindly received.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Joseph Eldredge was a very able minister, much honored and beloved by his own people, and by the churches generally.

<sup>2</sup> Oliver Ellsworth Daggett, D. D., son of Judge David Daggett, of New Haven, was pastor of the South Church, Hartford, 1837-1843.

<sup>3</sup> It had been some time since Dr. Robbins had visited his old home at East Windsor, and his old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Abiel Wolcott.

<sup>4</sup> Orin Thompson, the owner of the factories in the village of Thompsonville.

<sup>5</sup> Pine Meadow is now Windsor Locks. Though they had regular preaching in 1839, the church was not organized there till 1846. Now Windsor Locks is a town by itself with a population of not far from 3,000.

<sup>6</sup> Harris Haskell, who married Frances Wolcott.

<sup>7</sup> The house which he now occupies in his old age, he being now (April, 1886) in his eighty-seventh year.

<sup>8</sup> Hon. James Humphrey, who married Urania Battell.

<sup>9</sup> Hon. Thomas Day.

## NOVEMBER.

1. Was called at the stage house at three o'clock and took the stage for Providence.<sup>1</sup> The roads not good. A chilly day. Suffered considerably with cold. Got to Providence in the evening. Read. The different value of money is troublesome.<sup>2</sup>

2. Took the cars for Taunton. At Mansfield, in changing cars, having lost the points of compass in a cloudy day, I took the wrong one and got ten miles, perhaps, towards Boston before I found my mistake. Went on. At Boston found, most unexpectedly, a box containing a fine copy of the Bishop's Bible, a present from the Duke of Sussex, England, with a good letter from His Royal Highness. This was in answer to my application, recommended by Mr. Buckingham, last winter. A most valuable and desirable present. Afternoon took cars and came to Taunton, and by stage to New Bedford. Came to Fairhaven and tarried at Capt. Tripp's. Kindly entertained.<sup>3</sup>

3. Capt. Tripp kindly sent his man to bring me home early. Preached with notes on Gen. xvi: 13, and a sermon on Rom. vi: 23. Instructed a class in the Sabbath-school. Quite cool. We had fire in the meeting-house. At evening spoke on Pet. ii: 21. A promising lad has died here in my absence.

4. My baggage came from Bedford. Looked over my grand Bible. The first edition of the Bishop's Bible, London, 1568.<sup>4</sup> The text is complete. The most valuable present, I think, I have ever had. Received a letter from Mr. Aspinwall,<sup>5</sup> the Consul at London, informing me that he had sent the said Bible. At evening attended the monthly concert.

5. Read. Putting up my things. Looked over the four valuable old volumes sent me by Mr. Humphrey,<sup>6</sup> of New York. Visited afflicted families and others. A fine young man from here has lately been lost at sea. Read. Mr. Whittemore, of Plymouth, called on me.

6. Read. Wrote eleven days of long diary. Received a letter from James Humphrey, of New York. Attended the evening meeting. Visited the sick. Last night we had a hard storm of wind and rain.

7. A whale brig came in here last night after a very prosperous voyage. Received a letter from Mr. Holmes, of Bedford, now at New York. He preached here Sabbath before last, and my people raised \$60.00 for the Bible cause. Received a letter from Ed. C. Herrick, of New Haven, informing me that I am elected a member of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences, which ought to have been done many years ago.<sup>7</sup> Wrote to F. S. Alden. Dined out. Visited. We have a number of sick.

<sup>1</sup> Travelers who lived before the railroad age remember well the discomfort of these early morning calls to take the stage.

<sup>2</sup> He had passed out of Massachusetts into Rhode Island, and the banks were then State banks.

<sup>3</sup> An eventful day of mingled fortunes.

<sup>4</sup> As before stated, the Bishop's Bible was first issued in 1568, and another edition in 1572.

<sup>5</sup> Col. Thomas Aspinwall, native of Brookline, Mass., born 1784. He was a son of Dr. William Aspinwall. He was graduated at Harvard College, 1804, and was Consul at London from 1816 to 1854. He died in 1876, at the age of ninety-two, seventy-two years out of college.

<sup>6</sup> Hon. James Humphrey, his nephew by marriage.

<sup>7</sup> This remark of Dr. Robbins implies

8. Wrote to Mr. Willis, of *Boston Recorder*. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow. Read. Great excitement with regard to our approaching election. Began a sermon on Prov. xxvii: 1. Visited.

9. Wrote the remainder of the sermon begun yesterday. We have frosty nights and pleasant days. My eyes are poor.

10. Preached with notes on Num. xxxv: 11, and my sermon on Prov. xxvii: 1. A full and solemn meeting on the subject of our late losses at sea. Spoke at evening on John i: 29.

11. The election town meeting was held in our meeting-house, very large. Votes for Governor, 291-234. Cold. Last evening a little snow. At evening attended our Sabbath-school concert. Thin.

12. Theodore Sedgwick, of Stockbridge, has died suddenly, as by a stroke from God.<sup>1</sup> Read. Reckoned with Mr. Crosby. My boarding-bill for a year is \$130.00. His charges for horse hire, etc., is \$14.40 = \$144.40. Paid him \$19.62, and balanced accounts. Wrote. Visited the sick. Capt. Adams and his wife, of Fairhaven, called on me.

13. Yesterday received a letter from Elijah Demond, an agent. Read. Am very languid. Attended the evening meeting. Walked and visited.

14. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Holmes, now at New York. Received through him fifty Bibles from the American Bible Society, for this people, for a part of their late contribution. Wrote. Visited. Rainy.

15. New York election has been unexpectedly successful. A great mercy of God. Wrote to His Royal Highness, the Duke of Sussex, to acknowledge his donation of my noble Bible. Visited.

16. Wrote to Mr. Aspinwall, Consul at London, and enclosed the Prince's letter. Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston, and to James Humphrey, Esq., of New York. Our State election has gone very badly.\* A holy God frowns upon us. Warm.

17. Expounded on Acts xviii, and preached a sermon on 2 Chron. xxxiv: 3. At the evening meeting spoke on Matt. viii: 2, 3. Read.

18. Received a letter from D. Ricketson, Bedford, and wrote to him. Read. Visited. Worked sawing wood. Wrote to President Adams for Capt. Le Baron.

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something which we do not understand. He would not have made this remark as an estimate of his own merits. Something long ago begun had probably, by some negligence or oversight, on the part of the society, been left technically unfinished.

<sup>1</sup> Theodore Sedgwick, Jr., eldest son of Theodore Sedgwick, LL. D., was born in Sheffield, Mass., 1780, and died in Pittsfield, Mass., Nov. 7, 1839. He was a distinguished member of the Democratic party, and an able lawyer and reformer. We do not know why Dr. Robbins should speak of his death "as a stroke from God." He died at the

age of fifty-nine, after an active and useful life.

\* This was that unexpected year in Massachusetts politics, when Marcus Morton, Democrat, was elected Governor in place of Edward Everett. Mr. Morton was a graduate of Brown University in 1804, was an able lawyer, had been Member of Congress, 1817-1821, Lieut.-Governor in 1824, Judge of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, 1825-1829. Gov. Everett had held the office of Governor four years continuously, 1836-1840. Mr. Morton was elected again in 1841, by one majority.

19. Rode to Bedford. Did errands. Our State election is bad and afflictive. Returned and went to the Neck; had an evening meeting and preached on Matt. viii: 2, 3. Was quite unwell in the evening, and with difficulty got through the meeting. Took physic and tarried out. Paid for yarn, \$1.25.

20. Am quite feeble, but through mercy much better. Rode home. Quite cold. Read. Attended the evening meeting and the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society.

21. Very cold; a winter day. Read. Worked at my wood. Wrote in a lady's album. Visited the sick.

22. Thermometer about 20°. Work in our ship-yards has almost ceased. Received a letter from Little & Brown, Boston. Wrote to Mr. Herrick, of New Haven. Brought up wood.

23. Began a sermon last evening on Eph. iv: 25, and wrote on it the most of the day, and finished it in the evening. I cannot write as fast nor as accurately as in times past. Thermometer in the morning at 17°, and rose above 50°. Very pleasant.

24. Preached a sermon mostly written yesterday, and in the morning with notes on Judges vi: 13. Afternoon wet, and meeting reduced. At the evening meeting spoke on John v: 24. Looked over my Bishop's Bible.

25. Wet and rainy through the day with hard wind. Received a letter from sister Battell. Read. Began a sermon for Thanksgiving on Ps. cxlvi: 2.

26. Quite cold. Thermometer at 17°. Walked early to the first Neck. Visited all the families and a school and gave tracts. Rode home.

27. Thermometer about 20°. Wrote on my sermon. Had divers interruptions. Troubled with my tremor. Wrote one half of my sermon by candle-light. Finished quite late. Much fatigued.

28. Thanksgiving. We have favorable results of the second operations of our State elections.<sup>1</sup> Received from Mr. Bacon,<sup>2</sup> of Albany, the copy of the Bishop's Bible for which I have been looking for some months. It is genuine and a very good one. I have paid him for it \$10.00. Very cheap. Preached my sermon on Ps. cxlvi: 2.<sup>3</sup> A good number present. We had a collection for poor widows, \$9.70, and some articles. Dined at Mr. Arvin Cannon's. Visited.

29. Walked and gave tracts and visited. Rev. Mr. Barrows called on me. Wrote. Attended to school business.

30. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. We examined and approved of six new teachers. Did not get through till evening.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Put on my flannels. Preached with notes on Ps. xxxvii: 34, and a

<sup>1</sup> At that time the *majority* and not the *plurality* prevailed in Massachusetts, and he means to say, in places where there was no choice of representatives in the first election, that the Whigs were more generally successful in the second.

<sup>2</sup> John Fairbanks Bacon, Esq.

<sup>3</sup> Text for Thanksgiving: "While I live will I praise the Lord. I will sing praises unto God while I have any being." Dr. Robbins seems to have had a hearty love of this good old New England festival.

sermon on Ps. lxxiii: 24. Attended the sacrament. Received a young woman into the church. A number of our members are absent. Very rough east wind. Spoke at the evening meeting on 1 Thess. v: 19. Read.

2. Wrote. Went into our school; sixty scholars over ten years. Attended the monthly concert.<sup>1</sup> Thin.

3. Carried up wood. Read. Wrote to John F. Bacon, Esq., Albany. Cold and very rough weather. Visited.

4. Wrote to brother Francis. Rainy, and had no evening meeting. Visited. Was up late.

5. Rode in the stage to Bedford and returned. Paid for candles, \$2.00. Did errands. There is much anxiety about the proceedings of Congress.<sup>2</sup> Visited and gave tracts.

6. Looked over papers and pamphlets. We have had five days of rough east wind. Now more mild. Went into our school. Read the Bible.

7. Rode with company to Rochester and met with the school committee. We examined three teachers and approved of others. Chilly, but not cold. Preparing for the Sabbath.

8. Wet, and afternoon rainy. Afternoon a meeting quite thin. Preached a double sermon on Prov. ii: 4, 5. Had no evening meeting. Visited. Looked over papers.

9. The wet and rain continue. Read. Walked out and visited. Wrote. Congress find much difficulty in organizing.<sup>3</sup> At evening the rain and wind very hard. Read the Bible.

10. Worked at my wood. After nine days of dark weather and east wind with very little frost, we have a change. Visited a school. Read. Visited.

11. Very pleasant. Visited a school. Had company. Visited and gave tracts. Had a good evening meeting. Wrote late.

12. A violent rain. Wrote on Home Missionary Society records. Storm abated, and afternoon walked to P. Islands, visited a school and gave tracts. Visited. Read the Bible.

13. High wind, but not cold. The great National Convention have nominated Gen. Harrison for President, with great harmony. May God Almighty give success.<sup>4</sup> Read. Began a sermon on Prov. xi: 7. Walked and visited.

14. Wrote and finished my sermon begun yesterday. Carried up wood.

<sup>1</sup> The monthly concert still continued to be held on Monday evening.

<sup>2</sup> This was in the Presidency of Mr. Van Buren, and the Congress was Democratic. The troubles of the country were more financial than political. The panic of 1837 was hard to get over.

<sup>3</sup> This remark has reference to a scene in which John Quincy Adams, then a Member of the House, performed one of the most notable acts of his life. The clerk for a long time kept the House at bay, because he would not call the roll beyond the State of

New Jersey, there being two contending delegations from that State. Mr. Adams at length took the matter into his own hands, overrode the clerk, and organized the House at once, amid general acclamations.

<sup>4</sup> The political hopes and wishes of Dr. Robbins had not always been gratified in the foregoing years, but this prayer was to be answered. One of the most rousing presidential campaigns was to follow this nomination of Gen. William Henry Harrison, and he was to be triumphantly elected, but his life was to be short.

Not cold. Congress are in a ridiculous situation. The Representatives can't organize.<sup>1</sup>

15. A severe storm of snow and rain. Thermometer above freezing. Preached with notes, both parts of the day, on Jer. xxiii: 6. Meetings quite thin. Afternoon in the vestry. No evening meeting. Read. Wrote.

16. A hard snow-storm through the day. Thermometer a little above freezing. Read the *Talisman*.<sup>2</sup> Walked out. Tedious. Read. Wrote. My eyes are weak.

17. There is a pretty heavy body of snow. Sleighs move. Read. Walked and visited. Worked at my books.

18. Thermometer about 15°. Read President Edwards's *Thoughts on the Revival*.<sup>3</sup> Carried up wood. At evening had a good meeting. Our brethren are evidently quickened. The Lord help us. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston.

19. Thermometer at 11°. Good sleighing. Worked at my library. Received a letter from N. Howland, of Barnstable. Attended the funeral of a child. A cold day. Wrote. Visited.

20. Thermometer again at 11°. Read. Received a letter from N. Crosby, temperance agent. Visited. In the evening we had in the village an alarm of fire from a burning chimney. Was out late.

21. Thermometer at 14°. Worked at my library. Paid for six feet of pine wood, \$2.25. Had company. The cold abates. Read.

22. Thermometer 24°. We have seldom seen as good sleighing here as now. Preached with notes on Prov. v: 11, 12, and a sermon lately written on Prov. xi: 7. At evening resumed my sacred biography, and spoke on the life of Elisha on Luke iv: 27.

23. It snowed and rained moderately the most of the day. Finished the present arrangement of my library. I have four hundred and ninety volumes in one case. At evening attended a temperance meeting. The cause has been declining with us.

24. Rode to Boston by stage, from Bedford on runners. The cars have been prevented by the snow. Got in near nine o'clock. Paid at Bedford for repairing my watch, \$1.50.

25. Paid Little & Brown, \$45.00, and nearly balanced my account. Attended a Christmas meeting at St. Paul's Church. Dr. Stone preached well.<sup>4</sup> Attended their communion. Afternoon the Board of Education met.

<sup>1</sup> News traveled slowly from Washington in those days, but unless we greatly mistake, the House was organized before this day. December that year began on Sunday, and Congress came together on Monday the 2d. The Gordian knot was cut, we think, before the 14th.

<sup>2</sup> Walter Scott's *Talisman* appeared in 1832.

<sup>3</sup> The Great Awakening of 1740 and on-

ward, largely in connection with Whitefield's labors.

<sup>4</sup> John Seeley Stone, D. D., born in West Stockbridge, Mass., 1795, graduated at Union College, 1823. He was Rector of Christ Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., and of St. Paul's, Boston. In 1867, he was made Dean of the Episcopal Theological Seminary at Cambridge. He was an able and extensive writer.



Quite pleasant for winter. At evening went to see Mr. Gould, late of Fairhaven, with my cousin Chandler.<sup>1</sup>

26. Very slippery and bad walking in the city. Procured some valuable books, *Plutarch's Lives*,<sup>2</sup> Greek and Latin. Met with the Board of Education. Did not finish our business. Did errands; procured tracts. Rode to Roxbury and tarried with cousin Peter.<sup>3</sup>

27. Paid for tracts, \$3.57. The Board finished their business. Rode home; by cars and stage to Bedford. A gentleman with me, coming here, got a chaise and brought me home. Left Bedford at three o'clock, and got home near ten. It thawed a good deal.

28. Last night we had a hard rain with severe wind. The most of the snow is gone. Read. Looked over new books. Mr. Beane,<sup>4</sup> supplying at Fairhaven, came here to exchange. Rode there. Kept at Dea. Tripp's. Wet.

29. Preached on Micah vi: 8, and Acts xiii: 38. This people are in an anxious and critical state. Mr. Roberts has been long absent. After meeting, Mr. Beane rode there and I came home. At the evening meeting finished the biography of Elisha on Heb. xi: 35. Cold and blustering.

30. Thermometer about 14°. A very cold and tedious day. Wrote. Worked at my wood. The Universalists here made a great parade at Christmas. Wrote diary. Paid at Boston for small books, \$1.50.

31. Thermometer 11°. Read. Visited. Dined out. Read the President's Message.<sup>5</sup> Bought for my library at Boston fifty volumes for \$32.75. The Message very long and tedious.

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<sup>1</sup> Chandler Robbins, D. D., of the Second Church, Boston.

<sup>2</sup> Few books have been more widely circulated and read.

<sup>3</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Beane, afterwards of Little Compton, R. I.

<sup>5</sup> The last Message but one of President Van Buren. He was afterwards defeated as Free Soil candidate for the presidency.

## 1840.

### JANUARY.

1. Endeavored early to consecrate myself with all my capacity and means of usefulness to God and his service for the coming year. I can do nothing only by his grace and assistance. Had a great many calls from youth and children; about fifty. Clear and cold. Mercury at 7°. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Deut. xxvi: 17. After the meeting married Miss Caroline Dexter to Mr. Smith,<sup>1</sup> at my room. Had some guests. Received \$3.00, and gave it, with some other donations, to the bride, in consideration of her long and most acceptable performance in our singing.

2. Thermometer at zero. I believe it was not so low last winter. Worked at wood. Revised my library catalogue. Have made out my one hundred and fifty volumes for the past year.<sup>2</sup> Walked a distance and visited. I believe a cloud was not visible through the day. Read.

3. Thermometer at 5°. Walked early to the Neck, visited a school and families, and gave tracts. Rode home. Had company. My eyes are quite weak. Walked out. A young church-member has got into poor company.

4. Wrote a sermon on Luke xiii: 6-9. Wrote half of it by candle-light, and finished about twelve o'clock. Received a letter from Judge Shaw,<sup>3</sup> of Boston. I write slow; my tremor is troublesome. Weather moderates. Thermometer 7°, and rose above freezing.

5. Thermometer about 14°. Preached with notes on Rom. ii: 5, and the sermon written yesterday. A serious meeting. At evening gave the biography of Hezekiah from 2 Kings xviii: 2. Quite tired. The Universalists make great efforts.

6. Thermometer about 20°. Read. This day is observed to a considerable extent as a day of prayer for the conversion of the world.<sup>4</sup> We had meetings, afternoon and evening, well attended, and apparently with a spirit of prayer.

7. Thermometer 12°. Visited. Read. Made this almanack, and wrote the preceding. Our harbor is now frozen over. Paid \$3.00 for sawing wood. It is said that Litchfield County has more than three feet of heavy snow. Supposed to be more than at any time since 1780.<sup>5</sup> Gave tracts.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Daniel Smith, of New Bedford.

<sup>2</sup> By this remark we understand that it had been his rule to add one hundred and fifty volumes a year to his library. It had been about thirty years since he began to collect his books. This estimate does not include his pamphlets, which were many times more numerous than his bound volumes.

<sup>3</sup> Chief-Justice Lemuel Shaw, a native of Barnstable, and son of Rev. Oakes Shaw.

<sup>4</sup> At present the first week in January is known as the Week of Prayer, and is the larger arrangement which has grown out of these simple beginnings.

<sup>5</sup> All such facts as this ought to be instructive to those people, in every generation, who think the snow-storms of their day

8. Walked to the furthest part of the Neck, visited and gave tracts. Thermometer at 13°. Attended the evening meeting. Went into a spelling-school. Visited a sick neighbor. Read.

9. Thermometer at 11°. Walked and gave tracts. Wrote to Mr. Nathaniel Howland, of West Barnstable, and to Sidney E. Morse<sup>1</sup> & Co., editors of the New York *Observer*. Read.

10. Thermometer at 20°. Walked and gave tracts. Very pleasant. It thaws some. Received a letter from Rev. Joseph S. Clark. Began a sermon at evening on Eccles. xi: 9.

11. Thermometer at freezing. Wrote diligently and finished my sermon begun last evening. It snowed.

12. Thermometer about 24°. Cold and snow. Meeting rather thin. Preached with notes on 2 Peter ii: 1, and a sermon on John xii: 23. At the evening meeting gave the life of K. Josiah on 1 Kings xiii: 2. Visited the sick.

13. Thermometer at 20°. Read. Walked out. Wrote. Visited.

14. Rode early with Mr. Crosby to North Rochester, and met with the most of the ministers of our Association, and attended to important business. Cold. Thermometer about 26°. Towards evening returned. Attended a temperance meeting. Paid for knitting, \$1.25.

15. Thermometer about 24°. Last night we had considerable addition to our snow. Our State vote for Governor comes out badly. Bad walking, but pretty good sleighing. Gave tracts. Had a good evening meeting. Visited.

16. A great change in the cold. The mercury at sunrise at 05°. It rose in a clear sun to 17°. Wrote on my library catalogue, and completed the last year's, making three thousand volumes. I have great reason to bless God for his mercies. It is given to Him. Read Dwight's *Jefferson*.<sup>2</sup> Walked and gave tracts. Thermometer at bed-time 02°.

17. Thermometer 02°. Received a letter from Dr. Reed,<sup>3</sup> of East Windsor, informing me that Maj. Wolcott<sup>4</sup> is very sick, and requesting me to go there. I pray for divine direction. Had company. Visited. Read. Thermometer at ten o'clock 01°. Read the Bible.

18. Thermometer 06°. Clear, still weather. Very good sleighing. We have an account of the loss of the steamboat Lexington in Long Island Sound.<sup>5</sup> An unparalleled loss of life. Read. Did errands, and gave tracts. Wrote in a lady's album.

not to be compared with those which came forty or fifty years earlier.

<sup>1</sup> Sydney Edwards Morse, son of Jedediah Morse, D. D., of Charlestown, Mass., and brother of Samuel F. B. Morse, of telegraphic fame, in company with his youngest brother, R. C. Morse, established the New York *Observer* in 1823, the oldest religious newspaper in the State of New York.

<sup>2</sup> *Character of Thomas Jefferson as Exhibited in his Own Writings*, 1839, by Theodore

Dwight. Theodore Dwight was the brother of Timothy Dwight, D. D., and was the Secretary of the Hartford Convention. His opinions of Mr. Jefferson were by no means complimentary.

<sup>3</sup> Elijah Fitch Reed, M. D.

<sup>4</sup> Major Abiel Wolcott, with whom he boarded while pastor in East Windsor.

<sup>5</sup> The steamboat Lexington, going from New York to Stonington, was burned on the night of Jan. 13, 1840, on Long Island

19. Miss Polly Cannon, a near neighbor, died this morning. Thermometer 6°. The cold abates. Preached a sermon, lately written, on Eccles. xi: 9, and with notes on Job xxi: 14. At the evening gave a part of the biography of Daniel on Ezek. xiv: 14. Read.

20. Thermometer about 20°, and rose to 45°. The road thaws. Visited a large school. Walked out. Wrote. Wrote to Dr. Cobb,<sup>1</sup> and to Mr. Smith,<sup>2</sup> of Bedford.

21. Thermometer about 25°. Walked out. Attended the funeral of Miss Cannon. Set out on my journey to East Windsor. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Made calls. At evening attended a good lecture at the lyceum by Mr. Roberts.

22. Was called at four o'clock, and rode in the stage on wheels to Providence. Suffered a good deal with the cold. Read. It snowed a good deal. There is much talk here about the disaster of the Lexington. Called on Prof. Goddard.<sup>3</sup>

23. In the morning it rained a good while; afterward it snowed the most of the day. Set out in a stage-sleigh at five o'clock, and got to Hartford near ten P. M. Most of the way the snow deep. Not a spot of ground to be seen. Heard at Hartford of the death of Mr. Wolcott. He died on the 15th, and was buried last Sabbath. Find sister Battell here. Cold. Had a fatiguing day.<sup>4</sup>

24. Was called early, and rode to East Windsor before day-light. Found a sick woman at Mr. Wolcott's; very sick. Mrs. Burnham,<sup>5</sup> who came to assist in the family. Mrs. Wolcott is feeble, but not sick. All are much afflicted. Very cold. Am much fatigued. An immense body of snow on the ground. Rode out. Saw Rev. Mr. Smith,<sup>6</sup> now preaching here. Mr. Haskell and wife<sup>7</sup> came here.

25. Cold and frosty. The trees are covered with ice, and a hard crust is on the snow. Mrs. Burnham died last night; they carried the body to her house. Visited. Col. S. T. Wolcott has a fine new house; now not much wanted. My brother Francis and sister Battell called here; he on his return from Norfolk. He was here last Sabbath. Mr. Smith preached; a great funeral, but not a funeral sermon. Snow at Norfolk three or four inches

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Sound, and all on board, save one, perished by fire or water. It was a night of severe cold, with the thermometer down to zero. A Capt. Chester Hilliard, a sea-faring man, was floated ashore on a bale of cotton, and saved. No more distressing accident has ever occurred on the Sound. There were about one hundred and seventy-five persons on board, passengers and crew.

<sup>1</sup> Oliver Cobb, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Mather Smith, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> William Giles Goddard, Professor of Rhetoric and Belles-Lettres in Brown University.

<sup>4</sup> The claims of kindred and friendship were very strong on Dr. Robbins, or he would not, at his age, have been moved to make a journey like this in such severe cold weather, and with bad going.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Burnham belonged in East Windsor, and had been assisting in the Wolcott family during the sickness and death of Mr. Wolcott.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Levi Smith, who was installed in the May following, and was pastor at East Windsor, 1840-1849. He died in 1854.

<sup>7</sup> Harris and Frances (Wolcott) Haskell, before mentioned.

deep; here three feet. Difficult traveling. Read. Mr. Wolcott has left a fine property.

26. Not quite as cold as it has been. Last evening rode, and visited the aged Stephen Elmer, who buried his good wife, the past week, in her ninetieth year. Preached at the request of Mr. Smith and others, on Acts xiii: 38, and 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57. Spoke of the character of Mr. Wolcott and Mrs. Elmer. This congregation has declined much. The meeting was said to be fuller than usual. Saw many old acquaintance, but there is a great change. Rode from the meeting-house with Mr. and Mrs. Haskell to their home. At evening he carried me to Enfield, and I preached for my brother on Prov. xi: 7. Good sleighing, except the depth of snow, not a spot of ground to be seen, and the river firmly frozen. Was up late.

27. Brother F. carried Mrs. Battell and me to East Windsor. The family appear well. Very difficult getting wood from the woods. Called on Mr. Tudor.<sup>1</sup> In the evening we left Mrs. Wolcott, and rode to Hartford in the stage. Made some calls. The Historical Society here is doing well.

28. Last evening Mr. Hosmer<sup>2</sup> gave me a volume, with another from Mr. Hinman,<sup>3</sup> and a letter from Hosmer. Rode early in the stage. Not as severe cold as it has been. It snowed the most of the day. Got to Providence in the evening. Was much sick in riding. A fatiguing ride.

29. Left Providence at nine o'clock and came to Bedford, just in time to take the Wareham stage and get home before sundown. My journey has been fatiguing, but prosperous, with many favors, from a merciful Providence. Found Mr. Demond<sup>4</sup> here selling, by the aid of several of our good men, many good books. He preached last Sabbath in the morning, and Dea. Crosby performed the services in the afternoon. Dr. Cobb did not come as I hoped. Attended the evening meeting with Mr. Demond. It thawed a good deal.

30. Last night it rained pretty hard, and the snow is mostly gone. Yesterday we rode on wheels. Thermometer above freezing. We have a thick fog. Attended the funeral of an aged woman. Dr. Cobb, an early acquaintance, performed the service. The surface of the ground very wet.

31. Mr. Demond settled with his agents, and went away. He has sold here three hundred and fifteen volumes, including eight family libraries of fifteen volumes each, for ninety-nine dollars. Wrote. Walked out. Thermometer about 25°. Read. At evening attended a writing-school lecture: but ordinary.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. It snowed again through the day. Wrote. Read. Did not go into the street. Read expositors.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Oliver Tudor.

<sup>2</sup> Charles Hosmer.

<sup>3</sup> R. R. Hinman.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Elijah Demond, born in Rutland, Mass., 1790, graduated at Williams College,

1816, and died July 20, 1877, in his eighty-eighth year. He was settled in several parishes, and was for a time Agent of the Doctrinal Book and Tract Society of Boston, Mass.

2. Thermometer at 12°, and rose to near 50°. Préached a double sermon on Ezek. xviii: 32. We have four or five inches of snow. Meeting rather thin. At a full evening meeting finished the biography of Daniel on Ezek. xiv: 14.

3. Wrote. Thermometer 10°. Read. Visited a school. Large and not well regulated. Attended the monthly concert.

4. Last night it became very cold. Thermometer at 3°, and very cold through the day. At bed-time 10°. Brought up wood. Read. Visited a school. At evening had a small prayer-meeting at my chamber. Read late.

5. Thermometer 03°. Worked at my wood. Visited a young school. Wrote to my cousins, Battell & Eggleston,<sup>1</sup> of New York, who have sustained a loss by fire. Had a good evening meeting. Wrote late.

6. The weather has moderated since last evening remarkably. Thermometer in the morning near freezing. Wrote. It thawed a good deal. Walked and visited a school, and gave tracts.

7. Thermometer about 25°, and rose to 50°. Read. Walked a distance, and visited a school and others. Went into the lyceum.

8. Wet and rainy. The snow is mostly gone. Had company. Wrote. My eyes quite weak. Very wet walking. Thermometer above freezing. Visited a woman very sick. Read expositors.

9. Expounded on Acts xix, and preached a sermon on Eph. iv: 20. The surface of the ground very wet. It thaws constantly. People well out for the time. A constant fog. At evening rainy and thin meeting. Spoke on Ps. i: 1, 2, 3. Visited a sick house. Read.

10. Foggy and dark. Thermometer was 50°. Wrote. Attended a temperance meeting. Wrote to my cousin J. W. Lawrence,<sup>2</sup> at Albany.

11. Colder, and at length clear. Read. Visited the sick. Gave tracts. Went into our singing-school; large and promising. My eyes are quite weak.

12. Walked to the north neighborhood, visited their school, and gave tracts. Had a full prayer-meeting, and spoke on Luke xi: 13. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Beane,<sup>3</sup> of Bedford, and a church letter from Mr. Smith.<sup>4</sup>

13. Thermometer at freezing; yesterday about 20°. Worked at my wood. Much movement on the ice of the harbor. Wrote. At evening rode to Fairhaven. Bad riding.

14. Yesterday received a good letter from Eggleston & Battell.<sup>5</sup> They lose about ten thousand dollars by the late fire. Crossed on the bridge to Bedford. Spent the day in attending the examination of the academy. The

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Battell, Jr., and his partner in business.

<sup>2</sup> A native of Norfolk, Ct., graduate of Union College, N. Y., 1825, and a successful lawyer and public man.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel Beane.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Mather Smith, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> This is the proper form for the firm name. In the former reference Mr. Battell's name stood first. They were in the iron business, which, in their hands, became very large and profitable.

pupils performed exceeding well. In the evening returned to Fairhaven. Cold and wet. Saw Mr. Roberts and his Scotch wife.<sup>1</sup> Ecclesiastical matters here are rather bad. Yesterday received a church letter from Wareham. The harbor not yet open.

15. Last night a good deal of rain. Rode home in the stage. The frost is coming out, and the roads wet and deep. Received a letter from my cousin S. P. Robbins, at Siam, written last May. He is in poor health, and is coming home. Wrote. The hard wind last night broke the ice in the harbor, though thick and solid (twelve inches), and toward evening the most of it went out.

16. Preached a double sermon on 2 Cor. viii: 9. Cold, pleasant, and good walking. Full meetings. At a full evening meeting gave a sketch of the life of Ezra from Jer. xxv: 8-12. Looked over a catalogue of books.

17. Rode to the Neck and visited a school. They have done well. Wrote in great haste to my cousin Joseph Battell, of New York, authorizing him to buy some books for me at auction. Visited.

18. Wrote a second letter to J. Battell. I hope to get some of the ancient folios.<sup>2</sup> Visited a private school. Walked a distance, visited and gave tracts. The ground thaws, and it is wet and muddy. Was up late. Received a poor letter from Robert Curtis, of Boston.

19. Wrote. Visited the sick. Attended the evening meeting and spoke on Isa. liv: 7, 8. Warm and foggy. Very muddy. Visited.

20. Warm and foggy, and the frost comes out fast. Visited and gave tracts. Read the Bible. Wrote to Robert Curtis, Boston.<sup>3</sup>

21. Began a sermon on Rom. viii: 8. Read. Visited a large school. Visited the sick. Gave tracts and primers.

22. Wrote diligently, and finished my sermon begun yesterday. Mental labor wearies me. It would be difficult for me to write a sermon in a day.

23. Preached with notes on Ex. xvii: 11, and my sermon on Rom. viii: 8. Warm. The roads begin to be settled. We hear of the beginning of a work of grace in several neighboring places. May God in mercy carry it on, and leave not us to be forgotten. At evening spoke on the character of Nehemiah on Deut. xxx: 1-5. The Universalists work much evil.

24. Wrote. Read. Dined out. Visited the Pine Islands school; well instructed. Went to a Quaker funeral. Visited. My eyes are weak.

25. Rode with a delegate to Wareham. Cold, and we had considerable snow. There is a great work of grace in Rochester. Met with the Ecclesiastical Council. I was moderator. Heard the complaint of the aggrieved brethren, and their testimony. Heard Mr. Nott's<sup>4</sup> defence in parts. Sat quite late in the evening. Kindly entertained at Mr. Bourne's.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jacob Roberts, with a second wife, is living at Auburndale, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robbins had received notice, through the newspapers, or otherwise, of a book auction in New York in which choice folios were to be sold.

<sup>3</sup> Robert Curtis had his office at 20 Blackstone Street.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott, Jr., who was settled at Wareham, Aug. 4, 1829, was one of the four missionaries (Judson, Newell, Rice, Nott) who were ordained at Salem, 1812.

26. The council labored in the remaining hearing and the deliberation very diligently, and completed their result about sundown. Most of them went home. I attended in the evening a public meeting, read the result, and made an address. We had a large audience the whole time. I trust the effect will be good. Very tired.

27. Wet and uncomfortable weather, and I came home in the stage. Had several gentlemen to look at my library. At evening a young couple came here and were married.<sup>1</sup> Received a letter from my brother James, my cousin J. W. Lawrence, at Albany, and Dr. Webb, Boston. Read.

28. Visited two schools. One has done very well, the other poorly. The frost is mostly out of the ground. Received a letter from Dea. Hiller, Sippican. Read late.

29. Rode in the stage to Bedford and back. Saw Mr. Smith. A good work of grace among his people. Had some books bound. Tired.

#### MARCH.

1. Wrote notes, and preached in the morning on Heb. ii: 3. Afternoon a sermon on Rom. iii: 3. Visited sick persons; a woman very low. At the evening meeting spoke on John vii: 46. Meetings quite full and solemn. I hope God is with us. Very tired. Yesterday paid my merchant tailor in Bedford, \$10.00.

2. Read. Had company. Mr. Bigelow called on me. The work of grace among his people progresses. Paid ninety cents for dressing flannel. The annual town meeting was held here. They did rather poorly. Received a letter from my cousin J. Battell, New York; a good letter. He has purchased a number of books for me at auction. Attended the monthly concert.

3. A good woman in middle life died last night. Visited the afflicted family. Gave tracts. Wrote. Walked to Fairhaven; some of the way bad walking. Visited and gave tracts. Capt. Tripp gave me a conveyance over the river. Preached for Mr. Smith at his evening meeting. His people appear well. Wet and dark.

4. Took from a vessel in the morning a box of books sent from J. Battell, New York.<sup>2</sup> Rode home in the stage. Have twenty-four volumes of second-hand books for \$24.00. I had limited them to \$30.00. They make a valuable addition to my collection. Read. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. Visited the sick.

5. A voluntary fast day with my people. At sunrise we had a solemn prayer-meeting. Began public services at the meeting-house before ten o'clock, consisting of prayer, singing, and speaking. Wet, and high winds.

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and sent to India by the American Board. He was in India for some years, but was compelled to return by reason of ill health, and had been eleven years at Wareham. Notwithstanding these troubles he remained in the ministry at Wareham till 1849, and

was afterwards a teacher in the town till 1866. He died in Hartford, Ct., 1869.

<sup>1</sup> The persons married were John Purington and Minerva White.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robbins's commission had been promptly executed.



Well attended. Afternoon Mr. Smith<sup>1</sup> came and preached for us in a very solemn manner. We attended the funeral of Mrs. Crosby. Evening meeting full and solemn. Labor seemed to be laid aside for the day. May a holy God add his blessing. Much fatigued.

6. Am quite languid. Wrote. Brought up wood. Received a letter from Dr. Webb,<sup>2</sup> of Boston. Visited. Had a good evening meeting at Mrs. Mayhew's.

7. On Tuesday evening preached at New Bedford on Prov. xi: 7. Wrote. Read. Afternoon walked to Fairhaven against a severe, cold, rough wind. Met Mr. Roberts on the way. Visited and gave tracts. Kept at Mrs. Gibbs's.<sup>3</sup>

8. It froze quite hard last night. A cold day. Preached on Matt. vi: 10, and Prov. xi: 7. Rode home after meeting. Mr. Crosby carried Mr. Roberts, and brought me. Attended our evening meeting; full and very solemn. Spoke on John xii: 48. The work of grace in Fairhaven is mostly with the Methodists. Quite tired.

9. Rode with Mr. Howes to Rochester, and met with the school committee. We were very late in making out our returns for the town meeting and State Treasurer. Returned and had a good meeting in the evening. Mr. Cobb, of Sippican, came and assisted us.

10. Read. Received a New Haven newspaper containing a very handsome mention of my Bishop's Bible.<sup>4</sup> Rode to Tripp's Mills and visited a school, and the aged Mrs. Hovey; quite low. Some of the roads very muddy. Wrote. Had company.

11. Wrote to my cousin Battell, of New York, and sent him a draft of \$24.00, to pay for the books he lately procured for me. Visited. At evening Mr. Bigelow came and preached for us. We had a good meeting. Cold and rough wind. Thermometer about 25°.

12. Cold; ground frozen. Thermometer below 20°. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, and a piece for a Hartford newspaper about Barlow's *Psalms*.<sup>5</sup> Visited and gave tracts. Was out late.

13. Cold and tedious. Wrote to my brother James, and gave him an order on Dr. Bull, of Hartford, for \$25.00, the fourth sum of like amount that I have given for the education of his son Thomas.<sup>6</sup> Attended an evening meeting at Mrs. Mayhew's.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Mather Smith, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Hopkins Webb, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Anselm Gibbs.

<sup>4</sup> The one probably that came from England, from the Duke of Sussex, through the agency of Hon. James Silk Buckingham.

<sup>5</sup> In 1786 Hon. Joel Barlow published an edition of Watts's version of the Psalms with some compositions of his own. In the Connecticut book, *Psalms and Hymns*, prepared in 1845 several of Barlow's hymns may be

found. Perhaps the most familiar is the one beginning:

"Along the banks where Babel's current flows  
Our captive bands in deep despondence strayed."

A good patriotic hymn is the 609th:

"In thee, great God, with songs of praise,  
Our favored States rejoice."

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Robbins was in his Senior year at Williams College, and would be graduated in the August following.

14. Wrote a sermon on Ps. xxv: 11. It took me twelve hours. Brought up wood.

15. Preached in the morning the sermon written yesterday. We had a full meeting and fine singing. Afternoon it snowed. I omitted a prepared sermon, and preached without notes on Matt. xxvii: 43. At evening the Universalists had a great musical concert. We had a thin meeting. I spoke on 2 Cor. ix: 15. Our morning meeting very solemn.

16. Received another unpleasant church letter from Wareham, and one from Mr. Nott. Visited. Read. Had company. Wrote. Dined out. Attended our evening meeting. Was up late.

17. Rainy and cold. Read. Wrote on my library catalogue. At evening had a meeting of some of the brethren of the church at my room. Paid towards a musical instrument for public worship, \$1.00. Paid for woollen yarn, \$1.00. Wrote. My eyes are quite weak.

18. Rode to Rochester. The day was observed as a special fast. No public meeting in the forenoon. Attended afternoon meeting, and assisted in the services. They have a good work of grace still progressing. The roads quite wet. Attended our evening meeting.

19. Read. Pleasant spring weather. Wrote. Read proof-sheets. Visited and gave tracts. Attended a meeting in the evening at Dea. Hammond's, and spoke on John vii: 46. Was out late.

20. Wrote to Dr. Webb, of Boston. Read. Received a letter from Joseph B. Felt,<sup>1</sup> of Boston, informing me that I am elected an honorary member of the American Statistical Association; a new society. At evening attended a meeting in the meeting-house neighborhood. Had company.

21. Paid Fairhaven Bank, \$30.00. Much occupied with company. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Putnam, of Middleborough. Read in Barber's *Massachusetts Historical Collections*.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Bigelow<sup>3</sup> came here to exchange. He and I attended the evening meeting.

22. Last evening found a woman much distressed in mind. Very cold. Capt. Freeman rode with me to Rochester, and we returned after meeting. Preached on Acts xiii: 38, and Ps. xxv: 11. A severe wind. Had a full and solemn evening meeting; spoke on Ezek. xxxvii: 9. I think we have evidences of the presence of the H. S. I. Hope to give myself to prayer. Spoke with a woman much impressed.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Joseph Barlow Felt, LL. D., a man of great historical and antiquarian learning, was born in Salem, Mass., 1789, graduated at Dartmouth College, 1813, and died at Salem, Mass., 1869. He was settled in the ministry in Sharon, Mass., and in Hamilton, Mass. In 1836 he was appointed by Gov. Edward Everett to arrange the Massachusetts State papers, and have them bound. He was the author of several very valuable works, the most important of which was his *Ecclesiastical History of New England*, in two

volumes. From 1842 to 1858 he was Librarian of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and was Recording Secretary of the American Statistical Association, 1839-1859.

<sup>2</sup> John W. Barber's illustrated volume of the Massachusetts towns. It will be remembered that he was at Mattapoisett, years before, making arrangements for the publication of this work. There are similar volumes for other States, Connecticut, New York, etc.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow.

23. Wrote. Very interesting "revival intelligence" in the *Recorder*. Walked a distance and visited. Had an interesting evening prayer-meeting.

24. Rode with Mr. L. Le Baron<sup>1</sup> as delegate to Wareham to a council. Quite cold, with tedious snow. A severe time, but was preserved from taking cold. Met with the Ecclesiastical Council. In the afternoon we organized a church of eleven men and five women, dismissed from Mr. Nott's church for this purpose. A solemn and painful scene.<sup>2</sup> At evening I preached on Matt. vi: 10. The storm was very severe. Much fatigued.

25. The snow is five or six inches deep. Called on Mr. Nott. He is dissatisfied with our yesterday's proceedings. Called on Mrs. Everett<sup>3</sup>; aged, but well. Rode home. Heavy traveling. Mr. Miles, of Wareham Bank, has some rare coins. He gave me a good one. Attended our evening meeting. Read.

26. Wrote. Cold and tedious wind. Rode to Fairhaven and saw Mr. Gould; lately arrived there. They are trying to settle their old church difficulties. Crossed to Bedford. Attended an evening meeting at Cannonville.

27. Not so cold as it has been. Visited and gave tracts. Read. Have much to do. Had a full and very serious meeting near the meeting-house. Mr. Gould was expected to be with us, but he failed. Received a letter from Dr. Bull, of Hartford, containing a draft of \$36.33. He has paid \$25.00 to my cousin Thomas, and \$5.12 of other charges for me.

28. Wrote. The snow is mostly gone. Wrote a sermon on Mark viii: 37; shorter than usual. Wet and dark.

29. The brethren had a very serious, animated meeting last evening. Rainy the most of the day. Meetings thin. Preached with notes on 1 Cor. vii: 29, and the sermon written yesterday. Had a good evening meeting. I have to do but little. A young married woman has got relief in her mind today.

30. Wrote letters to Rev. Messrs. Smith, J. A. Roberts, J. Roberts, L. Cobb, and Bigelow.<sup>4</sup> Wrote to Mr. Gould on the 28th. A rainy day; afternoon and evening quite hard. No evening meeting. Wrote to Rev. John C. Brigham,<sup>5</sup> New York. Did not go into the street.

31. Clear and high wind. Had calls from seamen. Visited and spoke to many persons. There appears to be a good preparation for our public meeting. Read. Received a letter from Dea. Walter Crocker, of West Barnstable. The revival intelligence weekly is most wonderful. At evening had a neighborhood meeting. Wrote. Paid postage, .50.

#### APRIL.

1. Rainy. Read. Wrote to Rev. John C. Brigham, of the Bible Society.

<sup>1</sup> Lemuel Le Baron, son of Rev. Lemuel.

<sup>2</sup> Of doubtful good.

<sup>3</sup> Wife of Rev. Noble Everett, minister at Wareham, 1782-1819.

<sup>4</sup> The letters to these five neighboring

ministers doubtless had reference to the public meetings near at hand.

<sup>5</sup> John C. Brigham, D. D., Secretary of the American Bible Society between thirty and forty years

New York. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Preparing for our coming public meeting.

2. Fast. We commenced with much anxiety and hope a series of religious meetings. All is committed to God. Wickedness and error have lately raged and rioted here greatly. Preached a sermon on Sam. iii: 13-21. Mr. Gould came and assisted us afternoon and evening. At evening Mr. L. Cobb<sup>1</sup> came and assisted. Day meetings very well attended. The vestry at evening could not contain all that came. Attended an early morning prayer-meeting. Numbers are deeply impressed. Very little labor or play to be seen. Received two members, by letter, into the church.

3. Attended the morning meeting at Cannonville, and Mr. Gould another by the meeting-house. Had a prayer-meeting each day at nine o'clock. Mr. Gould preached in the forenoon. Afternoon we had speaking and prayer. The weather favorable. Meetings well attended. Impressions increase. Mr. Gould went home. Had a full evening meeting at the meeting-house. Received letters from Messrs. Smith and Roberts, of New Bedford, saying improperly, that they cannot come to help us. Received one from Mr. Barnard, of Hartford, inviting me to a public meeting of the Connecticut Historical Society the 21st instant.<sup>2</sup> Wrote to J. Roberts.

4. A good morning meeting at the vestry. No minister appeared to help us, and I preached in the forenoon without notes on Num. x: 29. Mr. Bigelow came and preached in the afternoon very well. The meetings well sustained; fuller than has been expected. In the evening the meeting still larger. We had some wet and hard wind. Our brethren performed very well. Some are deeply pricked in the heart. Wrote to Mr. Gould.

5. A solemn day. Preached in the forenoon, having attended the early prayer-meeting, on John vii: 37. Meeting very full and attentive. Mr. Gould came at noon and assisted in the afternoon and evening. The church renewed their covenant, and we had the sacrament. The services were long. The season will be long remembered. The Lord give a great blessing. I think I have not before seen so many people in that house. Clear weather and high wind. Had a full and solemn assembly in the evening, and closed the series of meetings. A number have got hope. My strength has been mercifully sustained.

6. Wrote a report for the school committee, and read it in the town meeting in our meeting-house. Cold wind. Attended the monthly concert. The assistance of the brethren gives me great relief. The town meeting did very well.

7. Read. Visited. Had company. Dr. Cobb called on me. At evening had an inquiry meeting in my chamber. It appeared well. Visited. Oh, for the great influences of the Holy Comforter.

8. Quite cold. The ground frozen. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. J. A. Rob-

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Leander Cobb.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Henry Barnard was slowly moving to effect the arrangement afterward brought

about between Dr. Robbins and the Connecticut Historical Society. The diary does not give the substance of their correspondence.

erts. Visited and walked to the Neck. Most persons are ready to be spoken to on the subject of religion. Had a very good evening meeting.

9. Visited and conversed and prayed with the sick and others the most of the day. There were two meetings at evening without me. Wrote to H. Barnard, Esq., Hartford. The Connecticut election has gone, through mercy, very favorably.<sup>1</sup>

10. Last evening took some cold. Wrote. Finished my large pile of wood to lie over summer. Visited. Rode to the Neck and preached at evening to a good number on Matt. xx: 30-34. Am quite hoarse.

11. Was brought home. Wrote. The ground is quite dry and dusty. Warm. Rode to Bedford by stage to exchange with Mr. Roberts. Called on Mr. Holmes; his wife is very low. Did errands. Staid at Mr. Alden's.<sup>2</sup> Attended an evening meeting with Mr. Roberts.

12. Wet and rainy. Some of the time quite hard. Grateful to the dry ground. Mr. Roberts went to Mattapoissett. Preached on Prov. xi: 7, and Ps. xxv: 11. Spoke with great difficulty on account of hoarseness. Walked to Fairhaven. My brother Francis's wife is there. Rode home in a chaise sent for me. Had no evening meeting. The storm became severe.

13. Pleasant. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston, and offered \$160.00 for Walton's *Polyglot*.<sup>3</sup> Visited and gave tracts. Read. At evening had a good prayer-meeting. Paid my subscription for singing, \$2.50. My hoarseness some better.

14. Walked out. Read. Connecticut election has gone well, though the efforts of the adversary were very great. All of God. Visited a private school. Occupied with a long visitor. At evening had an inquiry meeting.

15. Walked to Orcoot. Visited the sick and others, and gave tracts. Pleasant. Vegetation is springing. Had a serious evening meeting.

16. Rode to Bedford and engaged a girl for Mrs. Crosby. Pleasant and warm. Wrote. Am quite languid. At evening attended a small prayer-meeting.

17. Rode to Bedford again and brought down the girl. People are beginning gardening. Our people are doing great things with herrings. It is said that on the 13th and 15th they took one hundred thousand. Spring weather. Expenses going to Bedford, etc., .93. Wrote. At evening attended a meeting at Capt. Southworth's in the Neck. Tarried out.

18. Was brought home. Wrote the most of a sermon on Rev. xx: 12-15. Cannot write fast. Rev. Mr. Eddy<sup>4</sup> came at noon, agent for Foreign Missions, and engaged to preach tomorrow. He went to Rochester.

19. Finished my sermon on Rev. xx: 12-15, and preached it in the fore-

<sup>1</sup> Hon. William W. Ellsworth, who had been Governor for two years, was re-elected.

<sup>2</sup> Francis L. Alden.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Briant Walton, born in Yorkshire, England, 1600, was the author of the *Polyglot Bible* which was published in six volumes folio.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Chauncey Eddy, of Saratoga Springs, was the Agent of the American Board, who called on Dr. Robbins. Rev. Mr. Eddy was a graduate of Union College in 1821, and received the honorary degree of A. M. from Williams College in 1835. He died in 1861.

noon. Mr. Eddy came at noon, and preached in the afternoon and evening. He did well. We made a good collection for Foreign Missions and tracts. Evening meeting very full.

20. Read. Moderate weather, but almost constant winds. Visited. Read in old *English History*. We have favorable political accounts from all parts of the country.<sup>1</sup> Evening meeting thin. There was an exhibition of martial music.

21. Rode to the Neck and procured some tall oak-trees, and set them out. One of them very large and fine. Paid for three trees, \$2.00, and for work, .38. Had at evening a very interesting inquiry meeting.

22. Wrote. My eyes are weak. Wrote to my cousin J. Battell,<sup>2</sup> New York. Visited the sick and others. Wrote on the school returns. Attended the evening meeting.

23. Read. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow. Had company. At evening attended a small prayer-meeting. Vegetation advances. Visited and gave tracts.

24. Read. Very warm. Wrote. The mercury above summer heat. Walked to the Neck and preached in the evening on Matt. xxii: 42. Tarried out. Had my chamber whitewashed.

25. Was brought home with a good ash-tree. Paid for setting it, .35. Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow. The heat about the same as yesterday. Wrote on school returns. Read.

26. Read the Bible. Preached a double sermon on Isa. iii: 10, 11. Took the preliminary measures for our Sabbath-school. Warm, with thunder and wet. Had a good evening meeting. Am quite languid.

27. Completed our school returns, and put them into the mail for Boston. Collected our money for Foreign Missions. I gave \$4.00 for Foreign Missions, and \$1.00 for tracts for seamen, etc. Attended our evening meeting; principally taken up in preparing for the Sabbath-school.

28. Rode in a new way-carriage<sup>3</sup> from this village to Bedford, and met with Association. Well attended. At Mr. Roberts's. Called at F. Alden's. Sister Priscilla<sup>4</sup> there yet. Mr. Bigelow preached in the evening. Tarried at Mr. Alfred Gibbs's. A fine family. Paid Mr. Coggeshall, treasurer of our Auxiliary Foreign Mission, \$90.00. Collected Mon. Concert, \$22.80. Ladies' Mite Society, \$22.26; our late contribution, \$44.94. We have remaining thirteen or fourteen dollars for tracts.

29. Wet the most of the day; afternoon and evening a hard rain. We have very pleasing news from Virginia's State election. Association completed their business. Walked in the wet, and did errands. At evening we had our missionary meeting; pretty thin. Association well accommodated. Tarried at Mr. Gibbs's. Saw blossoms on the fruit-trees.

30. Rode home. The ground is fully and gratefully watered. Am very languid. Dined at Mrs. Mayhew's; had asparagus. On the 27th paid Mr.

<sup>1</sup> The change of political sentiment throughout the land was very marked at that time.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Battell, Jr., his nephew.

<sup>3</sup> Public conveyance.

<sup>4</sup> Mrs. Francis Le Baron Robbins.

Harlow, on account, \$2.33; and he had paid for me at Boston, \$15.00; Mr. Munroe, \$15.00. Received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Boston, and one from John R. Battell, New York, and one from Little & Brown, Boston, informing me that they have procured for me the Walton's *Polyglot Bible*.<sup>1</sup> Read. Much fatigued.

## MAY.

1. Wrote. Received another letter from Dr. Webb. Read. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston. Warm. Visited and preached in an out neighborhood in the evening on Matt. xxii: 42.

2. Wrote the most of a sermon on Isa. v: 4. Hindered by company. Vegetation progresses rapidly.

3. Finished my sermon on Isa. v: 4, and preached it in the afternoon. In the morning with notes on Gal. ii: 16, 17. We commenced our Sabbath-school; unusually large. May God give them a great blessing. Full meetings. At a full evening meeting spoke on John x: 9. Read.

4. Read. Wrote. The news from Virginia continues favorable, and is very important.\* Walked out. Wet. At evening meeting had but few. My cousin W. Le Baron and wife, from Maine, called on me.

5. Rode to Bedford to get some help for Mrs. Crosby, and failed. Visited the sick. At evening a hard rain. A temperance meeting prevented. Read proof-sheets.

6. Got four maple-trees, and had them set in the street. Paid for the trees and work, \$1.00. Received letters from Richard R. Wilby, of Boston, and Mr. Roberts, Fairhaven. Wrote to Mr. Roberts and Mr. Smith, of Bedford, and Little & Brown, Boston. Had a full evening meeting, and expounded the next Sabbath-school lesson.

7. Wrote. Yesterday paid the Fairhaven Bank for discount, \$2.50. Walked and visited and gave tracts. Was out late.

8. Walked and gave tracts. Have to take the number of children between four and five years. Received a letter from Mr. Roberts, of Fairhaven, and one from Theron Metcalf,<sup>3</sup> Esq., of Dedham. Wrote an answer to Mr. Roberts. Had a small inquiry meeting at my room. An aged woman died here. Visited.

9. Uncommonly cold and a hard rain. We have good news from our whalemén. Read the Bible. Wrote notes for preaching. Long, easterly weather.

10. There was snow<sup>4</sup> with the rain yesterday, and at night the storm was

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins bought many valuable books, but seldom any work that cost so much as this. His library was especially choice in rare Bibles and commentaries, and in choice editions of the Christian Fathers.

<sup>2</sup> David Campbell, who had been Governor of Virginia for three years was superseded in 1840 by Hon. Thomas W. Gilmer. He (Mr. Gilmer) was made Secretary of the

Navy in 1844 by President John Tyler, and was killed by accident on board the United States steamer Princeton the same year.

<sup>3</sup> Theron Metcalf, LL. D., Judge of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, 1848-1865.

<sup>4</sup> Snow on the 10th of May, almost anywhere in New England, but especially on the south shore, was an unusual circumstance.

violent. Wet, and the Sabbath-school in the morning was not full. Quite cold. Mr. Andrew Bigelow<sup>1</sup> came from Rochester, and preached his first sermon. He performed well. Afternoon preached with notes on Gen. xv: 15. Attended the funeral of the aged Mrs. Sampson. Had a full evening meeting, and spoke on John x: 10.

11. Rode to Bedford to get a girl for Mrs. Crosby, and failed. Did errands. Evening meeting thin.

12. Pleasant and warm. Visited. Visited the ship-yard. Received a good letter from sister Battell. The late Baltimore Convention of more than twenty thousand young men,<sup>2</sup> excites much attention. Rode to Bedford and attended the funeral of Mrs. Holmes. Tarried at Fairhaven. Paid freight, \$1.30.

13. Warm, and fine for vegetation. Rode home. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston. Received a box from Boston containing Walton's *Polyglot Bible*, purchased of Mrs. Holmes,<sup>3</sup> relict of Dr. Abiel Holmes, of Cambridge; eight massive folios in fine order for \$160.00. It makes a very important addition to my library. Wrote. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston, and enclosed the payment for my *Polyglot*. Mr. Rodman, of Bedford, and his family, called on me. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

14. Received a letter from J. C. Brigham, Bible Society, New York. Wrote to Andrew Bigelow, Rochester, in reply to one received from him yesterday. Wrote to Marsh, Capen & Co., Boston, and sent proof-sheets. Visited. Wrote.

15. Read. The important election of Virginia has issued happily. Quite warm. Walked to the Neck. Visited. Conversed with persons relative to a Christian profession. At evening preached on John x: 10. Thin meeting on account of a hard shower.

16. Warm. Vegetation advances rapidly. Saw blossoms on the apple-trees yesterday. Rode to Bedford in our stage to exchange. Procured Sabbath-school books.

17. Preached for Mr. Smith, now absent, and Mr. Andrew Bigelow supplied me. Preached on Prov. xi: 7, and Ps. xxv: 11. This congregation increases, but the house is too large. Attended the Sabbath-school. After meeting rode home. Attended our evening meeting; quite full, and spoke on Acts xx: 24.

18. Gave many catechisms to children. Rev. Mr. Tyler,<sup>4</sup> of Amherst,

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Andrew Bigelow, D. D., born in Boylston, Mass., 1809, was graduated at Amherst College, 1838, studied theology with his uncle, Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, of Rochester, and was settled in several places, and died Sept. 2, 1882.

<sup>2</sup> A great Whig gathering in view of the approaching Presidential election.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Abiel Holmes was twice married. His first wife, who died early, was Mary

Stiles, daughter of President Stiles, of Yale College. His second wife, the mother of his five children, to whom he was married in 1801, was Sarah Wendell, daughter of Hon. Oliver Wendell. It was from Dr. Holmes's library therefore that the huge folios came, which doubtless now repose in dignity in the library of the Connecticut Historical Society at Hartford.

<sup>4</sup> Prof. Wm. S. Tyler, D. D., one of the



spent some time here. Read old ecclesiastical documents. Evening prayer-meeting quite thin. Thermometer about summer heat.

19. Read. Visited a school. Visited the sick. Wrote. Had company. Am much occupied. Wrote to Rev. H. Barrows.

20. Visited a double school. Conversed with persons on the subject of making a profession of religion. Visited. At evening explained the Sabbath-school lesson.

21. Worked at my books and papers. Wet. Visited. Wrote to Gov. Everett, about to sail for Europe, requesting him to write a history of our country.<sup>1</sup>

22. Rode to Bedford and procured Sabbath-school books. Still wet. Last night we had a heavy rain. A great blowth on the fruit-trees. Visited.

23. Conversed with several persons on the subject of a Christian profession. Find a painful backwardness. Walked a distance. Wrote notes for preaching. Warm.

24. Attended the Sabbath-school. Teachers and pupils over two hundred. Preached with notes on Eph. ii: 12, and a sermon on 1 Cor. ii: 9. Full meeting. At evening full meeting; spoke on Luke xviii: 2-9. Visited a sick woman. Not greatly fatigued. Propounded four women to the church.

25. Visited the sick and others. Wrote. Took the stage on a journey, by divine favor. Rode to Bedford.

26. Rode at daylight in stage and car, and arrived at Boston before ten o'clock. Attended the meeting of the Prison Discipline Society. Put up at Rev. Mr. Rogers's<sup>2</sup>; kindly entertained. Attended the Pastoral Association. Mr. Bigelow preached very well. At evening was at the meeting of the Home Missionary Society. Much fatigued. Paid the Tract Society, \$14.25, collected by my people, and received tracts to the value of \$9.00, to be held for donation to seamen and others.

27. Paid Burnham for books, and on account, \$11.00. Attended the Pastoral Association. Met with the Board of Education. We had two sessions, and did but little. Our new chairman is a poor one.<sup>3</sup> Dined at Gov. Winthrop's. Could not attend the Antiquarian Society. Received a polite note from Rev. Dr. Harris, and a letter from Gov. Everett. Took lodgings at Dr. Harris's. Very warm.

28. Am unable to attend the public meetings. Had a five hours' session of the Board of Education, and closed. A severe heat. Paid for the *Patriot* newspaper, taken some time since, \$4.00. Very tired. The mercury said to be at 90°. Dined at the ministers' public dinner. Looked out Sabbath-school books. Our Governor, a painful thought, is a radical.<sup>4</sup> Many ministers are in town. Paid for new spectacle glasses, .75.

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most scholarly and valuable men connected with Amherst College. He is still (1886) living and active at the age of seventy-six.

<sup>1</sup> This was a subject which had long been on Dr. Robbins's mind.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Wm. M. Rogers, of the Central Church.

<sup>3</sup> Gov. Marcus Morton.

<sup>4</sup> The word *radical* here doubtless means *anti-slavery*, and it is no longer a painful

29. Yesterday the Board of Education voted to establish a Normal School at Bridgewater.<sup>1</sup> Procured Sabbath-school books and tracts. Purchased books from the library of the late Dr. Holmes. Paid Dr. Harris<sup>2</sup> for books, \$4.00. Left Bridgewater at four o'clock, and got home about ten P. M. Have had a prosperous journey, through great mercy.

30. Am fatigued with labor and want of sleep. Wrote. Read. Had many calls. Find that one bundle of Sabbath-school books is left at Boston. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston. Vegetation advances rapidly. The city of Natchez has been mostly destroyed by a tornado. Yesterday dined with Mr. Stoddard,<sup>3</sup> and saw Mr. Noble,<sup>4</sup> a preacher, son of my classmate. Saw also my cousin S. P. Robbins, lately returned from Siam.

31. Preached a double sermon on Ex. ix: 14. The Sabbath-school numbered two hundred and twenty. Put seventeen volumes into the library, and gave the children a large number of primers. Mr. Barrows's daughter, who died in my absence, had a very ceremonious funeral at the Universalist meeting-house. Spoke at a full evening meeting on John iv: 29. Pro-pounded a good man to the church.

#### JUNE.

1. Wrote. Looked over pamphlets. Read. Am much fatigued with late labors. Have numerous calls from children. Evening wet, and had no monthly concert.

2. Walked a distance, and visited a school. Cool. Looked at a fine organ, building by one of our mechanics. Made a draft of a small book-case for my *Polyglot*.<sup>5</sup>

3. Looked over pamphlets and documents, and Revolutionary courts martial. Dined out. Capt. Le Baron has got home from the mouth of the Mississippi. Visited. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Matt. v: 1, etc. We have anxiety about an absent vessel. Was out late. I do but little. Received a letter from Theron Metcalf, of Dedham, and one from Folsom & Co., Cambridge.

4. We had a hard rain. Wrote. Walked and visited. Our good people are backward about a public profession. Have nervous affections.

5. Walked a distance, and visited and gave tracts. Visited two small schools. Pleasant. At eve visited; out late.

6. On the 4th paid \$3.60 for sawing wood some months since. Wrote to Dr. Harris, of Boston. Quite warm. Mercury at summer heat. Gave the

thought that Gov. Morton was a man of this sort. From 1845 to 1848 he was Collector of the Port of Boston, when (in the language of Drake's *Dictionary of the American Biography*) "he resigned, and quitting the Democratic party took part in the Freesoil movement."

<sup>1</sup> This was the beginning of the institution which has since done such a large and useful work.

<sup>2</sup> Thaddeus William Harris, M. D., at whose house he was lodging.

<sup>3</sup> Dea. Charles Stoddard, of Boston.

<sup>4</sup> Mason Noble, D. D., graduated at Williams College, 1827, a prominent Presbyterian minister. He died in 1881.

<sup>5</sup> So large and costly a work as the eight folios needed a separate book-case for their special accommodation, as also for dignity and honor.

assessors, on oath, the amount of my taxable property. Received a large box of books, and Sabbath-school books from Boston. Preached a preparatory lecture on Matt. iii: 8; well attended. Received a letter from my nephew, Joseph Battell, of New York, giving me the most grateful and unexpected information that he proposes to present to my library the magnificent edition of Hume's *History*.<sup>1</sup> The most valuable present I have ever received. Quite weary. Received a valuable new hat from the maker at Bedford.

7. Wrote notes and preached in the morning on Luke xxii: 19. Received one man and three women into the church. One woman that had been propounded failed. Two were baptized.<sup>2</sup> Some showers prevented some from attending meeting. Administered the sacrament. Some of our friends have returned from the South, and had prayers. The church pretty full; over two hundred in the Sabbath-school. Put into the library, including those last Sabbath, one hundred volumes, with a number of small articles. My attention to the school is laborious. Afternoon preached a sermon on Ps. x: 13. Spoke at the evening meeting on Luke xvi.: 31. We had a collection for our Sabbath-school library.

8. A vessel came in here with our people from the Mississippi.<sup>3</sup> They have succeeded well. They came in on Saturday eve. Put up my new books, lately received, including eleven heavy folios. A large and valuable addition to my library. At eve the serious boys came to my chamber.

9. Wrote on my library catalogue. My new folios are from the valuable collection of the late Dr. Holmes, of Cambridge. Fine editions of Chrysostom,<sup>4</sup> Spanheim,<sup>5</sup> etc. Warm, and vegetation is rapid. Rode to Bedford. Visited.

10. Wrote. Yesterday received a letter from Little & Brown, Boston. Wrote to James Munroe & Co., Boston. Visited and gave tracts. Thermometer above 80°. Had a good evening meeting.

11. Walked to the Neck in the heat. Distributed tracts and took the number of the children. Vegetation of all kinds is uncommonly flourishing. Preached in the evening on Ps. cxvi: 13. Tarried out.

12. Was brought home. I have not seen in this place so fair a prospect of crops and fruit since I have lived here. May God save from disappoint-

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<sup>1</sup> This was an *édition de luxe*, else it could not have been the most valuable present he had ever received. His nephew Joseph had given him some valuable books before.

<sup>2</sup> The two adults baptized were Lois Briggs and Almira Lewis.

<sup>3</sup> Those that went down to cut timber.

<sup>4</sup> John Chrysostom, one of the prominent Christian Fathers of the early centuries, was born at Antioch, A. D. 351, and was made Bishop of Constantinople, A. D. 398. He was noted as a writer, and, more than all, as

an eloquent preacher. His works were comprised in an edition of thirteen folio volumes published 1718-1738.

<sup>5</sup> There were two Spanheims, Frederic and Ezekiel, father and son, both eminent for their learning. Frederic was Professor of Divinity at Leyden University, born 1600, and died 1649. Ezekiel was born in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1629, and died in England in 1710. Frederic Spanheim wrote *Exercitationes de Gratia Universalis*, and this was the work probably which Dr. Robbins bought for his library.

ment. Had strawberries. Received a letter from Rev. Charles Simmons,<sup>1</sup> at Wareham, and wrote him in reply. Read. Much occupied with company. Thermometer at 86°. Visited.

13. Am very languid. Not able to write a sermon. Wrote to Thomas Burnham, Boston. Attended to Sabbath-school books. Visited and gave tracts. Thermometer 82°. Wrote.

14. Wrote notes and preached in the morning on John v: 39. Attended the Sabbath-school; very full, near two hundred and thirty, and added forty books to the library. Have given more than one hundred primers. Afternoon preached a sermon on Rom. xi: 22. After meeting rode to Tripp's Mills, and attended the Sabbath-school established there by some of our young men. Spoke a good deal, and came home very tired. Went to bed very early. Cooler.

15. Wrote. Rainy, grateful showers. Walked and gave tracts. Have many hindrances.

16. Read. Much occupied with company. Have some fire. Visited the sick and gave tracts.

17. Wrote in a lady's album. Read the Bible. Had an elegant small mahogany book-case brought and put up for my *Polyglot*. Mr. Simmons, from Wareham, came here. He preached at the evening meeting. A serious and sensible man. Walked and visited.

18. Mr. Simmons read the most of a long manuscript to me, which he proposed to publish.<sup>2</sup> Visited and gave tracts. Wrote. Wet and cool.

19. Last night we had a hard rain. Received a letter from J. Munroe & Co., and one from T. Burnham, both of Boston. Wrote to brother Francis, and to Mr. Bigelow. Visited. Read the Bible.

20. Wrote a sermon on Ps. cxxxix: 7-10. Did half a page by candle-light. Have a fire. Am something nervous. Mrs. Crosby is very feeble.

21. Attended and opened the Sabbath-school. Cool. Preached with notes on John v: 40, and the sermon written yesterday. The Baptists have a preacher here now.<sup>3</sup> Spoke at an evening meeting on Luke xxiii: 40-43.

22. Read. Visited a school. Wrote to J. Munroe & Co., Boston. There appear to be unusual movements among the Jews, and a looking toward Palestine.<sup>4</sup> Visited and gave tracts. A whale brig came in here yesterday that has done poorly.

23. Wrote to T. Burnham, Boston. Visited a school. Had company. Received a set of Washington's *Works* by Sparks; procured and bound by

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Charles Simmons was the author of the *Scripture Manual*, a convenient book, and widely used by the ministers of the last generation, when making their choice of texts for their sermons. His widow died very recently in West Newton, Mass., not far from ninety years old.

<sup>2</sup> Probably this was the earliest edition of the *Scripture Manual* referred to in a pre-

vious note. Rev. Mr. Simmons had his home at North Wrentham at a later period, but seems to have been now living at Wareham.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Eleazar Savage.

<sup>4</sup> That idea may be more prominent at one time than another, but it seems to be a kind of natural language for a Jew to say, "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem," etc.

12. Suffered a good deal by the heat. The mercury at noon was  $87\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ . I conclude it rose some higher. Expounded on Acts xx: 1-28, and preached a sermon on Luke ix: 30, 31. Attended the Sabbath-school. At the third meeting, six o'clock, spoke on Luke xviii: 35, etc. Rode to the Randall neighborhood and attended a meeting in the evening, and preached on Luke xxiii: 39-43. Much fatigued.

13. Wet. Our rains are very light, and the ground is dry. Read *Life of Napoleon*.<sup>1</sup> Walked a distance, visited and gave tracts. Read quite late.

14. Read. Received a letter from brother Francis, and one from Dr. Harris, of Boston. Mr. Browne, from Ohio, called on me. Read. Visited. Thermometer  $88^{\circ}$ .

15. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow, and to Mr. Barrows, West Middleborough. Wrote to brother Francis. Dined out. Attended the evening meeting. Thin. There was a wretched circus here. Thermometer  $89^{\circ}$ . Seldom higher here. Cherries are plenty.

16. Wrote. Read the Bible. The heat very oppressive. Thermometer  $90^{\circ}$ . Read *Life of Napoleon*. Visited a school. There is an unusually large crop of hay for this vicinity.

17. Rode to Bedford. Did errands. The heat a little abated. Thermometer  $85^{\circ}$ . Received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Boston. Read proof-sheets. Visited.

18. Wrote pieces for the *Recorder*. Am quite languid. Read the Bible. Thermometer  $84^{\circ}$ .

19. Opened the Sabbath-school. A good number of sailors at meeting. The heat very oppressive. Thermometer about  $85^{\circ}$ . Preached a double sermon on John iii: 3. Our sacred music is very fine. We had some very grateful showers. Spoke at our third meeting on 1 Kings xviii: 21.

20. Read newspapers of 1812 and 1813. Cooler. Thermometer at summer heat. Walked and visited. Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow.

21. Wrote a long letter to Dr. Webb, of Boston. I write slow. Read. Had company.

22. A day of mercies. Received a kind letter from my cousin Joseph Battell, of New York, with a box containing Bowyer's splendid edition of Hume's *History*, as a present from him. The work surpasses my high expectations. It is in all respects magnificent. He procured it, at my suggestion, at auction for one hundred dollars. Ten large folios, printing, paper, plates, and binding of the richest kind. The original cost exceeded four hundred dollars. It is the most valuable present I have ever received, and the most valuable addition made to my library.\* May God bless the

<sup>1</sup> What *Life of Napoleon* he was reading does not appear, though probably Scott's. In 1840 there was published Louis Bonaparte's *Opinions and Policy* of Napoleon. But this book had not probably reached Dr. Robbins's hands at that time, and would hardly have been called a life.

\* Here the splendid present, before briefly noticed, is fully explained and described. William Bowyer, who issued the costly publication, was an English printer who died in 1777. Joseph Battell, who gave these books to his Uncle Thomas, was in prosperous business, and with his large and generous

donor. Very warm. Thermometer 85°. Looked over my new books. Received a good letter from Dr. Robbins, of Roxbury. Attended the evening prayer-meeting. We have good news and very important from Louisiana.<sup>1</sup>

23. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Simmons,<sup>2</sup> of Wareham. Very warm and dry. Vegetation sinks under the heat. Thermometer 84°. Towards evening walked to the Tripp's Mill neighborhood. Am feeble. Tarried out.

24. In the forenoon we had a most grateful and plentiful rain. Was brought home. The earth is greatly refreshed. Dined out. Walked a distance and visited a sick woman. A poor man gave me a dollar. Visited. Read. Afternoon very sultry heat. Thermometer 84°.

25. Read. Am quite languid. Wrote to my kind cousin Joseph Battell, of New York. Thermometer 83°. Paid a highway tax of \$2.79; the first, I think, since I have lived here. Wrote. Towards evening Rev. Mr. Bullard,<sup>3</sup> Sabbath-school agent, came here. Glad to see him.

26. Attended the Sabbath-school with Mr. Bullard. He addressed the school. He preached very well. Very seasonable for us. Thermometer at 84°. Mr. Bullard went and visited the Sabbath-school at Tripp's Mills, and thence to Fairhaven. Preached at our third meeting on Ps. lxii: 10. We had a Sabbath-school contribution and collected \$15.30.

27. Wrote. Read. Thermometer 87°. We had a very fine launch of a good ship. Read in my new history.<sup>4</sup>

28. Rode to Bedford and the Head-of-the-River, and met with the Association<sup>5</sup> at Mr. Burt's.<sup>6</sup> We had a good number. The roads very dry and dusty. Preached the Association sermon on Ps. cxxxix: 7-10. Attended to the usual business. The heat oppressive. I conclude my thermometer must be about 85°. The congregation here continues small, but lives. Tarried at Mr. Spooner's.

29. Called at Judge Spooner's.<sup>7</sup> They are an afflicted family. We had a pleasant session, and Association closed at noon. Dr. Cobb brought me home. The heat very oppressive. My thermometer was not seen higher than 87°. Read. Attended the evening meeting. Bought a water-pot for my trees. Was up late. Tired.

30. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. H. Barrows. Read. Had company. Wrote to Mr. Wm. Stone,<sup>8</sup> editor of the *Commercial Advertiser*, New York. Visited. We have warm nights as well as days. Thermometer 82°.

nature took pleasure in making munificent gifts.

<sup>1</sup> This was a year of unexpected triumphs for the Whigs.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Charles Simmons, before noticed.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Asa Bullard.

<sup>4</sup> His costly edition of Hume.

<sup>5</sup> Old Colony Association.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Daniel C. Burt.

<sup>7</sup> Apollon T. Spooner, Esq., Judge of Probate.

<sup>8</sup> William Leete Stone, son of Rev. William Stone, was born at Esopus, N. Y., in 1792. Without a college education, he early exhibited a talent for writing, this taste being fostered by his youthful training in a printing-office. After some experience as an editor, in 1821 he became an editor and proprietor in the New York *Commercial Advertiser*, and in this connection continued till his early death in 1844. He held a prominent rank among the editors of his generation, and was

31. Read. Wrote to brother James. The drought is severe. Quite a task to water my trees. Occupied with company. Whortleberries good and plenty. Wrote to D. Appleton & Co., New York. Thermometer 85°. Received a letter from Gov. Morton,<sup>3</sup> and one from Mr. Bullard.

## AUGUST.

1. We had a succession of most grateful and copious showers. The ground is greatly refreshed. Wrote to Hiland Hall,<sup>4</sup> Member of Congress, Manchester, Vermont. Read. Wrote. Warm.

2. Cloudy and sultry. Opened the Sabbath-school and taught a class. Preached with notes on Ps. cxxxii: 13, and sermon on Jonah ii: 8. Administered the sacrament. The church quite full. Thermometer at 81° when I came from meeting. At the third meeting spoke on Matt. xxii: 5. Not greatly fatigued.

3. Wrote. Received a letter from brother Francis, and one from Sylvanus Tripp. Read. Had company. At evening attended the monthly concert. Wrote after the meeting to brother James and sister Battell. Afternoon rode to Rochester with company, and procured place for two lads in the academy.

4. Rode in a chaise to Bridgewater, and met with Gov. Morton and Mr. James, of Boston, on the business of the normal school. Warm and dusty. After four o'clock rode home. My expenses, besides chaise, \$3.50. The crops and fruit appear well.

5. Read. Very warm. Thermometer at 85° before ten o'clock. Afterwards 87°. Afternoon was sent for and rode to Fairhaven, and attended a performance of their Sabbath-school in a grove. Mr. Roberts<sup>5</sup> has lost his mother in Illinois. At evening attended a meeting with him. Yesterday received a letter from Edward Allen, of Fairhaven.

6. Did business at the bank. Crossed to Bedford and did errands. Saw at Fairhaven Mr. Powers<sup>4</sup> and wife, from Goshen, Connecticut. Saw a fine military company from Boston and addressed them. Was brought home. Very dusty. Visited a school. Quite fatigued.

7. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Beane, of Bedford. Last night had a little rain. Received a letter from brother James, and one from brother Francis. Cooler. Wrote. On the 4th received from the town as school committee, \$16.00, and paid a tax of \$9.02. New times!<sup>5</sup> Yesterday

the author of several valuable books. His name, William Leete, was derived from Gov. William Leete, of early Connecticut.

<sup>3</sup> Gov. Marcus Morton, *ex officio* chairman of the State Board of Education.

<sup>4</sup> Gov. Hiland Hall, a very able and honorable man, besides many other important public offices, was Member of Congress continuously from 1833 to 1844. He was born in Bennington in 1795, and has recently (December, 1885) passed away at the age of ninety.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Jacob Roberts.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Grant Powers, who was settled in Goshen, Ct., in 1829, and died in 1841. He was a graduate of Dartmouth College in 1810. He was a native of Hollis, N. H., born in 1784, was ordained and settled in Haverhill, N. H., in 1815.

<sup>5</sup> This expression, with an exclamation point, as we understand it, means that it was new times for ministers to have to pay town taxes. In the earlier years of New England it seems to have been customary to exempt

paid Mr. Howe for books, \$30.00. Have some difficulty in getting accounts right with my collector.

8. Wrote to Dr. Cobb. Visited. Wrote on a report for Home Missionary Society. Very dry and dusty. Read expositors.

9. Attended the Sabbath-school. Expounded on Acts xx: 28 to xxi: 15, and preached a sermon on 1 Cor. ii: 9. Full meetings. At the third meeting spoke on John v: 24. Visited.

10. Received a letter from D. Appleton & Co., New York. Wrote. Received of my collector, \$74.00. Preparing for my journey. At this late hour I praise and adore the God of all grace for a life, though unprofitable, of sixty-three years.<sup>1</sup> Preparing for my journey. Received of my collector, \$74.00. Was up late.

11. Endeavored to commit my all to God and his grace, while I am permitted to enter upon another year of my life. Left home early, and rode to Bedford and took the car and rode to Boston in less than three hours. Warm. Paid for Sabbath-school books, \$28.16. Donation of a contribution to Mr. Bullard, \$5.00. We have good news from Indiana, etc. Had a long talk with Dr. Webb and Capen. Quite tired. My conveyance was \$2.88.

12. Took the car and rode to Springfield in six hours.<sup>2</sup> Rode in the stage to East Windsor. Missed of seeing my brother at Enfield. Found Mrs. Wolcott in comfortable health. Mr. Bissell and Eveline have come home to live.<sup>3</sup> The crops appear well through my journey. The Theological Seminary has had its Commencement. Saw several ministers. Found various friends. Conveyance, \$4.50.

13. Wrote to brother Francis. Mr. Wolcott left a property exceeding thirty thousand dollars. Warm and showery. At night a hard and most grateful rain. Wrote. Wrote to my brother at Enfield. S. T. Wolcott has a fine horse. Read.

14. The ground is finely wet. Vegetation here is vigorous and beautiful. Rode to Hartford. Saw friends. Mr. George Goodwin<sup>4</sup> is eighty-three years old, and has been in the *Courant*<sup>5</sup> printing-office seventy-four years. This city is improving. Returned to East Windsor. Election news from the South and West very cheering.

15. Was carried to Pine Meadow. Saw various friends. Had a good

them from taxation. But we know no reason why ministers should not pay taxes as well as other men.

<sup>1</sup> The next day (August 11) was his birthday.

<sup>2</sup> Now the journey is made in accommodation trains in about four hours, and in the fast express trains in two hours and forty-five minutes.

<sup>3</sup> The writer of this note found them both in this same house, August, 1885, in good health.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Goodwin lived on a number of years

after this, and died at a very advanced age. His son, George Goodwin, Jr., a graduate of Yale College in 1806, died in 1879, about ninety years old. Another son, Edward, a graduate of Yale in 1823, has recently died in a good old age; and still another son, Henry, lived to between eighty and ninety.

<sup>5</sup> The Connecticut *Courant* is the oldest paper in Hartford, but there were two older papers in the State. The first number of the *Courant* was issued in 1764. The oldest Connecticut paper originated in New London.



visit at Pine Meadow. Took a canal-boat<sup>1</sup> and went up over the Falls to Enfield. Met my brother at Thompsonville. Have been much prospered this week in great mercy. Received a letter from brother Francis.

16. Preached for my brother on Rev. xx: 12-15. Rode to Pine Meadow at noon, and preached to their small new meeting, on Isa. v: 4. Dr. Potts,<sup>2</sup> of New York, preached in the afternoon for my brother. Returned to Enfield, and preached in the evening on Ps. cxxxix: 7-10. Full meetings.

17. Rode with my brother and his wife to Lenox. Very warm. Had a fatiguing day with a one-horse wagon. Arrived at Lenox late in the evening. The crops appear very well.

18. My brother James appears to have pretty good health, and is prospered in his family. Rode with others to Williamstown. A fine tract through this county. Many people are collected here for Commencement. The houses are full. Attended the evening exhibitions. Mr. A. H. Everett<sup>3</sup> delivered a good oration. Warm.

19. The Commencement exercises were good. My nephew, Thomas Robbins,<sup>4</sup> performed very well. There was one long exercise.<sup>5</sup> Looked at the library, apparatus, etc. A very good collection. The college has fine officers. Called at Mrs. Noble's<sup>6</sup> and the president's.<sup>7</sup> Saw my cousin T. Woodbridge. The Society of Alumni appointed me their president. The afternoon very warm. The public exercises were evangelical.

20. Rode with brother Francis and wife to Lenox, except that he went from Pittsfield to New Lebanon. The heat very oppressive. This county appears well. Crops are very good. Saw the great Western Railroad at Pittsfield, now making. Western elections excite great attention. Very gratifying, with some deductions.<sup>8</sup>

21. Called on Miss Sedgwick<sup>9</sup> and others. The ground is dry, and the heat very severe. The mercury said to be at 98°. Dr. Shepard called on me. Preached for him at a stated evening meeting without notes on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. Wrote. Read. Brother James has a pleasant family, and his circumstances appear well.

22. Walked out. This is a pleasant village, but the town is hilly. Rode with my two sisters-in-law<sup>10</sup> over a mountain to Richmond, and visited nephew

<sup>1</sup> This canal now supplies the water-power for the mills at Windsor Locks.

<sup>2</sup> George Potts, D.D., born in Philadelphia, 1801, graduated at the University of Pennsylvania, 1819, and at Princeton Seminary, 1822, was pastor of the University Place Church in New York. He was made conspicuous by his controversy with Dr. Wainwright on church matters.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Alexander H. Everett.

<sup>4</sup> The son of Dr. Robbins's brother James, whom he had assisted while in college.

<sup>5</sup> That is, the exercises were crowded into one long session.

<sup>6</sup> Widow of his classmate, Hon. Daniel Noble.

<sup>7</sup> Mark Hopkins, D.D., began his long presidency in 1836, which reached on to 1872, and he still (1886) keeps an active connection with the college, with his intellectual powers in full and active exercise.

<sup>8</sup> Everything was going right for Dr. Robbins in politics that year.

<sup>9</sup> Miss Catherine Maria Sedgwick, daughter of Judge Theodore Sedgwick, widely and favorably known as an authoress.

<sup>10</sup> Mrs. James Watson Robbins and Mrs. Francis Le Baron Robbins.

Clark<sup>1</sup> and his wife. They are pleasantly situated here. I hope, after repeated dismissals, he will here spend his days. Brother Francis came and joined us. Returned to Lenox at dark. There was a very fine shower at Richmond, but none at Lenox. But little abatement of the heat. The Western elections, through divine mercy, have done well.

23. Preached for Dr. Shepard<sup>2</sup> on Prov. xi: 7, and Isa. v: 4; and at a third meeting in the academy on Ps. cxxxix: 7-10. The heat oppressive. The congregation here, I think, is about as large as mine. A hard hill to ascend to the meeting-house. No special revival in this quarter. The academy is in a very good state. Brother Francis and wife came here from Richmond in the evening.

24. Last evening and night there was considerable rain. We rose early, and left Lenox as early as we could, and rode to Norfolk. Brother James and his youngest son with us. Found Mr. Battell at home with Joseph,<sup>3</sup> and most of his family. Looked at the new academy. It is a fine building, and was to have been dedicated today, but it is not completed. Saw friends and acquaintance.

25. Read. Conversed with cousin Joseph. Professor Larned,<sup>4</sup> of Yale College, is here. Visited Mr. Eldredge and cousin Sarah at the old mansion. Read. Election news is the principal topic in the newspapers. In the afternoon there was a county temperance meeting here; well attended. Mr. Larned delivered a good address. Mr. Battell has an elegant library. We had in the evening some fine music.

26. Brother Francis and wife and I left Norfolk, still riding in his wagon. Visited brother Ammi. He is, as he has been, unable to walk; otherwise in health. Came to Hartford and East Windsor. All fatigued. Well accommodated at Mrs. Wolcott's. Some neighbors were in. The late rains have been very refreshing. The crops and fruits are very good. Sister Battell came with us to brother Ammi's. Cooler.

27. My brother and sister went home. Attended to the family affairs of Mrs. Wolcott. Put up my things for going home. In the afternoon Ursula and young Tudor Bissell<sup>5</sup> went with me to Hartford. Saw friends. Took tea with Dr. Bull. He paid me a dividend of Hartford Bank, \$17.50. Called on Dr. Hawes.<sup>6</sup> Attended his evening meeting with him, and preached without notes on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. A fine room, and well occupied. Kindly treated. Did errands. Cool. Tarried at the stage house.

28. Took the stage while it was yet dark, and rode to Providence. A

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Eber L. Clark, and his wife (Sally Lawrence). Since writing the above, Mrs. Clark, afterwards Mrs. Newcombe, has passed away (April 18, 1886,) at Amherst, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Samuel Shepard, who had been settled at Lenox since 1795.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Battell, Jr., from New York.

<sup>4</sup> Prof. William A. Larned, native of Thompson, Ct., graduate of Yale, 1826, Pro-

fessor of Rhetoric and English Literature at Yale, 1839, to his death in 1862. In 1843 he was united in marriage with Miss Irene Battell, who survived her husband several years, and died in 1877.

<sup>5</sup> Son of Edgar and Eveline (Wolcott) Bissell.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. Joel Hawes, pastor of the Centre Church.

fatiguing ride. Got in in the evening. Rhode Island has done well at a late election. Saw a good many apples on the way. Stage fare, \$4.00.

29. Rode early in the cars to Mansfield and Bedford. Took our daily hack and got home at noon. Have had a very prosperous and pleasant journey, and a safe return, through God's great mercy. A whale brig has come in, in my absence, having lost her captain; a worthy man, killed by a whale. Dea. Crosby has lost a young child. Visited the afflicted. Very warm and dry. No rain here for a fortnight past. Received a letter from Boston, inviting me to their school examination, now past,<sup>1</sup> one from Mr. Hale, of Bridgewater, and one from Mr. Hiland Hall, of Bennington. Received pamphlets by the post office. The expenses of my journey have been \$26.54. Read.

30. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached written sermons on Ps. cxxx: 3, 4. Spoke at the third meeting on 2 Cor. iv: 3. The roads are very dusty. Very warm. The mercury at 80° when I came home from meeting.

31. Read. Visited. The people appear to feel my absence when I am gone. Dr. Cobb<sup>2</sup> has supplied here in my absence very acceptably. Have to water my shade trees. They live, though injured by worms. Mercury at 86°.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Read. Had company. Visited the sick; there are a number. The ground is almost covered with dust. Wrote on my diary; quite in arrear.

2. Wrote to Dr. Cobb and sent him \$10.00 for his labors here. Received a letter from Mr. Joseph B. Felt,<sup>3</sup> of Boston. Signs of rain fail. Corn is getting ripe. Attended the evening meeting. Wrote.

3. Yesterday Mr. Ward, of Middleborough, Agent for the United States Census, called and took our number in a little brief authority. Wrote. Rode to Bedford. The first news from Vermont very favorable.<sup>4</sup> Paid for a new hat, \$6.00; for a silver label for my new book-case, \$3.75. Called on Mr. Arnold.<sup>5</sup> Had a particular conversation with him in his grotto. His garden is very beautiful. Drank tea there with company. The curiosities in his house, procured in Europe, are wonderful. Tarried at Mr. Alden's.

4. Cooler. Great preparations are making for the gathering at Bunker Hill next week.<sup>6</sup> Saw one article, a whale-boat, with carriage, gilt, etc.<sup>6</sup> Came home. Read expositors. Visited. At evening had a small meeting

<sup>1</sup> As his son Leander was preaching for him at Sippican, he could be spared to supply the pulpit at Mattapoisett.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Joseph B. Felt, LL. D., was at work on the Massachusetts State Papers from 1836 to 1846.

<sup>3</sup> The good news will continue to come in now from all quarters, ending with the election of Gen. William H. Harrison in November.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. James Arnold, who was the owner

of a splendid house and grounds, still known as the Arnold place, though the former owner has passed away.

<sup>5</sup> The Presidential campaign of 1840 was marked for its immense gatherings of people in political conventions. "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" was the ringing cry, and log cabins and hard cider were the order of the day.

<sup>6</sup> This was to move in the great procession at Boston.

in a family, preached on 1 Sam. ii: 30, and baptized a child;<sup>1</sup> but few present. Wrote rather late.

5. Wrote a sermon on 1 Sam. ii: 30. I desire to be thankful that I could do this again, after a considerable interval. Had some fire. Wet and rainy; most grateful to the dry ground.

6. Attended the Sabbath-school. Mr. Andrew Bigelow came unexpectedly and preached in the morning. Afternoon preached the sermon written yesterday. At the third meeting spoke on Matt. v: 4. Wrote to my cousin J. Battell, of New York.

7. Finished my letter of last evening; pretty long. Walked out and did errands. Attended the monthly concert; pretty thin.

8. Rode early to Bridgewater. Attended the annual meeting of the School Convention of the County. Mr. Mann delivered a very fine address. Afternoon we had discussions. Gov. Morton had a good address. Took tea at Mr. Shaw's.<sup>2</sup> Spent the night at Mr. Gay's.<sup>3</sup> Saw in Middleborough two fields of corn, ripe and dry.<sup>4</sup> A good number of people at the School Convention.

9. Assisted in examining twenty pupils for our normal school. They appeared well. They have a convenient building. A great number of people are traveling to Boston for the great political meeting tomorrow. Rode home. Visited a sick woman in Middleborough; a dying saint. Attended our evening meeting, and spoke on Ps. xix: 11. Tired.

10. Am quite languid. Read. Visited. The mercury 82°. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Arnold, of Bedford. Visited the sick.

11. Read. Walked a distance, visited and gave tracts. We had a shower, and got something wet. Received a letter from Mr. A. H. Everett,<sup>5</sup> of Roxbury.

12. Cooler. The ground is greatly refreshed by the late moderate rains. Wrote to Col. S. T. Wolcott. Rode to North Rochester to exchange with Mr. Briggs.<sup>6</sup> Quite cool. Have symptoms of a cold. Paid a debt, far, etc., \$1.34.

13. Some frost was seen this morning. Preached on Isa. v: 4, and Rev. xx: 12-15. This congregation is small, but, I hope, rather improving. At evening rode home. Met Mr. Briggs. Mr. White,<sup>7</sup> a minister of New Hampshire, with his wife, is here. He preached in the morning and at the third meeting. A great Baptist meeting here on account of the late death at sea.

<sup>1</sup> George Durham, son of John V. Turner.

<sup>2</sup> A descendant, probably, of Rev. John Shaw, who was sixty years (1731-1791) pastor of the First Church in Bridgewater.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Ebenezer Gay. See note, May 31, 1839.

<sup>4</sup> Showing an early season.

<sup>5</sup> Alexander H. Everett, brother of Gov. Edward Everett.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Jacob White, a native of East Bridgewater, graduated at Brown University, 1832, and at Andover, 1835, pastor at Lyndeborough, N. H., 1835-1840, and at Orleans on the Cape, 1841-61. He died at Lyndeborough, N. H., 1866. We notice that the students of Southeastern Massachusetts were largely graduated at Brown University.

14. Lent Mr. White some volumes of history, etc.; he left here. Read *Have fire*. Wrote to Mr. Jenkins Anthony, of Berkley; and to Rev. Mr. Simmons, of Wareham, and sent him \$5.00 for five volumes of Dr. Emmons's *Sermons*. Visited. Wrote to Mr. Barrows, of West Middleborough. Was up late.

15. A bark whaler sailed from here. Gave Bibles and tracts. Rode to Rochester and attended the examinations and exhibition of the academy. The performance was good and honorable to the school. At the exhibition in the evening there was a great audience. My late symptoms of cold have, in mercy, passed off. Got home late. Yesterday paid on my subscription for the organ, \$6.00.

16. Warm. On the 14th received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Boston, and a bundle of proof-sheets. Wrote. Read proof-sheets. Attended the evening meeting. Received a letter from J. Battell, New York.

17. Warmer than it has been. Visited two schools; not as well managed as I could wish. Wrote on an article for the newspaper. Paid for horse hire on my late ride to Bridgewater, \$2.50.

18. Walked to the Neck. Warm and languid. Gave tracts and visited. The crop of apples is good. Visited sick persons. We have highly gratifying and unexpected intelligence from Maine.<sup>1</sup> Received an interesting letter from Mr. Arnold, of Bedford.

19. Wrote a sermon on Acts iv: 11, 12. We had a refreshing rain. Had company.

20. Preached with notes on 1 Cor. i: 17, and the sermon written yesterday. A hard wind. The evening meeting quite thin. Spoke on Gen. 1: 19, 20. Read.

21. The excitement in our country and the numerous popular meetings are very great. Cool. Read. Dined out. Visited. A poor sailor, a Portuguese, is very sick. Wrote to Mr. John R. Bartlett, of New York.

22. This morning there was some frost. Wrote to Joseph Battell, New York. Read. The result of the election in Maine must produce a great impression. Received a letter from Mr. Cobb,<sup>2</sup> of Sandwich. Visited. Out late.

23. Wrote. Had company. Looked over old papers. Yesterday visited a school. Attended the evening meeting. Quite thin. Visited the sick. Was up late.

24. Am quite unwell. Looked over papers. Visited the sick and others. Wrote to Mr. Cobb, of Sandwich.

25. Warm. Walked out. The Maine election, I think, must produce the most important effects. The ground is dry. Dined out. Visited.

26. Read the Bible. Mr. Crosby talks of moving; I think unwisely. Afternoon rode in a wagon to West Middleborough to exchange. The dust

<sup>1</sup> The writer well remembers the high excitement throughout the country, consequent upon the triumphant election of Hon. Edward

Kent for Governor. It was the grand passage of the Whig victory in November.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Asahel Cobb.

very oppressive. Found Mr. Barrows very unwell ; unable to go out.<sup>1</sup> Crops are abundant.

27. Set out at six o'clock and rode home. Preached a sermon on 2 Thess. ii: 16, divided. Mr. Taylor,<sup>2</sup> our Universalist, preached his farewell sermon, and is going to the Cape. Had a thin evening meeting and spoke on John iii: 14, 15. Read.

28. Wrote to Miss Catherine Sedgwick,<sup>3</sup> Lenox. Attended the funeral of a young child. Visited the sick. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Henry Barnard,<sup>4</sup> Hartford. A couple came here and were married. A promising young family.

29. Received a letter from Bartlett & Welford, of New York. Read. Visited the sick. Looked over pamphlets. I am too late night and morning.

30. Rode to Bedford. Did errands. Visited the sick and others. We have very good news from some of our whale men. Attended our evening meeting. We had the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society; rather thin. Have a good deal of company. It is something burdensome to this family.<sup>5</sup>

#### OCTOBER.

1. Wrote to Bartlett & Welford, New York. Read. Looked over books and papers. Wet, but our rains are very light. Had company. The prospect of the election of Gen. Harrison steadily improves. There never was such an election excitement in this country. Received some valuable publications from the Antiquarian Society in Copenhagen.<sup>6</sup>

2. Gave Bibles and tracts to several of the officers and crew of a whale brig. Visited the sick. The brig sailed. Began a sermon on Heb. iv: 10. My tremor is troublesome.

3. Wrote and finished my sermon on Heb. iv: 10. Wet and considerable rain. Afternoon preached a sacramental lecture with notes on Rom. viii: 35.

4. Wrote yesterday better than I expected. Opened and assisted in teaching the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Zech. xiii: 7, and the sermon, mostly written yesterday. Administered the sacrament. A number of members detained by sickness. Pleasant day and full meeting. Spoke at the evening meeting on Luke xi: 8. Visited the sick.

<sup>1</sup> That is an accident which sometimes happens to ministers on exchanges; but one as old and experienced as Dr. Robbins can get over the difficulty better than a new beginner.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Theodore K. Taylor.

<sup>3</sup> Her native place was Stockbridge, but her residence was now at Lenox.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins does not state the substance of Mr. Barnard's letters, except in vague hints, but without much doubt they are con-

nected with his library, and the final disposition of it.

<sup>5</sup> That is, the company which he himself had was somewhat burdensome to the family with which he boarded. This would naturally be so, and the fact serves to show that the minister ought not, as a common fact, to be a bachelor, but the head of a family.

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Hopkins Webb, M. D., his correspondent in Boston, was, it may be remembered, a member of that society.

5. Gave tracts; the *Shepherd of Salisbury Plain*.<sup>1</sup> Had company. Was out and visited. Pleasant. We have had a long summer. Things in Europe are in an unsettled state. Attended the monthly concert. Read and spoke on Foreign Missions. Visited.

6. Warm. Wrote articles for the *Recorder*. Dined out and visited. Gave tracts. Paid for late horse hire, \$2.50.

7. Wrote. Walked and visited. Read. Accounts of great agricultural crops in all parts of our country. Attended the evening meeting. Visited the sick. Received a letter from Bartlett & Welford.

8. Walked and rode to the Neck. Quite warm. There is an unusual crop of apples for this place. Had a meeting in the evening, and preached on Acts viii: 5. Tarried out. Gave tracts.

9. Visited. Rode home. Am something unwell. Received a letter from Mr. Jacob Roberts. Wrote to Bartlett & Welford, New York. Visited. Cooler. Wrote to Mr. N. Willis,<sup>2</sup> Boston.

10. Some frost. Had some work done at my trees. The ground is dry deep. Visited the sick. Paid for my *Polyglot* book-case, \$17.50. Wrote. Read expositors. Received a letter from W. Howe. We have the good news that Delaware has come to the rescue.

11. Wet. Went into the Sabbath-school. Expounded on Acts xxi: 15 to the end, and preached a sermon on Micah vi: 8. Afternoon meeting quite thin. At evening Mr. Barnard,<sup>3</sup> of Hartford, came here. He made me an interesting visit.<sup>4</sup> Wet and had no evening meeting.

12. Pleasant. All our rains are very light. In the morning a fine new ship went off with a fine launch. Looked over papers, etc., with Mr. Barnard. He went away after dinner. We have very favorable accounts from Maryland.<sup>5</sup> Wrote. At the meeting on the Neck on the 8th baptized two children.

13. This morning there was considerable frost. Wrote in a lady's album. Went to the wharf and took leave of a whale brig that sailed with good prospects. Visited and gave tracts. At evening went into a singing-school.

14. Rode to Bedford. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. J. Roberts. Did errands. The State of Georgia seems to have taken the Whig side. The roads are very dusty. Attended the evening meeting. Read.

15. Sent to Mr. Howe, of Bedford, \$30.00; perhaps \$5.00 for stationery, etc., the residue, \$25.00, for books and binding. Walked to Tripp's Mills, and visited and gave tracts. Tarried out.

16. Visited and gave tracts. Walked home. Dined out. Read a long proof-sheet from Boston. This morning there was pretty hard frost. The first to kill vegetation. At evening there was a great Whig meeting here.

17. Wrote to Mr. Burt,<sup>6</sup> Head-of-the-River. Read. Received a letter

<sup>1</sup> This was one of the tracts of Legh Richmond, whose circulation was immense.

<sup>2</sup> Dea. Nathaniel Willis, of the Boston *Recorder*.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Henry Barnard.

<sup>4</sup> The matters talked of doubtless involved great interests personal to himself.

<sup>5</sup> As already intimated, to the Whigs, the news was all good that fall.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Daniel C. Burt.

from Dr. Webb, of Boston. Went into a district school meeting. Rode to Fairhaven to exchange with Mr. Roberts. Mrs. Gibbs<sup>1</sup> is quite unwell. Read.

18. Mr. Roberts rode to Mattapoisett and returned. Preached on Acts iv: 11, 12, and Ps. cxxxix: 7-10. I have seldom seen this congregation as large as now. Rode home. Attended our evening meeting and spoke on Luke ii: 48; then left the meeting and went and married my cousin Enoch Le Baron.<sup>2</sup>

19. Am quite languid. Read Lord Lyttleton's<sup>3</sup> *Works*. Worked at my trees. We have news that the fleets of England and Russia have bombarded and taken Beyroot.<sup>4</sup> May God in his mercy save from a desolating war. Visited and gave tracts.

20. Last evening read in a newspaper a copy of a letter written at Paris, and sent to England dated the 3d of this month. Wrote to Dr. Webb, of Boston. Received a letter from Mr. Shaw, of Bridgewater. Mr. Crosby went a journey to Maine. We have very good news from New Jersey. They have done well. Visited the sick and others. Something wet.

21. Wet and rainy all day. Very beneficial to the dry ground. Wrote to Joseph B. Felt, of Boston. Great news from Ohio. They go very strong for the Whig cause. The prospect of Gen. Harrison's election seems now to be decided. Read. Worked at my books. Have great reason to praise God for his mercies to the country. Evening meeting prevented by wet.

22. Wrote to Mr. Smith, of Bedford. Some of my books are quite mouldy. Read in old volumes. Walked and visited and gave tracts. Wrote to Mr. Shaw, of Bridgewater.

23. Frost. Worked at my books. Mr. Cobb, of Sandwich, called on me, wishing to exchange. Visited the sick and others. Visited a school. One of our whale brigs came in last night with a good voyage.

24. Wrote. Have hindrances. Rode to Sandwich in a chaise to exchange with Mr. Cobb.

25. Cold. Preached on Prov. xi: 7, and Acts iv: 11, 12. Took tea at Mr. Bacon's. Preached in the evening on Ps. cxxxix: 7-10. Dark and thin meeting. There was also an abolition meeting in the village. The congregation here, I think, is not as large as ours.

26. Last night we had a hard storm of lightning and thunder, wind, hail, and snow. Considerable snow appears. Very cold and hard wind. Rode to Wareham, Middleborough, and West Bridgewater. All the way against a

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Anselm Gibbs. Her maiden name was Lucy Le Baron.

<sup>2</sup> The parties married were Enoch H. Le Baron and Florilla Taber. Dr. Robbins calls Enoch Le Baron his cousin. Doubtless he was distantly related, but the word cousin seems here to be used by way of courtesy.

<sup>3</sup> George Lord Lyttleton, born 1709, died

1773. He was a brilliant but superficial writer, and was regarded as a kind of converted infidel.

<sup>4</sup> It was in October, 1840, that the allied armies of England, Turkey, and Austria attacked the city of Beyroot, then in the hands of the Egyptians, and took it. The Egyptians lost, in killed, wounded, and prisoners, about seven thousand men.



hard northwest wind. At evening visited Mr. Stone, who went with me and saw the family of the late Dr. Reed.<sup>1</sup> Looked at old books. Tarried at a tavern.

27. The wind has abated, but it is cold. A hard frost; the ground frozen. Rode to Bridgewater and visited the Normal School, which appears very well, and Mr. Shaw's academy. Rode to Middleborough and met with Association. The body thin. Dr. Cobb preached. A political Democratic meeting at the Four Corners at the same time. At evening we attended several neighborhood meetings. I attended one and preached without notes on Matt. xxv: 2. Quite dark.

28. In the forenoon we attended the meeting of our Auxiliary Old Colony Home Missionary Society. I made my report written in August. The Association finished their business. Paid Mr. Putnam for books, \$5.00. Got ready to set out for home, and it began to rain, with a strong south wind, and concluded to stay till tomorrow. Read. Mr. Putnam's family very well regulated.

29. Steady wet and rainy, with strong south wind. Read. Afternoon set out for home. Was soon stopped by hard rain. Rode again in the wet and got to Mr. Wood's, south part of Middleborough. Through mercy took no cold.

30. The forenoon a steady, hard rain. Kindly accommodated at Mr. Wood's. Read and wrote. Afternoon the long storm passed off, and I came home. At evening went into a meeting at the Baptist meeting-house. They have quite a religious attention. Spoke in the meeting. Received a letter from J. Battell, New York; one from Mr. Anthony, Assonet, and one from Mr. Burt, Head-of-the-River.

31. Read. Much occupied with company. Capt. Freeman called; just returned from New York. He paid for me there for books, \$20.50. He brought me a letter from cousin Joseph Battell. Mr. Buel,<sup>2</sup> from Litchfield, Ct., came here, a licensed preacher, has bad eyes, and wishes to go to sea. The ground is greatly benefited by the late rains. Have many things to do.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Preached with notes on Luke xxiii: 23, and a sermon on Luke-xv: 17. Meetings quite full and attentive. Closed our Sabbath-school. Whole number of scholars about two hundred and twenty. Spoke at evening meeting on Isa. liii: 10. Mr. Buel assisted. The Baptists have the greatest work they have had since I have been here.

2. Visited. Saw persons that have lately got hope that appear well. Assisted Mr. Buel trying to get a berth for a sea voyage. At noon he went

<sup>1</sup> John Reed, D. D., a native of Framingham, Mass., who was pastor at West Bridgewater from 1780, to his death, in 1831.

<sup>2</sup> The only person we can find answering to this description is David Hillhouse Buel, a native of Troy, N. Y., who was in the class

of 1839 at the Yale Theological Seminary. He was ordained in 1842, and became an Episcopal minister. He has, for some years, been connected with the Training School for the ministry in Asheville, N. C. The Episcopal Almanac for 1884 so reports him.

to Bedford. Worked at my trees. A great day for our country.<sup>1</sup> May God preside in all the elections. Received my books from New York. Some of them very valuable. Mr. Crosby returned from his journey to Maine. Attended the monthly concert. Read late in my new books. Visited a school. Visited a sick man; very low.

3. We have hard frosts. Read Dunton's *Life and Errors*.<sup>2</sup> Visited. Had the first account of the election of Presidential electors. Rhode Island gone Whig. There has never before been such a political excitement in this country and never so much at stake.<sup>3</sup> It has been the absorbing subject of attention through the year. It will be decided this week, and, I hope, as God pleases. At evening assisted in a Baptist meeting.

4. Wrote. Read proof-sheets. Attended with the Baptists the funeral of a man who died yesterday. Cold, east wind. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, Hartford. Attended our evening meeting; thin. Visited.

5. Rode to Bedford. The excitement about elections is very great. The newspapers misrepresent grievously.<sup>4</sup> Connecticut is Whig, and New Hampshire Van Buren. Received a letter from Jonathan Edwards,<sup>5</sup> Esq., of Troy, N. Y., with a present of an ancient tobacco-box marked "Thomas Robins, 1729," brought from Scotland a few years since, and said to have been owned by Robert Burns. It was owned first, I doubt not, by one of our family relatives.<sup>6</sup> Wet, and rough east wind. Paid for a door-lock, \$1.67. Visited.

6. Wrote. Read the Bible. Walked a distance, and visited and gave tracts. Wet, and rough east wind. Maine and Maryland have chosen electors for Harrison.

7. Paid my annual contribution for the Home Missionary Society. New Jersey has Whig electors. Had company connected with this family from the Cape. Dined out. Still hard east wind. Began a sermon on Eph. ii: 12. Could write but little. Read expositors.

8. Expounded on Acts xxii, and preached a sermon on Ps. cvi: 23. Meeting rather thin. Spoke at the evening meeting on Heb. vi: 11, pretty poorly. In the evening we had the grateful intelligence that New York is

<sup>1</sup> The Presidential election in most of the States was then on the first Monday in November.

<sup>2</sup> John Dunton was an English bookseller and writer. He came to this country in 1686, on a bookselling venture, and remained here about eight months, but was not very successful in his enterprise here, though he was prosperous in his business at home. His work, entitled *The Life and Errors of John Dunton*, was published in 1705, and contains a curious and entertaining account of his experiences in this country.

<sup>3</sup> There has been no Presidential campaign since so exciting, except it may be the latest, that of 1884.

<sup>4</sup> It was of small use to misrepresent. The victory was a sweeping one, Gen. William Henry Harrison receiving 234 electoral votes, and Martin Van Buren, 60.

<sup>5</sup> Jonathan Edwards, Esq., of Troy, was the son of Walter Edwards, and grandson of Jonathan Edwards, D. D., commonly known as the "Younger Edwards." This Jonathan, of Troy, was a prominent lawyer and mayor of the city. He was graduated at Yale, 1819.

<sup>6</sup> Its value would be enhanced by this double ownership, provided such ownership could be established. In many ancient relics almost the only value comes from the persons who have owned and used them.

Whig, and Ohio by a great majority. The elections produce much violation of the Sabbath. Was up late.

9. Last night we had a pretty hard rain. Wrote. Annual town meeting for election.<sup>1</sup> No one so important or exciting since 1800. The greatest vote ever given in this town; Whig, 389; Van Buren, 308.<sup>2</sup> Wet and misty. Walked to the northwest neighborhood and visited. Got wet. At evening we had a small meeting, and spoke on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. Tarried out.

10. Last night a violent storm of wind and rain. Rainy through the forenoon. Kept house. Afternoon visited, gave tracts, and walked home. We have very cheering news of our election yesterday. At evening went into our singing-school. God, in his mercy, is doing great things for our country.

11. Reckoned accounts with Mr. Crosby. His demands constantly increase. Wet and rainy. It is thought our Whig majority will be near 15,000.<sup>3</sup> Read. Visited. Read late. Received a letter from Mr. Emerson,<sup>4</sup> an agent at Bedford. We had no evening meeting. Wrote. We now add Massachusetts to the Harrison States.

12. A hard rain all day. Kept house. Read English history. We have very high tides. Scarcely have such been known in this place. Mr. P. Crosby has lost his only son suddenly. Visited them. Wrote to Hon. John Reed,<sup>5</sup> of Barnstable.

13. Paid for horse hire and stage fare, \$3.75. A pleasant day after a long, rainy, stormy time. And we have the grateful news that Pennsylvania comes out at last with Whig electors. Michigan the same. The question is now decided, and there is great rejoicing. Mr. Emerson, the agent, called on me. A school-master called, was examined and approved. Had other company. Rev. Mr. Barrows called on me. Was out late.

14. Walked to Pine Islands, visited and gave tracts. Paid for knitting, \$1.25. Quite pleasant. The ground very wet and cold. Attended the funeral of Mr. Crosby's little child. Wrote. Georgia, Delaware, and Vermont have chosen Whig electors. Preparing for the Sabbath.

15. Last night we had another hard rain. Wet. Thin meeting. Preached a sermon on Eph. iv: 23. Spoke at evening meeting on Matt. xi: 6. Visited the sick. Read.

16. A pleasant day. We now add Kentucky and Indiana for a Whig

<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts had her election on the second Monday of November.

<sup>2</sup> Whole number of votes in town of Rochester, 697.

<sup>3</sup> That is, in the State of Massachusetts.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Joseph Emerson, who then, and for some years before and after, acted as an Agent for the American Education Society. Mr. Emerson was born in Dartmouth, Mass., in 1808, graduated at Yale College, 1830, and at Andover Seminary, 1835; was settled as pastor at Francestown,

N. H., and at Rockford, Ill., but for the larger part of his public life was in the employ of the Benevolent Societies, and in this connection was a very efficient worker. His last years were spent at Andover, Mass. where he died July 21, 1885.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. John Reed, M. C., was the son of John Reed, D. D., of West Bridgewater born 1781, graduated at Brown University, 1803. He was Member of Congress, in all twenty-four years in two periods, 1813-1817 and 1821-1841.

President. Visited the sick. A number of children are sick in this neighborhood. Went into the juvenile singing-school. Had company. Read.

17. Walked a distance and visited a sick woman. Visited one of our large schools just begun. Read. Old Virginia seems to have gone the wrong way.<sup>1</sup> Walked and visited. I do much less than I ought.

18. Our first snow. It snowed steadily all day. Walked out. In one house the whole family are sick. Received a letter from Mr. Simmons, of Wareham, with a present of his book,<sup>2</sup> and a long writing on abolition. We add Tennessee to the Harrison States. Wrote.

19. We have about six inches of snow. Not cold. Received of my collector, \$76.00. Paid Mr. Crosby, \$47.27, and balanced our accounts. Wrote for the newspapers. Read. Paid \$6.00, the latter half of my subscription for our organ. Paid my merchant tailor, \$3.07. Visited the sick. Sickness seems to be increasing in our neighborhood. One little child, an only son, has died today. Received a letter from Mr. Reed, of Barnstable, and one from Mr. Bigelow. There was a great baptizing here by the Baptists. Wrote.

20. Read. Had company. North Carolina and Louisiana go strong for Gen. Harrison. Began a sermon on 2 Cor. xii: 7. Visited the sick. It is a time of alarm with us.

21. Wrote and finished my sermon begun yesterday. Did more than one third of it in the evening. Attended funeral of a child. The snow continues.

22. Preached with notes on Deut. xxxii: 18, and the sermon on 1 Cor. xii: 9. Bad walking. At evening rainy, and we had no meeting. Read Hume's *History*. My eyes are quite weak.

23. Last night we had a hard and violent rain. There seems to be no abatement of our epidemic. Two children died in this neighborhood. One sick but twenty-five hours. Visited the sick and afflicted. The ground is extremely wet; the snow is gone. Had a fine new book-case brought in; made in the neighborhood. Paid toward it \$10.00. The cost is about \$30.00. It is for my expositors. Put up books. Visited and out late.

24. Wrote. Received a letter from Dr. E. W. Bull, with a draft for \$52.50, my late dividend, paying him a charge of .87. Attended the funeral of Mr. Buell's child. Read. Missouri has gone for Van Buren, and Illinois<sup>3</sup> supposed to be Whig. The Harrison majority comes in great.

25. Attended the funeral of Mr. Barstow's youngest son. It is a time of solemnity and alarm with us. Read. Visited the sick. Wrote a large addition to a Thanksgiving sermon. Attended our evening meeting. Put up books. Wrote late.

<sup>1</sup> There were at that time twenty-six States, and the States voting for Van Buren were New Hampshire, Virginia, South Carolina, Illinois, Alabama, Missouri, and Arkansas; all the rest for Harrison.

<sup>2</sup> This was doubtless the work which Rev.

Mr. Simmons read in manuscript to Dr. Robbins. It was the first edition of the *Scripture Manual*, afterwards greatly enlarged and improved.

<sup>3</sup> Illinois, as before stated, was one of the States that chose Democratic electors.

26. Thanksgiving. Preached a sermon on Ps. cl: 6,<sup>1</sup> including the addition written yesterday. Thin meeting. Fatigued. Had company. We had at meeting our usual contribution for poor widows. Baptized a sick child at her home.<sup>2</sup> Attended a concert of our juvenile singing-school. Visited the sick. Out late.

27. Last night we had some snow. On Wednesday night a pretty hard rain. Wrote. Worked some at my books. Read Hume. Am very much occupied. Visited the sick.

28. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. We approved of many teachers previously examined. Bad riding. In the evening had to go to visit the sick.

29. Took a cold last evening and am quite hoarse. Preached a sermon on 2 Cor. v: 19. Pleasant. Meeting rather thin. Many are detained by the sickness. At the evening meeting spoke on John x: 11. Spoke with difficulty. Visited the sick and afflicted.

30. Visited the sick. Read. Mississippi has gone for the Whig cause, while Illinois it seems is Van Buren. Wrote. Cold. Visited. Out late. Almost the whole country appear to be gratified with the result of the national election.<sup>3</sup>

#### DECEMBER.

1. We have new cases of our epidemic, but not fatal. Read Gibbon on the Crusades.<sup>4</sup> Had company. Much occupied. Visited the sick and others.

2. Rode to Tripp's Mills and visited a school. Read. This is the day that the electors meet and vote for President in all the States. I hope they may be under the divine guidance.<sup>5</sup> Pleasant. Attended the evening meeting. Read late.

3. Read. I am too late in the morning. Walked a distance, and visited a school. Visited and gave tracts. Pleasant for the season.

4. We have no snow. Visited the sick. Mr. A. Bigelow<sup>6</sup> called on me. Wrote. The prospects of war in the east of Europe seem to subside. Brought up wood. At evening began a sermon on Acts iv: 17. Pretty free from tremor.

5. It snowed the most of the day, with wind. Had company. Afternoon

<sup>1</sup> The last verse of the last Psalm, "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."

<sup>2</sup> Mary Tobey, daughter of Nathan Barstow.

<sup>3</sup> The country had been passing through a long season of financial depression, and it was hoped and expected that this great political revolution would bring relief. But from this height of joy, in one short month after President Harrison's inauguration, the country was plunged into mourning because of his death.

<sup>4</sup> In Harper's edition of *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, 1837, in four volumes, the Crusades occupy several chapters of the fourth volume.

<sup>5</sup> That prayer will very surely be answered for Dr. Robbins, since there are 234 electors chosen, who are sure to give their votes for Gen. Harrison, against 60 who will vote for Mr. Van Buren.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Andrew Bigelow, D. D., studying theology with his Uncle Jonathan Bigelow, of Rochester Centre. Dr. Bigelow died a few years since in Southborough, Mass.

had a preparatory lecture, and preached without any notes on Matt. ix: 9 Wrote and finished my sermon begun last evening. Our meeting quite thin.

6. The snow-storm continued through the day. Afternoon quite severe. We put off the sacrament. Preached a double sermon with notes on Gal. i: 8. Few hearers. Afternoon in the vestry. At evening wrote to Col. S. T. Wolcott. My cold, through mercy, seems to be gone.

7. A heavy body of snow on the ground, but it is not cold. Worked at my books; had assistance from my cabinet-maker. Read. At evening went to the monthly concert. Few present. It is bad walking. Had no contribution. Wrote.

8. Walked to Pine Islands and visited a school, and gave tracts. The snow thaws and is very wet. Worked at my library. Read. The late Presidential election produces much joy and general acquiescence through the land.

9. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow. Walked out and visited. The ground very wet. Paid Fairhaven Bank, \$28.59, and gave a new note. Had a good evening meeting.

10. Visited and gave tracts. Visited the sick. The Baptists here are making us trouble. Read. Warm and pleasant.

11. Visited repeatedly a young woman very sick. Visited the sick and others. The snow mostly gone. Read. Attended to my books.

12. The sick young woman died last night. Visited and gave tracts. Read. Attended the evening meeting, considered preparatory to the sacrament tomorrow. Wrote a considerable addition to a funeral sermon.

13. A hard storm of rain through the day. The funeral was postponed. Thin meeting. Preached very short without notes on John viii: 12, and administered the sacrament. But a small part of the church present, and I carried round the bread, and in part the cup. Afternoon preached with notes on Luke xxii: 46. The recent death of a much esteemed youth produces much solemnity. At evening had a good meeting, and spoke on Luke viii: 10. Visited the sick.

14. Very pleasant. Attended the funeral of Sarah Barstow in the forenoon; solemn and affecting. Read history. At evening we had a serious prayer-meeting at my chamber. I hope it may be continued weekly, and have a blessing. Occupied with company.

15. Pleasant and warm. The mercury near temperate. Read. Wrote. Brought up wood.

16. Visited the sick. Visited two schools in this district not in the best state. Attended the evening meeting. Warm. Thermometer at 59°. Read late. Visited.

17. Last night we had quite a snow-storm. Wrote on infant baptism.<sup>1</sup> Visited the sick and others. Bad walking. Had company. Visited the afflicted. Wrote.

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<sup>1</sup> Probably the subject was suggested directly or indirectly because of the large number in Mattapoisett who had been baptized by immersion.

18. Read. Rode to the Neck and visited a school. Suffered much with the cold. Visited Mrs. Howland, one of our most exemplary Christians, apparently near death. Thermometer 15°.

19. Thermometer 13°. Visited the sick. There seems to be little abatement of our epidemic. The ground is covered with snow, but no sleighing. Read the President's Message; a tame and deceptive thing.<sup>1</sup> Wrote notes for preaching.

20. A cold day. Thermometer about 15°. Preached with notes written last evening on John viii: 24, and a funeral sermon on the death of Miss Barstow on Eccles. xii: 1. Had solemn meetings. At noon baptized a child at home; very sick.<sup>2</sup> Spoke at the evening meeting on Matt. iv: 17. Read Hume.

21. Thermometer 16°. Attended the affecting funeral of Mrs. Howland, one of our most exemplary professors, aged thirty-six. Visited the sick. Read. Attended a good evening prayer-meeting. Wrote.

22. A tedious, snowy day. Visited afflicted families. Two children lie dead. Wrote. At evening went into our singing-school. Visited.

23. Thermometer about 13°. Wrote on infant baptism. Attended the funeral of a child. Visited the sick. Wrote on the subject of abolition. Attended the evening meeting.

24. No apparent abatement of our epidemic. Attended a funeral in the forenoon of a child. Cold and tedious. Dined out. Rode a distance and visited the sick. Wrote. Received a good letter from sister Battell. Received of Capt. Le Baron, \$25.00. Tolerable sleighing.

25. The mercury this morning at 02°. Visited the sick. A funeral of a child was attended by the Universalist. Read. Wrote on abolition. Had company. Very cold. Thermometer at bed-time zero. We have an account of the birth of an English princess, heir apparent.<sup>3</sup>

26. Thermometer at 9°. A snow-storm the most of the day. Wrote. Visited the sick and afflicted. A man in middle life, not healthy, died of the epidemic.

27. Stormy the most of the day. Thin meeting. The snow is much increased. Thermometer about 25°. Preached with notes on Est. iv: 13, 14, and a sermon lately written on Acts iv: 13. Had fewer hearers than there ought to have been. At evening meeting spoke on Rom. x: 1. Visited. Out late. Read.

28. Thermometer about 13°. Visited the sick. Dined out. Attended the funeral of Mr. Rogers. Cold and good sleighing. Had a serious prayer-meeting. Read late. Wrote.

29. Thermometer 16°. Visited the sick and two schools. Walked out and visited. Read. Good sleighing. Our harbor not frozen.

<sup>1</sup> The last Message of President Van Buren, with Dr. Robbins's opinion of it.

<sup>2</sup> This child was Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Bethuel Sanders.

<sup>3</sup> Victoria Adelaide Mary Louisa, princess royal, born Nov. 21, 1840. She was married Jan. 25, 1858, to Prince Frederick William, of Prussia.

30. Thermometer about freezing. Rode in the stage to Orcoot, visited a school and families, and gave tracts. Walked home. It thaws considerably. Bad walking. Had a solemn evening meeting; well attended. It does appear as if God purposes to help us. It must be from him alone. Wrote.

31. On the 28th received a letter from Rev. Henry White,<sup>1</sup> of Concord, N. H. Wrote. Rode in a sleigh and visited Dea. Hammond. His health is poor. I pray God to preserve his life. Visited the sick. Read. At evening had a good prayer-meeting for the close of the year. My soul, praise the Lord for a year of prosperity and great mercies. Paid Mr. Keyer towards my book-case, \$8.00.

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Henry White, was not a pastor at Concord, though a resident there. He was born in Wilbraham, Mass., graduated at Ban-

gor Seminary, in 1823, ordained and settled in "Loudon, N. H., Oct. 19, 1825." He died Dec. 8, 1858.





## 1841.

### JANUARY.

1. My soul, with all my powers, my ability and means of doing good, and my possessions, are consecrated to God for this year, or so much of it as I may live, and for eternity. Received the calls of about fifty children. Attended the funeral of a girl of about eleven years. It snowed and in the evening rained. Thermometer above freezing. Received some pleasant presents. Wrote.

2. Read. Cold and very icy. Visited the sick and afflicted. Wrote a large addition to a sermon on Rev. iii: 2, 3. Wrote quite late.

3. Clear and cold. Thermometer about 15°, and varied little through the day. Preached on Rev. iii: 2, 3. Referred to our deaths of late; thirty in the year, and seventeen in November and December.<sup>1</sup> Late mourners could not attend. Spoke at the evening meeting on John xiv: 16. The Baptists had a baptizing; I think rather a failure. We had a contribution for the American Education Society, and collected \$16.10. Read. Have eatable presents.

4. Thermometer at 3°. Visited the sick. This day is observed extensively as a season of prayer for the conversion of the world. We had a good meeting in the afternoon, and in the evening. Spoke on prophecy, and gave much religious intelligence. Very cold and difficult walking. Visited.

5. Thermometer 4°. Read and searched for facts and authorities. Wrote to the treasurer of the Education Society,<sup>2</sup> and sent \$16.10. Wrote to Mr. Willis, of Boston, for two *Recorders*, and sent \$5.00. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston. Dined out. Walked a distance and preached in the evening on Isa. lxvi: 2. The roads very dry. Read late.

6. The cold has abated. Read. Looked over histories. Our harbor is frozen over. Wet and rainy through the day. Wrote to Mr. Horace Mann. Attended the evening meeting. Thin. Thermometer above freezing.

7. Rode to Bedford. Wet. One of our best women died last night in Fairhaven. Did errands. It thaws fast. Came to Fairhaven. Mrs. Gibbs has got quite well. In the evening delivered a lecture at their lyceum. Fatigued. Visited Mr. Dunham's sick and afflicted family.

8. Attended the affecting funeral of Mrs. Turner. Spoke at Mr.

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<sup>1</sup> The mortality in his parish of Mattapoisett for the year 1840 was almost as great as that in his parish at East Windsor, in that sickly year of the cold summer of 1816. Then he lost thirty-four, and those chiefly in two months. At Mattapoisett there were thirty deaths, seventeen of them within two months.

There was this difference: the deaths at Mattapoisett were largely among children, while at East Windsor twenty-five of the thirty-four dying were adults.

<sup>2</sup> Hardy Ropes, Esq., of Cambridge, was treasurer of the American Education Society, 1830-1845.

Dunham's, and Mr. Roberts prayed. Rode down here in the funeral procession, and had a solemn service at the meeting-house, and buried the dead. A most afflictive event. The frost is mostly out of the ground, and it is very muddy. Last night there was a hard rain. Our harbor is clear of ice. Read. At evening went into the lyceum. Received a letter from Little & Brown, Boston. Yesterday there was a funeral of a child here; Baptist.

9. Wrote. Visited the sick; about as many as at any time. Thermometer about 40°. Unable to make much new preparation for the Sabbath. Occupied with company. Had to be out in the evening.

10. Thermometer about freezing. The ground very wet and cold. It begins to settle. Dark weather. Preached with notes on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, and a sermon on Amos vi: 1. Meeting pretty well attended. At evening spoke on Luke vii: 22. Visited the sick morning and evening. Wrote.

11. In the morning visited the sick. Rode in the stage to Bedford; took the cars and rode to Boston. The General Court in session. The Bromfield House has changed occupants and furniture.

12. Saw our Representatives. Was a little while in their house. Met with the Board of Education. Gov. Davis<sup>1</sup> with us. Mr. Mann's report very long. Had a second session. Took tea with Mr. James. Political folks in good spirits. Made calls.

13. Visited Dr. Webb<sup>2</sup> and his partners. Paid for tracts, \$5.00, and for the *Com. School Journal*, \$1.00. Visited the bookstores. Attended the meeting of the Board. The afternoon session failed. It snowed moderately through the day. Took tea at Mr. Blagden's. Cannot complete my errands, or finish the business of the Board, on account of the sickness among my people. Received from the State Treasurer, as a member of the Board, \$20.00. Read.

14. Left Boston early and came to Bedford. Rode home with Mr. Meigs.<sup>3</sup> Considerable snow all the way, but more here, I think, than at Boston. Not cold. No deaths, through divine favor, in my absence. Fatigued. Read. We have accounts of the desolations of the severe winter flood last week.

15. It is passable sleighing, though thawing. Wrote to Mr. Roberts, of Fairhaven. Visited the sick. A number of new cases, but we hope not very bad. Went into the lyceum. Paid a merchant for a donation, \$2.93.

16. Walked and rode, west and east, and visited the sick. A child was buried yesterday; Baptists. Quite fatigued. Wrote in the evening an addition to a funeral sermon. The snow wastes.

<sup>1</sup> In the great excitement of the 1840 November election, Dr. Robbins forgot to remind us that Gov. Marcus Morton, after one year of official life, was dropped, and Honest John Davis, of Worcester, who had been Governor 1831-1835, was again placed in office for a single year, when Gov. Morton was again to succeed. Gov. Davis is here

mentioned as *ex officio* chairman of the Board of Education, that honor belonging, by rule, to the Governor.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Hopkins Webb, in the book-trade on Hanover Street, and his partners were Nahum Capen, Gardner P. Lyon, and Bela Marsh.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Meigs.

17. Rainy through the day. Afternoon very hard. The snow is gone, and the streams are very high. Preached with notes on Rev. xxii: 7. Few at meeting. The ground is almost covered with water. At evening made this almanack. Looked for facts in various volumes.

18. Brought up wood. Copied and wrote the preceding diary of this month. Clear weather. Visited the sick. At evening attended our meeting for prayer. A few days since received a letter from C. H. Dexter,<sup>1</sup> Windsor, Ct. Read.

19. Thermometer this morning at 7°. The ground is hard frozen again. Dined out. Received a letter from Mr. Nott, of Wareham. Wrote on a piece for the newspapers. Hindered by company.

20. Rode to Tripp's Mills and attended the funeral of Mrs. Hovey, aged ninety-seven, daughter-in-law of Ivory Hovey,<sup>2</sup> the first minister here. Cold. Visited several sick families. The sickness appears to be increasing. Preached at the funeral on Gen. xv: 15. Attended our evening meeting. Was out late.

21. Rainy and wet through the day. Visited many sick and distressed families. There are many new cases of the epidemic. Finished and sent to Boston an article for publication on St. Jean d' Acre.<sup>3</sup> It cost me much labor. Wrote to Eliphalet Darling, Esq.,<sup>4</sup> of the General Court. Visited the sick in the dark evening, with roads very muddy. Received books lately purchased at Boston; nine valuable folios.<sup>5</sup> Wrote to Mr. Nott, of Wareham, and Mr. Roberts, of Fairhaven.

22. Visited two schools. They are short, but have done pretty well. Visited the sick. Read. Wrote.

23. Wrote to Mr. Thomas Soule, of Fairhaven. Walked a distance, and visited sick families. Four in one, and three in another, etc. Conversed with persons about a profession of religion. The ground is frozen, and the walking good. Wrote a small addition to a sermon.

24. Called at sick houses. The first pleasant and comfortable Sabbath

<sup>1</sup> Charles H. Dexter was a paper manufacturer at Pine Meadow, as it was then called, but now Windsor Locks. This Dexter family seems to have come originally from Rochester, Mass. Seth Dexter, one of the original settlers at Pine Meadow, was born in Rochester in 1743, and moved to Windsor in 1770.

<sup>2</sup> The first minister of this church at Mattapoisett was Rev. Ivory Hovey, a native of Topsfield, Mass., born in 1714, and graduated at Harvard, 1735. He was settled in Mattapoisett, 1740, and remained twenty-five years, till 1765. In 1770 he went to the Second Church in Plymouth, Mass., where he remained till 1803, when he died at the age of ninety. This Mrs. Hovey, who has several times been spoken of as the "aged

Mrs. Hovey," passing away now at the age of ninety-seven, was widow of one of his sons.

<sup>3</sup> St. Jean d'Acre, the ancient Ptolemais in Syria, was a stronghold around which the fortunes of war were tried for more than a thousand years, with terrible losses of life. It figured prominently in the crusades and afterward. The particular occasion of its mention here was that on the 3d of November, 1840, the British fleet had bombarded it and taken it, two thousand Egyptians being killed and wounded, and three thousand taken prisoners.

<sup>4</sup> Eliphalet Darling, Representative to the General Court from the town of Gill, Franklin County, Mass.

<sup>5</sup> Almost all of Dr. Robbins's purchases lately for his library have been folios.

since November 29th. Expounded on Acts xxiii and xxiv to the verse 17. Preached a sermon on 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57, with some additions in reference to late deaths. Full and solemn meetings. At evening spoke on Matt. v: 17, 18. We had a collection for the meeting-house, and got \$6.32. Propounded two women to the church. Wrote.

25. Pleasant and warm. Ground very wet. Wrote on my library catalogue. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. King, of Carver.<sup>1</sup> Wrote him in reply. At evening had a good prayer-meeting. Visited the sick.

26. Began a letter to my sister Battell. Rode in the stage to Fairhaven and Bedford. Warm and muddy. Did errands. Paid Mr. Taber, bookseller, \$19.00. A part of this for books given away. Walked to Fairhaven. Called on Mr. Roberts and Mr. Dunham. Mrs. W. Gibbs is very low. Saw Capt. Huttleston. Tarried at my cousin Gibbs's.<sup>2</sup>

27. Was left by the stage. Walked home. Much of the road very muddy. Read. Rain prevented the evening meeting. Completed my long letter to Mrs. Battell. Wrote to Capt. Sturtevant,<sup>3</sup> our Representative at Boston. My eyes continue weak.

28. Rode to Tripp's Mills and attended the funeral of a child. Died with our epidemic. Visited. Received thirty-six volumes of *Harper's Family Library*.<sup>4</sup> A fortunate acquisition; valuable addition.

29. Read Scott's *Napoleon*. Last evening Bancroft's *History*; both just procured. Visited the sick and others. Read.

30. Rode to Tripp's Mills, and attended the funeral of a child in the same family with the one on Thursday. Preached on Matt. xix: 16, 17. Visited a sick woman. Was carried from there to Fairhaven. A good deal of snow on the ground, bad traveling, and got some chilled. Quite fatigued. Kept at Mrs. Gibbs's.

31. Mr. Roberts went to Mattapoisett. Pleasant. Preached on Ps. cxxxix: 7-10, and Acts iv: 13. Full meeting. The ecclesiastical difficulties here have not subsided.<sup>5</sup> Attended the evening meeting and preached without notes on Matt. v: 17, 18. Visited Mrs. Adeline Gibbs, apparently in a consumption. Tired.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Rode home in the stage. Read Scott's *Napoleon*.<sup>6</sup> Visited. It snowed and we had no monthly concert. Steady, moderate weather, not cold. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Tillinghast, of Providence.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jonathan King was settled in Carver in 1838.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Anselm Gibbs.

<sup>3</sup> Capt. Samuel Sturtevant was Representative from Rochester that year.

<sup>4</sup> *Harper's Family Library*, at fifty cents a volume, retail, contained many valuable works, and had an immense circulation.

<sup>5</sup> These difficulties must gradually have worn away, since Rev. Jacob Roberts remained there a goodly number of years.

<sup>6</sup> Walter Scott's *Life of Napoleon*, in nine volumes, first appeared in 1827, and did more, perhaps, than any other work, to give the people of this country the narrow and prejudiced idea of the man which was then entertained by the English.

<sup>7</sup> Joseph Leonard Tillinghast, Esq., born in Taunton, Mass., 1791, honorary A. M. from Brown University, 1819, M. C. 1837-1843. He was a fine scholar and able lawyer. He died in 1844.

2. There is snow of the depth of five or six inches. Thermometer at 20°. We have news of the success of the English arms in China.<sup>1</sup> Rode in a sleigh to the north neighborhood and attended the funeral of a drinking man who died suddenly. A child died today. Visited the sick. Read.

3. Visited the sick and afflicted. The snow thaws, and it is very bad walking. Attended the evening meeting. Visited late. Gave tracts.

4. Read Hale's *History of the United States*.<sup>2</sup> Attended the funeral of a child. Thermometer about 15°. Afternoon attended by invitation the ordination of Mr. Averill, Baptist. Went into the juvenile singing-school; very good. Received a letter from Mr. Simmons, of Wareham, and one from C. H. Gardner, of Westport. Wrote.

5. Read. Visited. Attended the funeral of Mr. Clarke's child. At evening delivered a part of a long lecture on the Middle Ages before the lyceum. A fine evening to see the eclipse.<sup>3</sup> Read late.

6. Visited and gave tracts. Attended a sacramental lecture, and preached with notes on Gen. xxviii: 15. Had a painful difficulty between a member of the church and one that is propounded. Very wet walking.

7. In the morning Mr. Ransom and Mrs. Snow came here and were married.<sup>4</sup> A pleasant day. Preached very short without notes on Luke xxii: 19, last clause. Received two women into the church. Administered the sacrament. The church pretty well out. Preached a sermon on Acts iv: 13. Visited a little boy hard sick. Spoke at the evening meeting on John v: 25. Well attended. Visited. Yesterday paid Heyer the balance due for my neat book-case, \$7.50. Received from Boston a new Tyndal's New Testament.<sup>5</sup> A good addition to my Bibles.

8. Walked and visited the sick most of the day. A good aged brother in the church quite low. Thawing snow and hard walking. Attended the evening prayer-meeting; rather thin. Read late.

9. Rode a distance and visited a sick woman. Capt. Rogers appears to be in a critical state. Dined out. Read. Went into a singing-school. Yesterday Mr. Harlow's little son, an only child,<sup>6</sup> and very promising, died with a short illness.

10. Last night we had several inches of snow. Attended the funeral of Mr. Harlow's child; carried to Middleborough to be buried. Wrote. It is difficult for me to find time for myself. On the Sabbath one of the women

<sup>1</sup> Success in her unrighteous opium war.

<sup>2</sup> Salmon Hale's *History of the United States*, for schools, which first appeared in 1825. As a member of the State Board of Education, Dr. Robbins might naturally wish to know the character of the work.

<sup>3</sup> Total eclipse of the moon, beginning 7.36, ending 11.6; total darkness, 1 hour, 40 minutes.

<sup>4</sup> James B. Ransom, of Carver, and Eunice Snow, of Rochester.

<sup>5</sup> The first edition of Tyndal's New Testament was published 1525 or 1526. For this and other good works, he was burned as a heretic in 1536. That was the current Christianity of three hundred and fifty years ago.

<sup>6</sup> Child of Abner Harlow, and probably one of the children baptized at his mother's funeral. The mother was a Wood, of Middleborough, and Dr. Robbins was familiar in the Wood family.

received to the church was baptized, aged seventy-two;<sup>1</sup> also baptized a child<sup>2</sup> of the other. Attended the evening meeting.

11. Wrote on my library catalogue, and completed the account for the last year. Have three thousand one hundred and fifty volumes. I hope to use them and dispose of them so as to promote the interests of the church. Dined out. A good man, aged, died last night. Quite cold, and pretty good sleighing. Visited. Wrote late. My eyes continue weak.

12. Thermometer at 4°. A clear and cold day. Attended the funeral of a child who died with twelve hours' illness. Visited the sick. At evening delivered the remaining part of my lecture at the lyceum. Wrote. Read.

13. Thermometer at 6°. A good deal of ice in the harbor. Wrote to Mr. Arnold, of Bedford. Read the Bible. Attended the funeral of good Capt. Rogers, an exemplary Christian, aged seventy-five. Very cold and windy. Occupied with company.

14. Thermometer at 6°. Preached a sermon on Heb. iv: 1. Spoke on the subject of the late deaths. For three weeks there have been three in each week. People well out. Mr. Homer Barrows came here at evening and delivered a good temperance address. We met in the Universalist meeting-house. I fear the temperance cause is declining. Mr. Barrows went to his father's. Visited the sick.

15. Thermometer about 8°. A severe day; very rough wind. Read. Walked a distance against the wind, and visited the sick. At evening attended our prayer-meeting. Mr. Barrows was with us. We have ice in the harbor, but the wind prevents its closing. Read Scott's *Napoleon*.

16. Thermometer at 15°, and in the afternoon it thawed some. Our harbor was covered with ice, but the wind drives it out. Rode to Bedford. Did errands. Have to do with a slow shoemaker. Visited the sick and afflicted. Read. Bedford harbor is closed above and below the bridge.

17. Visited the sick. The number increases again. The Lord be our helper. Thermometer this morning about freezing, but the snow does not waste much. Visited a school, in a good state. Attended evening meeting.

18. Thermometer about 23°. Wrote. Received of my collector, \$50.00. Walked a distance and visited the sick and gave tracts. Sickness is evidently increasing among us. The Lord be our helper. Read Scott's *Napoleon*.

19. Thermometer above freezing. The snow wastes gradually. Walked and rode a distance and visited the sick. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston, and sent them \$10.00. Had company. Read.

20. Walked and visited the sick the most of the day. I have done little else this week. Visited in the evening. Thermometer this morning about 20°. Read expositors. Received a letter from John F. Emerson, New Bedford.<sup>3</sup> Much fatigued. An only child the hope of many, died in the neighborhood.

<sup>1</sup> Rachel Rogers.

<sup>2</sup> Mary Alice, daughter of Bethuel Sanders.

<sup>3</sup> This is the first time for years, according to our recollection, that Dr. Robbins has named New Bedford anything but Bedford.

21. Warm. The snow thaws, and the roads very wet. Expounded on Acts xxiv: 17 and 25 to the end. Preached a sermon on Ezek. xxxvii: 3, 4. At evening spoke on Eccles. viii: 12. Meetings well attended. Read Hale's *History of the United States*. A good work.

22. Rode out and visited Mr. Calvin Cannon; very sick. Wrote. Received of Capt. Atsett a bill of my accounts, \$3.83, receipted; a donation. Attended the funeral of Watson Cannon's only child. Set out on a short journey; Mr. Harlow with me. Rode to Mr. Wood's,<sup>1</sup> south part of Middleborough. The roads wet and muddy.

23. Rode to Bridgewater. A good deal of snow still remains. Warm and very muddy. Attended the examination of the Normal School; thirty-five pupils. The performance very good. Mr. Mann and Dr. Howe, of Boston, were present, with numerous spectators. At evening attended a good temperance meeting. Tarried with Mr. Gay.<sup>2</sup>

24. Last night it became quite cold, and the ground hard frozen. Rode home. Dined at Mr. Wood's. We had a cold ride. The aged William Nye was buried today. Attended the evening meeting. Much fatigued.

25. Thermometer about 12°. Received a letter from C. H. Dexter, of Windsor, Ct. Walked to the Neck and visited their school and families. Gave tracts. Read.

26. Was called in the morning to visit my good neighbor, Mr. Jonathan Dexter, in a state of great pain, and apparently insensible. Hurt by a great blow on the back of his head in the woods. Visited him repeatedly. Read. Walked and visited the sick. At evening attended a lyceum lecture by J. B. Congdon, of Bedford. A good one. Very much occupied.

27. Mr. Dexter died last night. One of our most exemplary men. Rode in the rain to Orcoot and visited their school. Visited the sick. Have little time for myself.

28. Pleasant. The surface of the ground very wet. Preached with notes on Luke xiv: 18, and a sermon on Luke xix: 13. Visited Mr. Cannon; very sick. At evening meeting spoke on Eccles. viii: 13. Visited the afflicted. It is a solemn and distressing time with us. There were seventeen deaths in Mattapoisett in November and December, and in January and February the same number, seventeen. Seventeen weeks.<sup>3</sup> Read.

#### MARCH.

1. Wrote a week of diary. Attended to some objects of charity. Visited new cases of sickness. Wrote to Dea. Emerson, of Bedford. At evening the monthly concert was well attended, with a good collection. Read.

2. The day is set apart by us for humiliation and prayer, in view of the divine judgments, and to implore the influences of the Holy Spirit. Forenoon meeting well attended. Afternoon we attended the funeral of good Mr. Jonathan Dexter at the meeting-house, with a full house. Preached with

<sup>1</sup> From this family Mr. Harlow married his wife.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Ebenezer Gay.

<sup>3</sup> Two deaths a week for four months continuously, in this one parish, is a very extraordinary death-rate.



notes, a discourse divided, on Hos. vi: 1. Had a third meeting in the evening. A solemn day; may God give his blessing. Visited the sick. Read late.

3. Walked to Pine Islands and visited their school. Visited families and the sick. The roads begin to dry. Our sickness continues fearfully. Last evening received a letter from Rev. Mr. Bacon,<sup>1</sup> of New Haven. Wrote. This day concludes the reign of Democracy in our national government for forty years.<sup>2</sup> Its malignity was mitigated under Munroe and John Quincy Adams; twelve years. Jefferson and Van Buren were equally selfish and unprincipled. Jefferson had the most cunning, the latter the most pride. Neither had any integrity or patriotism.<sup>3</sup> Clear weather, but cool.

4. The ground frozen. Went out early, visited the sick, and walked a distance. Visited families and the north school. Our good brother, Calvin Cannon, died toward evening. At evening attended Mr. Sanborn's lecture on Egypt and Babylon; very good. It is time of great gloom with us.<sup>4</sup> This day is one of great rejoicing through the United States.<sup>5</sup> Heard a great deal of firing from different quarters. There was some here. Wrote.

5. Thermometer about 12°. Had to go early to visit the afflicted. The ground is hard frozen. Had company. Attended the funeral of an aged woman, ninety-one, and preached without notes on Job xlii: 17.<sup>6</sup> Had a meeting at eve at Pine Islands, and preached without notes on Matt. xxii: 42. Visited the sick late. Wrote. Read.

6. Wrote a sermon on Ps. xii: 1. Have not written one before for some weeks. Had company. A child of a Baptist family was buried; another died. There have been four deaths this week. Received of my people for wood, \$22.50. Paid for wood a cord, \$6.00.<sup>7</sup> Wrote late. I cannot write as accurately as formerly.

7. Last night we had a violent storm of rain. The ground is very wet. Preached with notes on Job xlii: 5, 6, and the sermon written yesterday. Attended the funeral of our lamented brother, Mr. Cannon. Afternoon meeting full. Spoke at evening meeting on Col. iii: 11. Much fatigued. Read.

8. Last night we had a good deal of snow. Visited the sick. Read President Harrison's Inaugural Address. A very good one; beyond expecta-

<sup>1</sup> Leonard Bacon, D.D., of the Centre Church, New Haven, who was then in the midday of his strength as a thinker and writer.

<sup>2</sup> He reckons from the first election of Jefferson, who began his administration March 4, 1801.

<sup>3</sup> We leave this general survey of Democracy to stand just as it was written, for it is instructive to compare the opinions of men today with those here expressed. It was well for the writer that he had no clear vision of the future. In one short month the

beloved Harrison, in whose name this great Whig victory was secured, suddenly died, and John Tyler, who came thus to the high office, certainly was no improvement on the Democratic line of Presidents.

<sup>4</sup> Owing to the sickness and death.

<sup>5</sup> It was indeed a day of high rejoicing.

<sup>6</sup> Text, "So Job died being old and full of days."

<sup>7</sup> We have before called attention to the high price of wood in Rochester so many years ago. It was doubtless higher along the coast, than in the interior.

tion.<sup>1</sup> The most religious one since Washington. Attended the funeral of a child, and preached on Mark x: 13-16 without notes. Attended the evening prayer-meeting.

9. Wrote. Rode in stage to Bedford. Paid for candles, \$5.00; to a merchant tailor, \$3.00. Did errands. The President's Address is very much approved. Crossed to Fairhaven. Mrs. Gibbs, my cousin, is quite sick. The roads are bad.

10. Rode home. Read. Visited the afflicted. Paid a merchant, \$7.65. Attended the evening meeting.

11. Last night we had about four inches of light snow. Walked a distance, and visited a sick man. Dined out. Visited the sick. Bad walking. Visited. Read.

12. Wrote. Received a letter from brother James, with an account of the death of brother Nathaniel.<sup>2</sup> He died at his son's at Sag Harbor, February 19th, aged sixty-eight. The first break in our six brothers for fifty-three years.<sup>3</sup> Oh that we all may be duly prepared to follow. Dined out with company. Visited the sick and afflicted. Am much burdened with labor. We have a few cases of severe sickness. Read late.

13. Last night and this morning we had a severe storm of snow and rain; at least six inches of snow. Received a good letter from my friend, S. T. Wolcott, East Windsor. Made collections of accounts of the schools. Visited the sick. Dined out. Read. Had company.

14. Cold and tedious. Thermometer at 23°. The ground is hard frozen. Preached a double sermon on John vi: 44. Meetings not full. Had a very good evening meeting, and spoke on Rom. xiii: 11. We have had no deaths the week past; the first week for a long season. Four adults are now very sick. Read.

15. Thermometer about 20°. Rode to the poor-house, and met with the school committee. There is a good deal of snow on the ground, and we conclude a great body at the north. At evening we had a good prayer-meeting. Visited the sick. Read. President Harrison appears to be doing well. Paid for horse and carriage, \$1.00.

16. Cold and rough weather. Afternoon a snow-storm. Visited the sick. Read.

17. Sent off my globes to Bridgewater for the use of the Normal School. Visited the sick. Mr. Sturtevant is very low. Wrote to Mr. Tillinghast,<sup>4</sup> of

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Harrison's inaugural was likely to be good.

<sup>2</sup> Nathaniel Robbins was born in Norfolk, Ct., June 18, 1772.

<sup>3</sup> A marked record of unbroken life, in these six brothers. Elizabeth, Mrs. Lawrence, and afterward Mrs. Grant, died in 1815.

<sup>4</sup> Col. Nicholas Tillinghast deserves more than a passing notice. He was born in

Taunton, Mass., Sept. 22, 1804, and was the son of Nicholas Tillinghast, Esq., a prominent lawyer. After a thorough early education he was entered as a cadet at West Point Academy, and was graduated there with honor in 1824. For some years he was occupied with teaching, and for two years he was in army service at the West. In 1836 he gave up his military commission, and taught in Boston. In 1840 he was placed at

Bridgewater. Rode and visited the sick. Attended the evening meeting. Read Shakespeare. Cold and tedious east wind.

18. Wrote. The case of the sick a little more favorable. Rode to Bedford. Visited Mr. Alden; quite feeble, with alarming symptoms. Walked to Fairhaven against a hard, rough, east wind. Heard a part of Mr. Miller's<sup>1</sup> afternoon lecture, and the whole of his evening one. He says some good things, with many errors. Kindly treated by the Baptist preachers. Mrs. Gibbs<sup>2</sup> is much diseased. Tarried there.

19. Rode home. Did errands. Read. Visited the sick. It thaws, and is very muddy. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull.

20. Wrote one part of a double sermon on 2 Pet. i: 21. Had company. My tremor retards my writing. Quite warm and pleasant, and the snow is mostly gone.

21. Two good women, one of them a Baptist, died last evening. Called on sick persons. Preached with notes on Deut. iv: 40, and the sermon written yesterday. Windy, not cold. The walking much improved. At evening spoke on John viii: 29. Visited. We had a contribution for our Sabbath-school, and collected \$11.32; not enough.

22. Read. Visited the sick. Rode and attended the funeral of Miss Elizabeth Bolles, one of our elder church-members. Rough wind. Preached at the funeral on 2 Tim. iv: 7, 8, at her request.<sup>3</sup> Attended our evening prayer-meeting.

23. Yesterday received a letter from my sister, giving a more particular account of brother Nathaniel's death. Wrote on the school returns for the town and State. Visited. Read.

24. Last evening we had a violent rain with thunder.<sup>4</sup> Visited the sick. We have several new cases. Wrote. Attended our evening prayer-meeting.

25. Wrote. Visited the sick. Rode to Bedford. Attended Mr. Miller's afternoon and evening lectures. Assisted in the evening service. He gains a large audience, but gives little useful instruction. Mr. Alden is quite unwell. Tarried with Mr. Jackson, Calvinist Baptist minister.<sup>5</sup> Politely treated.

26. Walked early to Fairhaven. Mrs. Gibbs quite feeble. Rode home. A valuable young woman died last evening most unexpectedly. Visited the

the head of the new Normal School at Bridgewater, where he remained till 1853, achieving remarkable success. He was eminently the right man in the right place. There his health failed. He went South in hope of recovery, but died in 1856, in his fifty-second year, leaving behind a most excellent record as a Christian, as a teacher, as a man.

<sup>1</sup> William Miller, from whom the names Millerism and Millerites are derived. He was born in Pittsfield, Mass., in 1781, and

died in 1849. He was an uneducated man, but with some gift at public speaking, and he convinced an immense number of people that the world would end in 1843.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Anselm Gibbs.

<sup>3</sup> Text, "I have fought a good fight," etc.

<sup>4</sup> A thunder-storm in March seems to be out of season, but there were violent thunderstorms in March this year (1886), and if we will recall the past, we shall find that they are not very unusual.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Henry Jackson.

sick and afflicted. The roads are mostly dried. Wrote. Walked a distance, and visited the sick. Read.

27. Wrote on school returns. Hindered by company. Attended the funeral of the good young Maria Dexter. Others very sick in the house. A most distressing scene. Received a letter from Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridgewater. Visited the sick. We have seen no more alarming time. Have not been able to write a sermon this week as I hoped to do.

28. Went out early and visited the sick. Four cases were mentioned for public prayers. Preached a double sermon on Dan. xii: 10. Am quite languid. Read the proclamation.<sup>1</sup> At evening had a meeting of prayer and humiliation in the meeting-house in view of the divine judgments upon us. O that we may find help. Wrote on school papers. My eyes are weak.

29. Visited the sick. Several very low. Wrote. Rode to Rochester and presented the report of the school committee to the town meeting. It was approved, and the committee, with a small variation, were re-appointed. Rode home in the rain. Evening prayer-meeting prevented by rain. Was out quite late visiting the sick. A time of great darkness and gloom.

30. Visited the sick believers; trusting and rejoicing in God. Wrote. Received a notice from Mr. Roberts, and rode to Fairhaven. Visited a woman very low on the way. There is a large and respectable ecclesiastical council in session here, and the church desire my assistance. It is a painful business. Visited friends. Tarried at Mr. Church's.

31. After much labor and discussion the council organized a new church of about ninety members, dismissed harmoniously from Mr. Roberts's.<sup>2</sup> There is a prospect that their contention will now subside. Rode home. Mrs. Shurtleff died this morning. Visited three women very sick. Wrote. Read. Attended the evening meeting.

#### APRIL.

1. Visited the sick; very low, but strong in faith and love to God and Christ. Wrote on the school returns, and sent them to Boston by mail. Read. Visited several sick ones. Our afflictions are great. Received of my collector, \$40.50, and gave him a receipt in full for salary for the year ending September, 1840.<sup>3</sup> Warm and rainy.

2. Rode to the Neck and visited the sick and others. People are beginning to plow. Am quite languid. Visited the sick. We have new cases. The disease is evidently contagious.<sup>4</sup> Preached a preparatory lecture with notes on Mark iv: 20. Read late.

3. Windy and cold. Visited the sick. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Shurtleff. Wrote. Had company. Can do but little in preparation for the

<sup>1</sup> For Fast.

<sup>2</sup> This new church organization, which in our Congregational statistics stands credited to the year 1842, instead of 1841, continued in its separate existence, with Rev. William Gould as its senior pastor, until the year 1849, when it disappears from the minutes,

and seems to have relapsed into the old body. Since that time Fairhaven reports only one Congregational church.

<sup>3</sup> About six months behindhand.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins does not tell us what this disease was, but certainly it was very destructive.

Sabbath. Visited the sick in the evening. Some cases very offensive. Our people had their annual precinct meeting, and voted to remove the place of worship. A very important measure. May God give his blessing.

4. Preached with notes on Ex. xii: 21, and a sermon on Prov. xxix: 1. Administered the sacrament. It is a time of great gloom with us. Many members were absent on account of sickness themselves or others. At evening meeting spoke on Matt. vi: 13.

5. Rode and walked and visited the sick. Last night we had a short, violent rain. Vegetation begins to appear. Received a letter from Bartlett & Welford, New York, giving some gratifying book information. Read. Mrs. Jonathan Dexter died this afternoon.<sup>1</sup> I trust she has joined her husband in a better world. Attended the monthly concert. Quite thin.

6. Last evening baptized a sick child.<sup>2</sup> A whale brig sailed this morning. One went last week. Wrote to Bartlett & Welford, New York. About noon was informed at the post office of the distressing death of President Harrison. He died at half past twelve last Saturday night,<sup>3</sup> after a severe illness of one week, aged sixty-eight last February. A great national affliction, and severe frown of heaven. The first *President* that has died.<sup>4</sup> His reputation has risen constantly since his nomination. May God save our country, and lead his successor in the judicious course he had commenced. "Even so." Visited the sick. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Dexter at the house, and left the body in the porch of the meeting-house at the desire of the family. Read. Much wearied.

7. Visited the sick. We hope the President died a Christian. We buried the remains of Mrs. Dexter. Wrote a large addition to a Fast sermon. Have little time for study.

8. Fast. Our sickness increases alarmingly. Several new cases; very bad. Preached a double sermon on Jer. xx: 12, 13. Thin meetings. Took notice of the President's death. Two of our most valuable men hard sick. The people met in the evening and made arrangements for the care of the sick. The elder Miss Maria Dexter died.<sup>5</sup> Attended an evening meeting. Visited the sick. Connecticut has done very well in their late election.

9. Walked and visited. A time of great gloom and distress. Attended Miss Dexter's funeral. Only some half dozen men to do the labor. Wrote. Most of the newspapers are in mourning. The loss of the President is deeply felt.

10. All the sick in our street appear favorably. Two physicians came here from Bedford. I went with them and saw some of the sick. Cold and chilly. Some snow. Wrote to Mr. Jackson, Baptist minister in Bedford. Have little time for study. Wrote. Read expositors.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Jonathan Dexter was buried Mar. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Andrew Southworth, son of Mr. George Briggs.

<sup>3</sup> April 4, just one month after his inauguration.

<sup>4</sup> In office. Since that time there have been three, Taylor, Lincoln, and Garfield.

<sup>5</sup> A young Miss Maria Dexter had died a little time before. Very likely the elder was the aunt of the younger.

11. Called on the sick. Am quite feeble. I think I am quite affected by being so much in sick rooms. Expounded on Acts xxvi, and preached a sermon on Ezek. xxxvi: 26. Cold and windy. Many cases mentioned for prayers. A whale brig sailed yesterday. Meeting rather thin. Spoke at evening meeting on Ps. ii: 10, etc. Mr. Briggs,<sup>1</sup> of Sniptuet, came into the meeting and assisted. The President was buried on the 7th with great solemnity.

12. Read. Very rough and cold east wind. Wrote to Captain Martin Snow, now at New York. Visited the most of the sick and others. At evening a severe snow-storm. Wrote.

13. It snowed hard through the night and till noon. There is as much as eighteen inches of heavy snow.<sup>2</sup> Wrote a long letter to sister Battell. Visited. One of our best women died most unexpectedly after a short illness from the epidemic. Received a letter from Dr. Bull with a draft of \$47.28, after deducting \$10.20 for taxes paid by the banks, and after paying \$8.92 for articles I had ordered. Received a letter from Bartlett & Welford. Very bad moving in the street. The stages are stopped. Received a letter from Dea. Drew, Fairhaven.

14. The snow is deep and very heavy. It is difficult getting about. Wrote on a sermon. Visited the sick. Had a small meeting in the evening. The President<sup>3</sup> has issued a public address; very good.

15. Attended the funeral of good Mrs. Beall. A good number of people. An intemperate man died suddenly, in all respects the opposite character from Mrs. Beall. Rode to the burying-place in a sleigh. Difficult moving. Walked in snow and water and visited the sick. Troubled with the headache.

16. It thaws a good deal, but a heavy body of snow remains. The stages are much obstructed. Attended the funeral of Dennis Snow. An elderly man has died suddenly on the Neck. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Nott, of Wareham. Took medicine.

17. Read. Am very languid. Wrote. Received a heavy box of books from New York. *Acta Erudita*, a scientific periodical, published at Leipsic from 1682 to 1760, eighty-eight quartos. The most ponderous<sup>4</sup> addition ever made to my library. Cost, \$50.00. Afternoon and evening wet.

18. The forenoon a very severe storm of wind and rain. It has carried off the most of the snow. Went near to the meeting-house, but no meeting. Visited the sick; apparently more favorable. Afternoon the weather favorable, and a good meeting. Preached with notes a part of a discourse on Isa. lv: 3. At evening spoke on Lev. xxvi: 44.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs.

<sup>2</sup> An extraordinary fall of snow for April 13. But all such facts go to show that the weather then as now ranged through an immense variety of types.

<sup>3</sup> John Tyler, who soon made himself quite unpopular.

<sup>4</sup> He means literally by *avoir du poids* weight.

Such works as that serve to show a long-continued literary and intellectual activity in lines of labor, lying quite apart from the general knowledge of men. They become immense treasure-houses of facts for after use.

19. Walked and visited the sick. The appearance is such that I conclude I can leave home to go to Boston. Rode in the stage to Bedford. There learned that tomorrow is the day for the public services on the death of the President. Rode in the cars to Boston in about three hours. Lodged at the Bromfield House as usual.

20. Walked in the morning a distance. Occupied the most of the day in attending on the public funeral solemnities. It is a day of great mourning. All business was suspended, and shops closed. Walked in the procession more than two hours.<sup>1</sup> All was done in the very best manner. A remarkable stillness. The services at Faneuil Hall very good. Quite tired. Did a few errands. Rode to Roxbury, and tarried with Dr. Robbins.<sup>2</sup> A favorable day.

21. A steady rain through the day. Rode into the city. Paid for tracts, \$11.28, and balanced the past account. Procured more. Paid Little & Brown, \$10.00. To Mr. Munroe, \$10.00. Procured Sabbath-school books, one hundred, besides small articles, at the cost of \$20.00, and paid \$10.00 from our late contribution. Came in the cars, a wonderful improvement, and came to Fairhaven. Mrs. Gibbs, my cousin, is quite low; her mind is mostly gone. Am something rheumatic. Received of Suffolk Bank, \$47.28, on my late draft from Hartford.

22. Crossed over to Bedford. Wet, and rough east wind. Found a valuable box from Hartford which came by railroad. Got a pair of new boots made for me, of the best kind, cost \$10.00.<sup>3</sup> Paid the maker, \$7.00. Crossed to Fairhaven, and rode home by stage. No death in my absence; most of the sick convalescent. Attended to my things. Visited. Read.

23. Worked at my books. My *Acta Erudita* makes a noble addition to my library. Dined out. Read. Visited the sick. I believe there have not been more adults sick at any time. Wrote. Received a good letter from brother Francis.

24. Wrote and completed my double sermon on 2 Pet. 1: 21. Visited sick persons. The ground is exceeding wet and cold. Many cellars here have water. We have passed this week, through great mercy, without a death.

25. Preached with notes on Isa. lv: 3, continuation of last Sabbath, but did not finish it, and the latter half of the sermon on 2 Pet. 1: 21, mostly written yesterday. We organized our Sabbath-school;<sup>4</sup> a good number of pupils, but deficiency of teachers. Dark and damp weather. Spoke at evening on Ps. cxix: 59. Visited the sick. Read.

26. Visited the sick and others, and gave tracts. Wrote. Worked at my library. Books are mouldy. The number of our sick continues.

27. Rode to Bedford. Joined with a great number in observing the obsequies of the late President. The business<sup>5</sup> was very well done. That

<sup>1</sup> A great procession moving to the sound of funeral dirges and marches.

<sup>2</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> These were high-topped boots such as he wore through his life.

<sup>4</sup> After the respite of the winter.

<sup>5</sup> The word "business" used in this connection sounds a little too practical, and may remind one of Hogarth's impressive caricatures in the shape of a picture of a funeral, with the running title, "To be performed," etc.

town has not been accustomed to such proceedings.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Peabody<sup>2</sup> delivered a very good address. Afternoon wet. Crossed to Fairhaven and met with our Association. At evening had our missionary meeting. Mr. Eddy,<sup>3</sup> the efficient agent, present. We had no meeting for sacred worship. Tarried at Mrs. Gibbs's. She is very feeble.

28. Association closed their business at noon. We were well accommodated. Crossed to Bedford, did errands, and rode home. Had company; three Universalist preachers. Our people are doing well in the herring fishery. Attended the evening meeting. Read late. Received a letter from M. P. Parish. We have at length pleasant weather.

29. Did something at my books. Read. Visited the sick and others. We have new cases of sickness, but not very severe. At evening we had an abolition lecture from Mr. Bates, of Wareham; extravagant and abusive;<sup>4</sup> very long.

30. Last night we had another rain. The season is very wet. Wrote. The rain last night was heavy. Worked at my books. Many of them are mouldy. Wrote to Gov. Lincoln,<sup>5</sup> of Boston. Began a sermon on Matt. xxviii: 19, 20. Visited the sick late.

#### MAY.

1. Wrote the most of the first part of a sermon on Matt. xxviii: 19, 20. Visited the sick. Have some difficulty in procuring teachers for the Sabbath-school.<sup>6</sup> Wrote late.

2. Attended the Sabbath-school; it appears well. Preached with notes on Isa. li: 3, and finished it, having made of it three sermons. Afternoon the former part of the sermon on Matt. xxviii: 19, 20. Mr. Parish,<sup>7</sup> agent of the Massachusetts Temperance Union, came here. We had a meeting in the evening, and he delivered a good address. A number of persons joined the State Union. Evening showery.

3. Morning wet and cold. Paid \$1.00 for the Temperance Union. On the 1st visited a school. Read. Visited the sick. At evening attended the monthly concert. Very thin. Received a good letter from sister Battell. Wrote.

4. We had a cold night with frost. Read. Worked at my pamphlets. Visited the sick. I fear I have things stolen.

5. Did errands. Rode to Bedford. Pleasant, with cold wind. Visited

<sup>1</sup> A little slow in getting up such public observances.

<sup>2</sup> Ephraim Peabody, D. D., from 1838 to 1846 pastor of the Unitarian Church in New Bedford, afterwards of King's Chapel, Boston.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Chauncey Eddy.

<sup>4</sup> On all such topics Dr. Robbins was found on the conservative side.

<sup>5</sup> Levi Lincoln, LL.D., of Worcester, Governor of Massachusetts 1825-1834, and

1841-1843 Collector of the Port of Boston. This is why Dr. Robbins says "of Boston."

<sup>6</sup> This care often came in those days upon the pastor rather than a superintendent, or in other words, the pastor was the superintendent. Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, senior pastor, had that care upon him for years after he was eighty years old.

<sup>7</sup> This doubtless was the Mr. M. P. Parish to whom he had written a few days before.



Mrs. Gibbs at Fairhaven. She is quite low. I think can live but a few days. Attended the evening prayer-meeting; quite thin.

6. Wrote to brother Francis. Visited the sick. Wet. Visited. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow, and to Mr. Bourne, of Wareham.

7. Pleasant, but not warm. Wrote to Mr. Smith,<sup>1</sup> of Bedford. Read. Wrote on a sermon. Visited the sick and others. A woman, a Baptist, died today; after an interval of three weeks without a death. Wrote.

8. Received a letter from Mr. Bourne, of Wareham, and gave it to his sister, Mrs. Cannon. Visited. Wrote and finished my double sermon on missions on Matt. xxviii: 19, 20. The spring advances very slow.

9. Very pleasant. Attended the Sabbath-school. We are well provided with teachers.<sup>2</sup> Preached a sermon on Job xi: 20, and the one written yesterday mostly. Had the third meeting at six o'clock, and spoke on John xxi: 15. Very tired.

10. It rained steadily through the day. Worked at pamphlets and newspapers. Arranged periodicals. Wrote a letter to my brother James.

11. Wrote. Worked, etc. Received a letter from Mr. N. Tillinghast,<sup>3</sup> of Bridgewater. Received \$18.00 from the Ladies' Mite Society, and \$23.91, making \$41.91 for Foreign Missions. Visited the sick. The Virginia election has done well. The \$23.91 is from the monthly concert. Quite cold. Read.

12. Worked at my trees, securing them with cords. Began a sermon for the Fast on Eccles. ix: 1. Attended the evening meeting; quite thin.

13. Wrote diligently eight pages, and finished my sermon. Received a letter from Mr. Smith, of Bedford, and one from Little & Brown, Boston. Visited the sick. One man very low.

14. Fast. National, on account of the death of President Harrison. In the forenoon our meeting was a prayer-meeting. Afternoon preached my sermon on Eccles. ix: 1.<sup>4</sup> People not as well out as I could wish. The Baptists and Universalists generally worked, and some others.<sup>5</sup> Saw blossoms. The man with the severe sickness died. Visited the sick. Pleasant, but quite cool.

15. Rode to Fairhaven to see my cousin Mrs. Gibbs. She appears to be near the close of life. Blossoms appear on the early fruit-trees. Visited the sick. Wrote.

16. Attended the Sabbath-school, and instructed a class. School and meetings full. Preached a double sermon on Rom. ii: 16. Spoke at a full third meeting on Gen. xviii: 27. Much fatigued.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Mather Smith, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> His efforts had proved successful.

<sup>3</sup> See note, March 17, 1841.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins's text for a sermon on a National Fast Day so peculiar as this, was curious and suggestive: "For all this I considered in my heart even to declare all this,

that the righteous and the wise and their works are in the hand of God: no man knoweth either love or hatred by all that is before them."

<sup>5</sup> In a great nation there are always a good many people who take pleasure in being contrary.

17. Heard of the death of my worthy cousin, Mrs. Gibbs,<sup>1</sup> at Fairhaven; just one day younger than myself. She died on Saturday night. She has been a much respected and highly useful woman. Read. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Clarke,<sup>2</sup> an agent at New Bedford. Visited the sick and the afflicted.

18. Walked and visited the sick and others. Read. An uncommon degree of business in our ship-yards. Worked at my periodicals. A remarkably cold, wet, and backward season. We had our first asparagus. Capt. Le Baron had it a week ago. Visited two town schools.

19. Pleasant, but cold. Rode to Fairhaven.<sup>3</sup> Attended as a mourner the funeral of Mrs. Gibbs. Mr. Roberts spoke well. I assisted. Our cousins here attended. The funeral large. Received a letter from Rev. Dorus Clarke, and one from Julius Anthony.<sup>3</sup> Attended the evening meeting. Read.

20. Read Prescott's *Ferdinand and Isabella*.<sup>4</sup> Warmer. Walked a distance, visited and gave tracts. People are but beginning their planting. Wrote.

21. Began a sermon on Mark viii: 36, 37. Wrote considerably. Mr. Clarke, agent of the Colonization Society, came here. At evening attended a military meeting.

22. Rode to Tripp's Mills and visited the sick. One man apparently near dying. Mrs. Barstow went with me. Wrote and finished my sermon on Mark viii: 36, 37. Mr. Clarke went to Mr. Bigelow's. Saw apple-tree blossoms. The mercury was at 75°, yesterday at 80°. Our first warm week.

23. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached the sermon finished last evening. A little wet. Mr. Clarke came back and preached in the afternoon. Full meeting. At evening we had a large meeting at the Baptist meeting-house, and Mr. Clarke gave a very good lecture on colonization.<sup>5</sup> We had a collection.

24. Wrote. Mr. Clarke went away. Received of my collector, \$25.00. Rode to Fairhaven, found Mrs. William Gibbs<sup>6</sup> to have died Saturday night.

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<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Anselm Gibbs, as we know, was Lucy Le Baron. By Dr. Robbins's statement here made, she was born in 1778. She was married to Capt. Gibbs in 1800, and for quite a period before her death was a widow.

<sup>2</sup> This was Rev. Dorus Clarke, D.D., born 1797 in Westhampton, Mass., graduated at Williams College, 1817, ordained 1823, pastor at Blandford, Mass., where he was settled 1823-1835, and then at Chicopee, 1835-1840. At the time of this entry he seems to have been acting as an agent for the American Colonization Society. But from 1841 onward for many years his chief business was that of editor and publisher of religious newspapers. He died in Boston in 1884, in his eighty-eighth year.

<sup>3</sup> Julius Cæsar Anthony, three Roman names borne by one person, was the young man who was graduated at Andover in 1835, but concluded not to follow the profession of the ministry.

<sup>4</sup> Though William H. Prescott was before known as a public writer, it was not until his work *Ferdinand and Isabella* was published, in 1838, that his great fame as a historian began to be spread abroad in Europe as well as in America.

<sup>5</sup> At that time the American Colonization Society attracted great attention, especially among the more conservative classes of the people.

<sup>6</sup> William Gibbs, as we understand, was the son of Capt. Gibbs. His mother had just

My cousin is a very afflicted man. Crossed to Bedford, and slept at an ordinary tavern.

25. Took the cars and rode to Boston. A very easy, rapid, and cheap mode of traveling. Fare but \$2.00. Attended the public meeting of the Prison Discipline Society. Very kindly accommodated at Mr. McLellan's. Attended the Pastoral Association. Mr. Parsons Cooke<sup>1</sup> preached very well. At evening attended the Home Missionary meeting. A large number of ministers in the city.

26. Attended an early prayer-meeting, and a stated one later at Park Street. Met with the Board of Education at their annual meeting. The Governor not present. Did the usual business, and closed the session. Something wet. Attended a very interesting meeting which formed a Massachusetts Colonization Society. Attended the meeting of the Convention. The Unitarians carried the vote for preacher. At evening we had the American Tract Society. Was up late. A poor time for rest.

27. Attended the prayer-meeting, and made a request in behalf of our whalemens. Called on my booksellers. Paid Little & Brown, \$10.00. Attended the Convention, and made a committee report. Mr. Nelson preached well; beyond expectation.<sup>2</sup> Did errands. Purchased some books from the library of Gov. Winthrop.<sup>3</sup> Procured some Sabbath-school books. Very warm. Yesterday left off my flannel. We had a splendid dinner at Mr. McLellan's. At evening we had a great and most interesting meeting on Foreign Missions.

28. Took the cars and rode to Bedford, and was kindly brought home by Mr. Hammond. Have worn an out-coat very little in my absence. Apple-trees in full blossom. Our epidemic, in great mercy, seems to have subsided. Am much fatigued with labor and want of rest. Looked over books. John Smith's *Virginia*,<sup>4</sup> old folio, is very rare and valuable. Expenses for the Board of Education, \$7.00. Thermometer about 76°.

29. The ground has become quite dry and dusty. Rode to Bedford to exchange with Mr. Roberts. Saw Mr. Jacob Roberts, and agreed to exchange with him tomorrow. Called at Francis Alden's. Did not see him. I hope he is a little better. Visited at Mr. Arnold's<sup>5</sup> very pleasantly. Put up at Mr. Alfred Gibbs's; very kindly entertained.

30. The past week has been very fine for business and vegetation. The

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passed away, and now his wife had. This we suppose to be the Mrs. Adeline Gibbs whose sickness has been mentioned in the diary.

<sup>1</sup> Parsons Cooke, D. D., was born in Hadley, Mass., Feb. 18, 1800, and died in Lynn, 1864. He was graduated at Williams College. Pastor first at Ware about ten years, but his chief pastorate was in the First Church of Lynn, where he was settled 1836-1864. He was also largely interested in and

occupied with the religious press. He was a strong man, who enjoyed "contending for the faith once delivered to the saints."

<sup>2</sup> John Nelson, D. D., of Leicester.

<sup>3</sup> The library of Lieut.-Governor Thomas Lindall Winthrop, LL. D., who died in the previous month of February.

<sup>4</sup> It has since been published in more convenient forms and makes a very entertaining and curious record.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. James Arnold.

mercury most of the days from 76° to 80°. Our first warm weather. Cooler. Crossed to Fairhaven and preached on Ps. xxv: 11. My afflicted friends here, Mr. Gibbs and others, had prayers. Crossed to Bedford. Preached on Mark viii: 36, 37. This congregation, I think, is not as large as ours. Wore my surtout. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on Ps. ii: 10-12.

31. Mr. Gibbs gave me a fine battle-axe from the natives of the South Sea Islands.<sup>1</sup> Rode home. In some places there was frost this morning. Received a bundle of books from Boston. Looked them over. A valuable addition. Visited. Our ship-yards are very active. Five ships and a brig on the stocks. Read.

#### JUNE.

1. Wrote. Occupied with company. Read. I find that an occasional journey much improves my health. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston.

2. Read. My trees have gone well through the winter. Visited and gave tracts. Had company. Had a good evening meeting, though thin. There was a miserable circus here in the evening. Our people are very busy, worldly, and stupid.

3. Worked in the garden. Read Colden's *History of the Five Indian Nations*.<sup>2</sup> Read the President's Message; good, except no recognition of Divine Providence. Visited sick persons. The ground is becoming very dry.

4. Wrote the first half of a sermon on Heb. iv: 9. Read. Visited and gave tracts. An intemperate man died last night in this neighborhood with a short and violent disease. There has been a good blowth on the fruit-trees.

5. Wrote an epitaph. Much occupied with company. Attended the funeral of the intemperate man who died with a short illness. Elder Wood<sup>3</sup> preached very poorly. The mercury up to 88°. Wrote the latter half of my sermon on Heb. iv: 9. Attended the preparatory lecture. Mr. Barrows<sup>4</sup> was there unexpectedly and preached for me.

6. Cooler. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Joel ii: 17, and the sermon finished yesterday. Administered the sacrament. The church pretty full. Mr. Holmes,<sup>5</sup> the Tract Agent, came and preached at our third meeting. We had a contribution and gave him \$16.50. He spoke very well. Wrote. The ground is very dry and dusty.

7. Read. Rode to Bedford. Procured at the depository twelve common Bibles, twenty-five a little better; cost \$7.90, charged to me. Called at Mr. Alfred Gibbs's. Cool and very dusty. Left the stage and visited. An intemperate man died yesterday. Called on the family. Attended the monthly concert; quite thin. Had no contribution. Received a good letter from Little & Brown, Boston.

<sup>1</sup> Brought home doubtless in one of the whaling-ships.

<sup>2</sup> Cadwallader Colden was born in Scotland in 1688, came to this country, and died on Long Island, 1776. He was a physician, botanist, politician, and well-known writer of

his time. He wrote the *History of the Five Indian Nations of Canada*, first published in 1727.

<sup>3</sup> Baptist minister.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Homer Barrows.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Henry B. Holmes.

8. Wrote to Little & Brown, and to W. C. Taber, Bedford. Thermometer at 89°. Set out on a visit to Bridgewater. Extremely warm and dusty. It was warmer in the afternoon than at the time here noted. Visited the sick. Tarried at Mr. Wood's in Middleborough.<sup>1</sup>

9. Something cooler. Rode to Bridgewater. Examined a part of the Normal School. Dined at Mr. Gay's. We examined new candidates for the school. Mr. James, of Boston, is here. Saw Mr. Sylvester Holmes,<sup>2</sup> with his young lady. People are hoeing their corn, but the ground is very dry. Rode to Mr. Putnam's,<sup>3</sup> at Middleborough, and tarried.

10. Looked at autographs. Saw company. Rode to Mr. Wood's and home. Very warm. They are building a new meeting-house at Sniptuet. Visited a colored woman very low. Saw my cousin Eliza Hubbard; quite unwell. Received a letter from a Mr. Smith, of Boston.

11. Visited the colored woman. The mercury at 89°. Read on Prophecy. There are six ships and one brig on the stocks in our ship-yards. Had company.

12. Visited the sick. Have got on summer dress. On the 9th attended at the funeral of the late Mr. Howes. The Universalist officiated. Wrote. Thermometer at 80°. Wrote notes for preaching on John iii: 18. Had company.

13. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes written yesterday, and a sermon on Rev. iii: 8. Cooler and cloudy, but no rain. Had a full third meeting, and spoke on Acts vii: 9, 10. Visited.

14. Read Lowman<sup>4</sup> on the Revelation. Wrote. Received a heavy bundle of books from Boston, four folios and two quartos; a valuable addition. My complement for the year is nearly obtained.<sup>5</sup> Paid for freight, \$1.63. Thermometer 80°. Visited the sick and others.

15. Began a long discourse on Prophecy on Rev. xix: 10. We had a moderate and most grateful rain. Read. Mr. Crosby and his company launched a fine brig. Wrote to Dr. Mackie,<sup>6</sup> of Bedford.

16. Vegetation is greatly refreshed. Yesterday Mr. Goodwin, Episcopal minister in Sutton,<sup>7</sup> and a distant cousin to me, called on me; a respectable man. Had company. Wrote on my long discourse. Visited the sick colored woman. Attended the evening meeting. Read. Visited a large school. Thermometer 70°.

17. Wrote early, and what I could. Taken up with company. Warm.

<sup>1</sup> This was the place where he had been several times before with Mr. Abner Harlow, and where he felt at home.

<sup>2</sup> Probably son of Rev. Sylvester Holmes.

<sup>3</sup> Israel W. Putnam, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Moses Lowman.

<sup>5</sup> He has before told us that his complement for the year is one hundred and fifty volumes. His *Acta Erudita* counted him between eighty and ninety volumes.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. Andrew Mackie.

<sup>7</sup> The Episcopal church in Sutton was in the village of Wilkinsonville, so named from Mr. David Wilkinson. Rev. Daniel Le Baron Goodwin was rector there 1825-1854. Mr. Goodwin was a graduate of Brown University in the class of 1822, and his son Daniel was graduated there in 1857. This church has always been small, but it continues to this day. The rector in 1834 was J. Greyson.

Visited two schools in one school-house. Thermometer 84°. Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow, and one from Dr. Mackie. Worked at my trees; they do well. The weather very dry.

18. Wrote on Prophecy. Congress do rather poorly. Thermometer 78°. We had a gentle and refreshing rain. Read. Had company from Nantucket.

19. Last evening a fine ship was launched here. Quite cool. Wet and rainy. Very refreshing to the ground. Wrote and finished the second sermon of my long discourse. Preparing for my journey. Received a letter from my brother Francis. I am greatly favored in writing with regard to tremor. Received of my collector, \$50.00. Another large whale ship was launched this evening.

20. Preached two sermons of my long discourse on Rev. xix: 10. The Sabbath-school quite full. Spoke at the third meeting on Matt. xxvi: 41. Rode with Mr. Crosby to Bedford to go on my journey. Cannot find Mr. Smith,<sup>1</sup> my colleague. Tarried at a tavern. In the morning visited the sick colored woman.

21. Took the cars and rode to Boston. Fatigued with late labors. Cool. Did errands. Procured Sabbath-school books. Visited Dr. Anderson<sup>2</sup> and saw the very valuable and increasing library belonging to the Board of Foreign Missions. Procured a valuable copy of Cook's *Voyages*, three quartos with plates, price \$8.00, and gave to the library. Paid for hose, \$2.50. For an India rubber sack, \$2.50. Paid Little & Brown, balancing old accounts, \$10.29. Eat green peas. Received a volume from the Society of Northern Antiquarians, Copenhagen.<sup>3</sup>

22. Took the cars in the morning and rode to Springfield and Westfield.<sup>4</sup> Many ministers were passengers. At five o'clock the General Association assembled. A pretty full representation. I was called to the chair. Attended to preliminary business. My colleague, Mr. Smith, failed, and I had to write the report of our Association with very meagre documents. Received a letter from Mr. Smith, and paid \$5.50 to the General Association treasury. Could not attend the evening meeting. Very kindly entertained at Dea. Thayer's.

23. The railroad is completed the most of the way to Berkshire. The Association full of business. Very warm. Put on summer dress. Afternoon we had the narratives of the state of religion. The house full and warm. Brother Francis came from Enfield with his wife. The narratives mentioned many revivals. Did not feel able to attend the evening meeting. Mr. Roberts, of Fairhaven, came as substitute to Mr. Smith, and joined the body.

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas Mather Smith, D.D. They were chosen to represent the Old Colony Association in the General Association of Massachusetts.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Rufus Anderson, Secretary of the American Board, in active service more than forty years.

<sup>3</sup> Probably through Thomas Hopkins Webb, M.D., a member of the society.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Emerson Davis, D.D., had begun his able ministry there in 1836, and continued till his death in 1866. He was one of the leading Congregational ministers of Massachusetts in his generation.

24. The body were driven with business. We had some abolition.<sup>1</sup> We had some very good addresses from agents. Mr. Bingham,<sup>2</sup> of the Sandwich Islands, appears very well. Attended the sacrament of the supper, with a great number of communicants. The Association closed the session, one of great harmony and seriousness, towards evening. Took tea at Mr. Knapp's,<sup>3</sup> the senior pastor; an old friend. Afternoon showery; some of the time hard. Very grateful to the ground. Did not attend the evening meeting.

25. The ground very wet. My brother and wife went off for home. Took the stage and rode to Springfield. Westfield is a fine town, and much improving. More than twenty dwelling-houses are building this season. The academy is in a good state. Took leave of my kind host and his worthy family. Mr. Bartlett and wife,<sup>4</sup> of East Windsor, have been here. Saw former acquaintance in Springfield. Took stage and rode to Enfield. The crops appear well. Much fatigued.

26. Last night considerable rain. Wrote. Warm. Afternoon rode to Pine Meadow. Vegetation is very vigorous. Mrs. Haskell<sup>5</sup> was absent till evening, and I remained for the night. Frances has been quite sick.

27. Rode to Enfield. Preached in the morning on Heb. iv: 9. Dr. Nettleton<sup>6</sup> preached in the afternoon, and my brother received forty-six persons into his church; thirty-one females, fifteen males, seventeen baptized. The services were very well performed. The fruit of a good work of grace. More are expected. I preached in the evening on Acts iv: 13. The day meetings very full. Went into Mr. Lusk's. A very interesting day. All were solemn. May God add his blessing.

28. My brother very kindly carried me down to East Windsor. Vegetation and crops appear very well. There is a good deal of wheat on the ground. Mrs. Wolcott<sup>7</sup> is feeble, but much as she has been for several years. Wrote to sister Battell. Quite warm. Glad to have a little rest.

29. Rode to Hartford. The shade trees in this vicinity have very much increased in size and number since I resided here. See many former acquaintances. Went to the burying-ground. Did errands. Saw the collections of the Historical Society.<sup>8</sup> Very warm and dusty. Less rain here of late than at the northward. Paid for a ream of paper, \$3.50. Saw Dr. E. W. Bull. Returned to East Windsor. Visited. Have to make various calls.

30. Very warm and scorching sun. Called on Mr. Smith.<sup>9</sup> Wrote diary;

<sup>1</sup> Abolition began to creep into such meetings considerably by that time.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Hiram Bingham, a native of Bennington, Vt., graduate of Middlebury College, 1816, and Andover, 1819, one of the early company of missionaries to the Sandwich Islands in 1819.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Isaac Knapp, native of Norfolk, Ct., and settled in Westfield in 1803.

<sup>4</sup> His old friends, Rev. Shubael and Fanny Leffingwell Bartlett.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Harris Haskell (Frances Wolcott).

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Asahel Nettleton, whose home was at East Windsor Hill, where the Connecticut Theological Institute was planted, and where it remained about thirty years.

<sup>7</sup> Mrs. Abiel Wolcott, then for some years a widow.

<sup>8</sup> To which his great library was soon to be added.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. Levi Smith, pastor in Dr. Robbins's former church, 1840-1849.

am glad that I can. Mr. Smith does well here, but his congregation is small. This ecclesiastical society is evidently injured by the seminary.<sup>1</sup> I think the mercury would be here nearly 98°. Made several calls. This family have settled their affairs amicably.

JULY.

1. Was up very early; took the stage, and rode in a hot morning, with a full stage and covered with dust, to Springfield.<sup>2</sup> Staid more than three hours there. The mercury here yesterday 96°. We had a light shower. Took the cars and rode to Boston in about five hours; the fare \$3.00. Had for company, Mr. Taylor,<sup>3</sup> the seamen's preacher. Fatigued and drowsy. A hard shower, and much hail here yesterday. Procured some Sabbath-school books.

2. Took the cars to Bedford, made a stop at Fairhaven. Mr. Gibbs<sup>4</sup> is pleasantly situated in his father's house. Called on Mr. Roberts. He got home from General Association last week. Afternoon rode home. All things well. Have had a prosperous journey. A colored woman has died in my absence. The divine mercies to me in my journey have been great. Something cooler. There has been but little rain here. Mr. Crosby is making alterations in his house for my accommodation.<sup>5</sup> Am something lame.

3. Cooler. Received a letter from Dr. Anderson, of Boston, with the thanks of the Prudential Committee for my late donation of books<sup>6</sup> to their library. Wrote to Mr. Rodman, of Bedford. Wrote. The expenses of my journey have been \$20.87. Purchases, with a payment to a bookseller at Boston, \$20.32. Vegetation is prosperous. Attended to ablutions.

4. Attended the Sabbath-school. Carried new books procured for the library. Gave some five copies of the *Dairyman's Daughter*<sup>7</sup> to one class. Preached a double sermon on Matt. v: 18. Our third meeting was the monthly concert. We conclude to have it on Sabbath evening, as is done in many other places. Spoke on Ps. lxxii: 17, and gave religious intelligence. Warm and very dry.

5. Independence. A number of people here went a sailing, and many, and I with the many, to Sippican. We had good services and a procession, and a dinner in a grove with a great many people. No spirits or wine, and great harmony. Mr. Bates, of Wareham, gave the address. Warm, windy, and very dusty. Read late at evening on Prophecy.

<sup>1</sup> A considerable number, and some of them important persons, in the northern part of the parish were drawn into the seminary congregation.

<sup>2</sup> From East Windsor, south parish, where he started to Springfield by East Windsor Hill, Warehouse Point, Enfield, and Longmeadow, was a ride of about twenty-one or two miles.

<sup>3</sup> "Father Taylor," Rev. Edward T. Taylor, Seamen's Chaplain of Boston, who was good company.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. William Gibbs.

<sup>5</sup> This has to be done to meet the wants of his growing library.

<sup>6</sup> *Captain James Cook's Voyages*, in three volumes. Illustrated.

<sup>7</sup> One of Legh Richmond's tracts.



6. Last night we had a most grateful shower, with hard thunder. Began to write again on my long discourse on Prophecy. Am quite languid. Did errands.

7. Wrote on my discourse. Much occupied with company. Attended our evening prayer-meeting. Pretty thin.

8. For three nights past we have had a most refreshing shower. A new whale brig sailed from here this morning. I have supplied the men fully with Bibles and tracts. Wrote. Warm. At evening walked out.

9. Read various authorities and wrote. Thermometer about 80°. My cousin, Eliza Hubbard, is in a feeble state.

10. Wrote early. Much occupied with company. Something wet. Wrote late, and finished part of my long discourse. Am much favored with regard to tremor.

11. Attended Sabbath-school. Cool and very pleasant. Preached on Rev. xix: 10; two pretty long sermons on the restoration of Israel. Full meeting. Spoke at the third meeting on Acts xx: 21. Read.

12. Rode to Bedford. Did errands. Dined at Mr. Arnold's.<sup>1</sup> Am fatigued. Fine hay weather.

13. Wrote to Mr. Roberts, Fairhaven. Rode to the West Neck and visited and gave tracts. The hay crop pretty good.

14. Walked through the East Neck and visited and gave tracts. Mr. Waterman is low, and I fear will not live long. Warm, and got much fatigued. Got something wet in a shower. Attended the evening meeting. Wet and dark.

15. Last night we had a heavy and most grateful thunder-shower. Am quite languid. Visited a sick woman. Rode to Rochester in a severe heat, and saw Mr. Bigelow.<sup>2</sup> Visited the Randall school, and visited the families and gave tracts. Thermometer about 90°. On the 12th paid Hayden Coggeshall,<sup>3</sup> for Foreign Missions, \$79.12. Mite Society, \$18.00. Monthly concert, \$23.00. Collection, \$38.12 = \$79.12.

16. Walked a distance and visited sick persons. Warm. A very fine season for crops. Have received a letter from Mr. Roberts, of Fairhaven. Received a box of valuable articles from Hartford. Had polite company. Read. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Burt,<sup>4</sup> Head-of-the-River. Thermometer about 80°. Mr. Crosby has very kindly released me from any claim for the late additions to his house for my accommodation.

17. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Towne,<sup>5</sup> of Chelsea, and to Mr. Fowler, of Fall River. Walked and visited. Read. Had company. Rode to Rochester to exchange. Kept at Mr. Bonney's.

<sup>1</sup> Hon. James Arnold.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow.

<sup>3</sup> Of New Bedford.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Daniel C. Burt.

<sup>5</sup> Joseph H. Towne, D.D., a man of superior ability and fine pulpit address, who

has done good service both in Congregational and Presbyterian churches. He was a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1827, and has of late years been living at the West. He received his D. D. from Mar'etta College in 1859.

18. Mr. Bigelow went to Mattapoisett and returned after meeting. Preached on Acts iv: 13, and Heb. iv: 9. A good congregation. Rode home and spoke at the third meeting on Matt. xxi: 42. Cooler than it has been. Retired early.

19. Wrote. Walked a distance and visited and gave tracts. Have to take the number of children in the school districts. Paid a town, etc., tax of \$9.27. Received of the town for services as school committee, \$16.00. Wrote to Col. Wolcott,<sup>1</sup> East Windsor.

20. Read the Bible. Wrote. Had a new book-case brought and set up. A convenient addition. Thermometer at 82°. Worked at my books. Paid a bill for labor, \$2.40. Wrote to Moffat & Swan, Boston.

21. Rose early. Wrote on my discourse on Prophecy. Visited the school at Pine Islands, and gave tracts. Mr. Cushing is quite low. Worked at my books. People are beginning their harvest. Attended the evening meeting. Gave for a Methodist meeting-house on the Cape, \$1.00.

22. Worked at my books. Wrote. Wrote on my discourse. Read. Am interrupted by company. Visited the sick. The mercury about 85°. Very warm and dusty.

23. Wrote early. Walked and visited. Mr. Cushing very low. Very much overcome by the heat. The mercury reached 93°. It was as high as 92° about three hours. I believe I have never seen it as high here. Wrote what I could. At evening walked out.

24. Wrote early. Visited the sick. The heat a little abated. Thermometer about 84°. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Burt. Wrote a good deal, and finished the sixth sermon of my long discourse. My strength is mercifully sustained.

25. A little wet. A sultry day. Sabbath-school and forenoon meeting thin. Preached on Rev. xix: 10.<sup>2</sup> The people appear to be much interested in the subject. Spoke at the third meeting on 2 Cor. x: 4. Much fatigued.

26. Something wet, but little rain. Worked at my books. Wrote. Visited Mr. Cushing. Thermometer about 80°. Read.

27. A little cooler. Rode to North Rochester and met with Association.<sup>3</sup> A full attendance. Had the public service in a grove near the new meeting-house. Mr. Nott<sup>4</sup> preached. Passed the night at Mrs. Bennett's. The small society here are prospered.

28. Association closed at noon. Mr. Gould and Mr. J. A. Roberts had a difficulty happily settled. Came home by way of Bedford. Whortleberries are plenty and good. Attended the evening meeting. Much fatigued. Cool.

<sup>1</sup> His old friend, Samuel Tudor Wolcott.

<sup>2</sup> The subject of this series of discourses, of which this is the sixth, is the Restoration of Israel, and it is somewhat difficult to discover the connection between the text and the subject. The text, Rev. xix: 10, reads: "And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am

thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." This text was used for its subtle suggestions rather than for its open and direct teachings.

<sup>3</sup> Old Colony Association.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott, Jr.

29. Am quite languid. Visited the sick man. Began again to write on my long discourse. Occupied with company. Read. At evening we had a temperance meeting and were addressed by two reformed drunkards from Boston.<sup>1</sup> Worked some at my books. Wrote.

30. Wrote what I could. The thermometer at 80°. Mr. Bernard, the inebriate, called upon me. Walked a distance in the heat and visited a school. There was another temperance meeting, but I had to write at home.

31. Wrote early and diligently. Visited Mr. Cushing; very low. Cannot bear continued application as in years past. Had a thin preparatory lecture, and preached with short notes on Luke xxii: 46. Wet and rainy. Received a letter from brother Francis. His wife is at Bedford. I fear that the Baptists will lead away a young member of our church.

#### AUGUST.

1. Wet. We had a moderate and most grateful rain. Sabbath-school quite thin. Mr. Cushing died last night. Preached with notes on Luke xxii: 46. Administered the sacrament. The church thin. Finished the seventh sermon of my long discourse early in the morning, and preached it in the afternoon on Rev. xix: 10. Rode to Sippican and attended a meeting on board a barque ship, soon to go to sea, and preached without notes on Isa. lx: 5.<sup>2</sup> A large audience. Mr. A. Bigelow<sup>3</sup> attended our third meeting. Returned. Very much fatigued.

2. Am very languid. Wrote. Worked at my books; had assistance. Thermometer at 81°. At evening we had a very full temperance meeting. Two reformed drunkards from Bedford spoke tolerably. Was out late.

3. Read. Visited. Attended the funeral of Mr. Cushing. Received a church letter from Nantucket, and also one from Mr. Partridge<sup>4</sup> expecting to be dismissed. We had a temperance meeting in the evening, and formed a Total Abstinence Society with a reformed drunkard at the head of it. Thermometer at 80°.

4. Worked setting up my books. Had company. The Universalists have an associational meeting here and an ordination. Walked and visited. Wrote to Mr. Smith, of Bedford. An oppressive heat. Thermometer 89°. Attended the evening meeting.

5. Began to write again on Prophecy. Had calls; Universalists and others. Am quite languid. Wrote what I could. Thermometer 88°.

6. Wrote early. Through divine mercy, I am greatly relieved of my tremor. My brother Francis' wife, with company, called on me. Have had such interruptions in my writing that I could not go and visit with her.<sup>5</sup> Wrote in the evening. Thermometer 78°.

<sup>1</sup> This was the day of the Washingtonian movement.

<sup>2</sup> Containing the words "The abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee."

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Andrew Bigelow, D.D.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. George Cotton Partridge, born in Hatfield, 1813, graduated at Amherst Col-

lege, 1833, and at Andover, 1838. He was settled in Nantucket in 1839, and dismissed by the council here mentioned in 1841. In 1866 he went into business in Batavia, Ill., where he is still (1886) living.

<sup>5</sup> She was staying with her kindred in New Bedford.

7. Wrote eight pages and nearly completed my long discourse. Wrote to Mr. Roberts,<sup>1</sup> New Bedford. Calls upon me, to the occupation of my time, evidently increase. Thermometer 80°.

8. Wrote early and finished my discourse on Prophecy. Preached the last two sermons, the eighth and ninth, on Rev. xix: 10. It has been a work of great labor, but I hope it will do good. Full meeting. The morning very hot. Attended the Sabbath-school. Thermometer 83°. In the afternoon Mr. Bailey, an agent for the Seamen's Friend Society, came, and at our third meeting in the meeting-house he preached well. We had a contribution, and collected \$12.34. Too small.

9. Mr. Bailey went away after dinner. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Tillinghast,<sup>2</sup> of Bridgewater. Read. Something wet.

10. Rode early with Capt. Le Baron, my delegate, to New Bedford. Saw sister Priscilla<sup>3</sup> and others; then took the steamboat for Nantucket. Very warm. A great collection of abolitionists, white and colored, on board. By earnest invitation I spoke on the subject against all of them.<sup>4</sup> Afterwards became very seasick.<sup>5</sup> Arrived at Nantucket, very feeble. In the evening we met in the ecclesiastical council, Messrs. J. A. Roberts, Hooker,<sup>6</sup> and myself, with delegates, and dismissed Mr. Partridge from his people; cause, failure of health. Kept at Dr. Fearing's. Performed my duties with difficulty.

11. Regret that I could not spend my birthday quietly at home. Last night we had a powerful rain; a great blessing. My company go this morning, but I am too unwell to go. Read. Walked out. Looked at the valuable collections at the Athenæum. There are violent abolition meetings here. Visited at Mr. Partridge's. Looked at Mr. Lincoln's collection of shells.

12. Wrote off the result of our council. Last night rainy again. Warm and sultry. Rode out with Dr. Fearing. Some good land about the town. Made calls. I hope the society here will do well.

13. The morning rainy. The ground seems to be well supplied. Our boat dragged a ship nearly the whole distance. Left Nantucket at six o'clock, and had a tedious passage of eight hours. I had a constant sickness, and was horizontal the most of the way. The most of the abolitionists returned. Rode home. Am very feeble. Read. My passage, \$2.00 each way, was paid.

14. Cooler. Looked over various documents on Scripture truth. Wrote. Read. Paid \$2.00 for cherry boards for a book-case. Paid a highway tax of \$2.23.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. James A. Roberts.

<sup>2</sup> Col. Nicholas Tillinghast.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Francis Le Baron Robbins, of Enfield.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins was a man who had the courage of his convictions. He thought poorly of abolitionists, and was willing to so testify. Had he lived to this day he would

doubtless have rejoiced in the extinction of slavery.

<sup>5</sup> His usual fate on the water.

<sup>6</sup> Henry B. Hooker, D.D., of Falmouth, afterwards Secretary of the Massachusetts Home Missionary Society, from 1858 to 1873. He died in 1881, a man greatly beloved and honored.

15. A very pleasant day. Taught a class in the Sabbath-school. Expounded on the last chapter of Acts, and finished that book; omitted the 27th. Preached a sermon on Luke xix: 27. Full meeting. The Baptists had a baptizing; a young woman, a member of our church, has now left us, and was baptized by them. Visited.

16. The country is in a great excitement on account of the conduct of the President.<sup>1</sup> Had some work done. Put up books. Read. At evening we had a very good temperance meeting. Two fine ships were launched within a few minutes of each other. Both went off very well. Spoke at the meeting on 2 Cor. v: 10.

17. Did errands. Wrote to Gov. Davis,<sup>2</sup> Worcester. Wrote to Dr. Anderson,<sup>3</sup> of Boston. At evening was at an exhibition of the scenes in the wilderness, etc.

18. Finished putting up my books which have been quite deranged. Walked out. Visited a school. President Tyler has vetoed the Bank Bill.<sup>4</sup> A miserable affair. Attended the evening meeting. Thermometer 80°. Yesterday 82°.

19. Wrote in two albums. Dined out. Cannot bear a heavy meal as I have done. Towards evening rode with company to Bedford, and attended a temperance meeting. Hawkins, from Baltimore, reformed drunkard, spoke two hours. A remarkable man. Returned late.

20. We have very warm nights. Wrote. The heat very debilitating. Wrote to Mr. Smith, of Bedford. Received a letter from Nathan Crosby,<sup>5</sup> temperance agent. Read. Visited a sick woman at a distance. Thermometer 86°.

21. Wrote to Francis Granger,<sup>6</sup> P. M. G., Washington. Read the Bible. Had a great deal of company. At evening we had a great temperance

<sup>1</sup> From the *Lives of the Presidents*, by John S. C. Abbott and Russell Conwell, we take the following illustrative sentences, showing what was going on after President Harrison's death, in April, 1841:

"The Opposition now exultingly received the President into their arms. The party which elected him denounced him bitterly. All the members of his Cabinet except Mr. Webster resigned." . . .

"More and more, however, he brought himself into sympathy with his old friends the Democrats, until at the close of his term he gave his whole influence to the support of Mr. Polk, the Democratic candidate, for his successor."

<sup>2</sup> Gov. John Davis.

<sup>3</sup> Rufus Anderson, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> This was the Bank Bill first passed by the Twenty-Eighth Congress.

<sup>5</sup> Afterwards Judge Nathan Crosby, of

Lowell, a man deeply interested in all things pertaining to human welfare and social order. He was one of a large family of children, several of whom were conspicuous for their learning, ability, and worth. He was a graduate of Dartmouth College in 1820, and has recently passed away in a ripe old age.

<sup>6</sup> Francis Granger was born in Suffield, Ct., 1793, graduated at Yale College, 1811. Removing with his father to Canandaigua, N. Y., in 1814, he practiced law, was twice Member of Congress, and was Postmaster-General, appointed by President Harrison in March, 1841, but resigned in July, 1841, in consequence of the course pursued by John Tyler. His father, Gideon Granger, born in Suffield, Ct., 1767, and graduated at Yale, 1787, was Postmaster-General, 1801-1814. The father was one of the great leaders in Western land companies, and was very influential in his day.

meeting. Mr. Hawkins<sup>1</sup> came and delivered an admirable address. Very sultry. Thermometer 87°.

22. Rose early. I believe I took cold last evening; am quite unwell. In the morning we had a pretty hard shower. Rode to Bedford to exchange. Met Mr. Smith on the way. Preached on Mark viii: 36, 37, and Heb. iv: 9. This congregation, I fear, does not increase. There is considerable religious attention among them. Wet. At five and one half o'clock Mr. Hawkins delivered an address to a multitude at the public hall. At an evening meeting in the vestry spoke on 2 Cor. x: 4. Am much debilitated. Mr. Smith returned.

23. Cooler. My health, through mercy, is better. Rode home. Read. Prepared for my journey. Visited. A colored child died today.

24. Rode early to Bridgewater and attended the examination of the Normal School. Mr. Mann was with me, and no other of the committee. A good number of people were present. The school performed very well, and is in the best order. Rode in my chaise to Randolph. Tarried at a tavern.

25. Rode to Boston. The roads this way are very dry and dusty. Many streams are dry. Attended the Commencement at Cambridge. A favorable day and great collection of people. But forty-four graduates. The performances good; no humour, and nothing offensive. Went into the new building for the library. It is of the best kind, and very splendid. No meeting of the Alumni. Mr. Adams, the expected orator, absent. Am treated with sufficient attention. Much fatigued. Read.

26. Walked and did errands. Paid Moffatt & Swan for communion wine, \$5.00. For tracts, \$1.75; and balanced an account. Got new tracts. Paid Munroe, \$10.50, and balanced his book. Received of the State Treasurer as member of the Board of Education, \$30.00. Left Boston at ten and one half, and rode home in twelve hours. Broke my carriage near a blacksmith's and had it easily repaired. Have been something unwell, but have had a prosperous journey.

27. Wet. Considerably fatigued with my journey. Read. Congress appear to do a little better. The Democracy were never more base.

28. Received a letter from Sylvester Judd,<sup>2</sup> of Northampton, an antiquary; and one from Henry M. Dexter,<sup>3</sup> Rochester. Am greatly favored with regard to my tremor.

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<sup>1</sup> John H. W. Hawkins was one of the most distinguished of those reformed men who were the early leaders in the Washingtonian movement. He eloquently addressed great multitudes of people. He was born in Baltimore, 1797, and died in Parkersburg, Pa., 1858.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Sylvester Judd, a Unitarian clergyman, was born in Westhampton, graduated at Yale College, 1836, and died in Augusta, Maine, 1853. He was a varied writer of

good ability and rather brilliant style. The work by which he first attracted public attention was *Margaret; a Tale of the Real and Ideal*, which was published in Boston in 1845.

<sup>3</sup> Henry M. Dexter, D.D., now the well-known editor of the *Congregationalist*, Boston, and author of *Congregationalism as Seen in its Literature*, a work which leads all others in this department of history, and is not likely to be soon outlawed.

29. Wet and rainy. Sabbath-school and meetings thin. Preached with notes on Isa. i: 2, and the sermon written yesterday. Spoke at the third meeting on Rom. x: 1. Much fatigued.

30. Wet and rainy through the day. Some of the time it rained very hard. Wrote. Visited. Paid a merchant, \$10.00. Read. At evening was at a meeting of the subscribers for a new meeting-house. The shares are taken up.

31. Sultry and showery. Wrote a long letter to Sylvester Judd. Rode to Tripp's Mills, and visited a school and gave tracts. Read in Rollin's *Ancient History*. Paid a cabinet maker, \$10.00.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Wrote to Mr. Roberts, of Bedford. Visited. A lad on the Neck is very sick. Worked at my book-cases. Attended the evening meeting.

2. Read. Rode to Bedford in a chaise. Did errands. Paid my shoemaker, \$5.75. I had paid \$7.00 before. Boots, \$10.00; shoes, \$2.75; best quality. There is much anxiety about the state of things at Washington. Visited at Fairhaven. Their new meeting-house is going on. Visited the lad on the Neck; very sick. Read in Polybius's<sup>1</sup> *History*.

3. Worked at my book-cases. The heat very oppressive and debilitating. The mercury at 85°. Began a sermon on Isa. xxviii: 16. At evening attended a temperance meeting. Am very languid.

4. Wrote some on the sermon begun yesterday, but was so much unwell as to be unable to write. We had a hard thunder-shower. Rode to the Neck. I think Levi Shaw cannot live. Received a letter from Simeon Bailey, of Bedford.

5. Still dark and wet. Sabbath-school rather thin. Preached a double sermon on Matt. xxv: 23. Full meeting. We had a contribution for the Sabbath-school library and got \$9.50; pretty poorly. At evening we had the monthly concert. Am some better than yesterday.

6. Wrote to Mr. Roberts, of Fairhaven. Something wet and cool. Brought up wood. Two persons lie dead on the Neck. Read.

7. Read the Bible. Rode to the Neck and attended the affecting funeral of Levi Shaw. His parents are greatly afflicted. Worked some. Last evening our people had a society's meeting, and fixed on the site for a new meeting-house; and this evening the proprietors have organized and agreed on the form of the house.

8. Rode to the Neck in the forenoon, attended the funeral of Mr. Waterman, an elderly man and member of the church. Attended the evening meeting. Cool and steady east wind.

9. Read the Bible. Had company. Brought up wood. Wrote minutes of a new will. I pray God to give me divine direction. Visited.

10. Read Unitarian publications. Warm. Began to write a part of a

<sup>1</sup> One of the famous Greek historians. He was born two hundred and three years B. C. A large part of his writings have per-

ished, but those which remain reveal his ability. He was a native of Megalopolis, a city of Arcadia.

sermon on Rev. xvi: 15. Received a letter from Mr. Jacob Roberts. Walked to the Neck and tarried at Mr. Shaw's; a greatly afflicted family.

11. Visited an aged sick woman. Was brought home. Wrote and finished late at evening the sermon begun yesterday. Read the President's second veto of the Bank.<sup>1</sup> It is contemptible. Paid for freight, \$1.00. Very warm.

12. A child died in the neighborhood last night. Visited the family in the evening. Warm and cloudy and faint weather. Preached with notes on Isa. lxi: 2, and my sermon on Rev. xvi: 15. Spoke at a full evening meeting on Acts xiii: 7. Taught a class in the Sabbath-school. Much fatigued.

13. We have had three deaths within a week. Wet and rainy. Read. Worked at newspapers. Wrote to Dea. Emerson, of Bedford. Vegetation is very flourishing.

14. Worked at my papers. The aged Mrs. Hammond at the Neck died yesterday. Rode to Rochester and attended the examination of the academy: very good. Visited a good woman hard sick.

15. Wrote to Dr. Bull, of Hartford. Rode to the Neck and attended the funeral of old Mrs. Hammond. Elder Howe was present and assisted. A Baptist woman died in the village. We have had five deaths in eleven days. There has been a miserable breaking up of the Cabinet at Washington on account of the strange conduct of the President.<sup>2</sup> Read late. Attended the evening meeting.

16. Visited a school. It seems impossible to keep our schools in order. Visited and gave tracts. Read the Bible. Two fine ships were launched here this morning.

17. Walked to Pine Islands and visited the sick and others, and gave tracts. There are a number of sick in the neighborhood and the village. We are indeed threatened with another visitation. The Lord be our helper. At evening we had a private prayer-meeting. Thin. Wet. We have much wet and easterly weather.

18. Rode to New Bedford. Did errands, particularly on our temperance business. The news from Washington is most disastrous; a great breach among the public men. The President has done miserably. Saw a splendid panorama. A view from New Zealand. Crossed to Fairhaven and tarried at Mr. Gibbs's.<sup>3</sup> Got some valuable coins.

19. Took some cold last evening. Preached on Mark viii: 36, 37, and Heb. iv: 9. Cool. This congregation is diminished by the late separation, but not greatly. Mr. Roberts went to Mattapoisett in the morning, and

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<sup>1</sup> The President had vetoed one bill, but had agreed if another bill was drawn after a plan which he himself suggested, he would not veto. It was so drawn, and still he vetoed it.

<sup>2</sup> The Whig party thought, when they had

so triumphantly elected President Harrison, that the reign of the Democracy was broken. But its dominion soon returned in an unexpected way, and continued, with brief interruptions, until 1860.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. William Gibbs.



returned after meeting. A chaise went for me, and I rode home and attended the evening meeting. Spoke on Luke xv: 11, etc. Much fatigued.

20. Warm and pleasant. Visited the sick. On Saturday Mrs. and Miss Arnold called here. I regret that I was absent. At evening attended a temperance meeting, and took measures to organize the children for temperance. Received a letter from Dea. J. F. Emerson, of Bedford. Read until a late hour.

21. Warm. Visited the sick. Wrote a plan for the organization of our children as a Cold Water Army. Received a letter from Dr. Bull, of Hartford, with a draft of \$78.08. The dividends were three and one half, and Hartford Bank an extra of two per cent. Have paid Dr. B., \$1.92. Paid for pine wood, \$4.88. Received a letter from Rev. C. W. Allen, of Norton,<sup>1</sup> requesting an address for their school. Read.

22. Worked at my pamphlets. It is ten years this day since I came to this place. Great, very great, have been the mercies of the Lord. I think it has been the happiest, and most prosperous decade of my life.<sup>2</sup> Oh that my soul be all devoted to a holy God. Visited. A number of children are sick. Attended the evening meeting. Thin.

23. Warm for the season. A great number of children called on me, and signed the pledge for the Cold Water Army. Took near one hundred names, between eight and fifteen. Dined out. Visited and gave tracts. Read.

24. Received last evening one hundred badges from Boston, and the children have almost overrun me. Gave them the most of the badges. They sign a solemn pledge to abstain from all intoxicating drinks. Wet and rainy. Wrote to Mr. Allen, of Norton. Began a sermon on 2 Pet. i: 4, and wrote one page. Visited the sick.

25. Wrote and finished the sermon begun yesterday late in the evening. Am much occupied with the temperance business. We had a hard shower. Read.

26. A very pleasant day after long unsettled weather. Warm. Had a full Sabbath-school. Expounded on Matt. i: 1 to ii: 4, and preached the sermon mostly written yesterday on 2 Pet. i: 4. Spoke at a good evening meeting on 1 Cor. viii: 3.

27. Read. Warm and pleasant. Have many calls from the children. Wrote. Vegetation continues flourishing.

28. Rode to North Rochester and attended the dedication of their neat and valuable new meeting-house. A good number of ministers were present. Mr. Bennett,<sup>3</sup> of Woburn, preached. Returned by Bedford.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Cyrus W. Allen, born in Taunton, Mass., 1806, graduated at Brown University, 1826. Besides other settlements he was pastor at Norton, 1835-1842. He died at West Roxbury, Mass., in 1883.

<sup>2</sup> This is a hearty testimony, all the more noticeable because it was doubtless a great trial to him when he left East Windsor

where he had been laboring nineteen years. But he found his new relations pleasant beyond his expectations.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Joseph Bennett, born in Framingham, Mass., 1798, graduated at Harvard College, 1818, and at Andover Seminary, 1821, pastor at Woburn, Mass., 1823, to his death, 1847.

29. A public and very interesting day. We had a fine temperance celebration. The Cold Water Army were out and performed remarkably well. About two hundred and seventy children, under sixteen years of age, marched in procession, with many others, to the grove, and we had public exercises and a good dinner. Mr. Congdon,<sup>1</sup> of Bedford, made a very good address. There was a large collection of people. About the close of our proceedings it began to rain moderately, and we had a hard rain. At evening went to the vestry, but we did not have much of a meeting.

30. Cleaned up my chamber. Wet. Received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Boston, and wrote to him in reply. Wrote to Mr. Caleb Barstow, and Bartlett & Welford, of New York, and sent to *him* to pay to *them* a draft of \$30.00 for my excellent *Acta Erudita*. Visited a neighbor, Mr. White, who was much hurt yesterday, being thrown from his carriage. Read in Rollin's *Roman History*.

## OCTOBER.

1. Visited the sick. Read. Began a sermon on Home Missions on Rom. x: 1. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Durfee, of Dedham.<sup>2</sup> Walked out.

2. Wrote and finished my long sermon begun yesterday. Visited. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture with notes on Ps. li: 22. Wrote late.

3. Yesterday morning we had a little frost, the first in the season, through the day. Preached in the forenoon to a few with notes on Ps. xl: 9. Afternoon still fewer, and I read a chapter, prayed, and dismissed. Got quite wet. Read the Bible and expositors. The wind tries my trees. Read *Recorder*.<sup>3</sup>

4. The storm continued violent through the night. The ground is very wet. Walked to neighbors and gave tracts. Wrote on a difficult letter to Mr. Durfee, trying to give some account of President Fitch.<sup>4</sup> Received a letter from Mr. Roberts, of Bedford.

5. Still dark and wet. Walked and visited and gave tracts. A good deal of damage has been done by the late storm. The ground is very wet. Read.

6. Still dark and cloudy. Wrote and finished my letter to Mr. Durfee, of Dedham. Gave tracts. The evening meeting thin. Walked and visited the sick. Read late.

7. A very pleasant day. Rectified my trees, not greatly injured by the late storm. We hear of many disasters from abroad, especially at Nantucket. Wrote to Mr. Roberts, of Bedford. Received a letter from Dea. Emerson,

<sup>1</sup> James B. Congdon.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Calvin Durfee, D. D., pastor at South Dedham (now Norwood), author of a *History of Williams College*.

<sup>3</sup> *Boston Recorder*.

<sup>4</sup> Ebenezer Fitch, D. D., born in Norwich,

Ct., 1756, graduated at Yale, 1777, first President of Williams College, 1793-1815. He died in 1833. Dr. Durfee was already at work collecting materials for the *History of Williams College*. Dr. Robbins was one of the early students at Williams.

Bedford. Visited the sick and gave tracts. Our President seems to be doing a little better.

8. Visited and gave tracts. We have a good many sick. A child died this morning. Received a letter from Esq. Bates, of Wareham, and wrote an answer. Visited. Wet and rainy, which prevented an evening meeting in an out neighborhood.

9. Read. It cleared off pleasant. Visited the sick. Gave tracts. Had company. The ground is very wet. Wrote.

10. Through divine mercy a very pleasant day. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached a sermon on Col. iii: 2. Administered the sacrament. Some of the church absent on account of sickness. Meetings pretty full. Preached the missionary sermon, lately written, on Rom. x: 1. Our church is in a cold state. The Lord be our helper. Spoke at the evening meeting on Matt. xxi: 33, etc. Read late.

11. Walked a distance and visited and gave tracts. Paid my subscription for Home Missions, \$2.00. Received a letter from Mr. C. Barstow, of New York, and one from Bartlett & Welford, with a bundle of books; nine valuable volumes, three quartos, at \$16.50. Took the stage and rode to Wareham. Tarried at Esq. Bates's.

12. In the morning something wet, but we had a comfortable day. Mr. Bates and I met with a large number of children, and some others, to organize a Cold Water Army. A number of names had been given in, and many more were added. We administered to them the pledge, the same as ours. We called on Mr. Nott, but he declined doing anything about it. Afternoon we had another meeting and added more, and I addressed the children and others. One hundred and thirty-six took the pledge. Called on Mr. Simmons.<sup>1</sup> He is about leaving here. At evening we had a large temperance meeting, and Mr. Congdon,<sup>2</sup> of Bedford, addressed the Total Abstinence Society. Mr. Nott assisted. Called on friends.

13. Rode home. My fare was paid. Pleasant and cool. Visited and gave tracts. Read. State elections do poorly. Attended the evening meeting. We had our annual Home Missionary meeting. Our late collection is about thirty-seven dollars. Read in my new books; all second-handed. Mr. Simmons, at Wareham, gave me a good bundle of pamphlets. Received a letter from Joseph Battell, New York, with a valuable volume, a present from Mr. Seymour,<sup>3</sup> of Middlebury, Vt. Read late.

14. Read Ferguson's *Roman Republic*.<sup>4</sup> Last night we had a hard frost. Vegetation had not been materially checked before. Wrote. Visited the sick and gave tracts. Received a letter from Mr. Allen,<sup>5</sup> of Norton.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Charles Simmons.

<sup>2</sup> James B. Congdon.

<sup>3</sup> Horatio Seymour, LL. D., born in Litchfield, Ct., 1778, graduated at Yale College, 1797, died at Middlebury, Vt., 1857.

<sup>4</sup> Adam Ferguson's *History of the Roman*

*Republic*, in one volume. Ferguson preceded Dugald Stewart in the Chair of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh. Born 1724, died 1816. This work was published in Philadelphia in 1805.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Cyrus W. Allen.

15. We had some rain. Have a severe influenza cold. I know of no particular exposure. Had a very ill night. Employed so far as I was able in writing an address for the Norton Female Seminary.<sup>1</sup> Wrote better than I feared. Wrote letters to Dea. Hammond, and Rev. Joseph S. Clark,<sup>2</sup> Boston. Kept in.

16. Rode in a chaise to West Middleborough. Called at Mr. Briggs's and Mr. Roberts's. Quite cold. Mr. Barrows has gone to Mattapoisett. Wrote in the evening on my address. My hoarseness and cough are tedious.

17. Frosty and cold. Preached on Mark viii: 36, 37, and Heb. iv: 9. Spoke with much difficulty on account of hoarseness. This is a good congregation. After meeting married Zebedee Chandler, of Carver, and Betsey H. Briggs, of Freetown. Read. Wrote.

18. Last evening and this morning wrote and finished my address for Norton. Cold and chilly. Visited Mr. Maltby<sup>3</sup> at Taunton. Rode to Norton. Well accommodated at Esq. Wheaton's. My hoarseness and sore throat continue.

19. A hard frost and ice. In the forenoon attended the examination of the academy. They perform remarkably well. It is an excellent female school. Afternoon there was a public meeting, trustees, etc. I had no expectation of so much performance. Delivered my address with some enlargement. Received the thanks of the trustees and others. This is a highly respectable and useful institution. Rode to Easton. Tarried with my kinfolk, Mr. Wheaton and family.

20. A moderate rain through the day. With my cough and hoarseness thought it not prudent to go out. This is a worthy and intelligent family in good circumstances. Wrote. Read the *National Gallery*<sup>4</sup>; a very interesting work. Wrote a piece for the *Recorder*.

21. A pleasant day. Rode through Middleborough home; about thirty-seven miles. Came through a pleasant tract. The roads quite wet. There is a very good crop of corn. Potatoes not so good. Visited old Mrs. Weeks; quite low.

22. My hoarseness and cough continue with little abatement. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow, of Dartmouth. Visited. Our sick are hopefully recovering. Gave my cousin Polly<sup>5</sup> the present sent her by Mrs. Wheaton.

23. Read. God is frowning upon our country in the course of the fall elections.<sup>6</sup> Wrote the most of a report on Home Missions. Had company.

24. My hoarseness continues, though it is better than it has been. The Sabbath-school diminishes with the advancing season. Preached a double

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<sup>1</sup> Founded and endowed by Hon. Laban Wheaton.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph S. Clark, D. D., Secretary of Massachusetts Home Missionary Society.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Erastus Maltby.

<sup>4</sup> Two volumes of engravings of notable pictures with descriptions.

<sup>5</sup> Polly Le Baron, an unmarried cousin, then elderly.

<sup>6</sup> Through the course of the President, the Democrats were again emboldened, and the Whigs discouraged. This was the more painful because the Whigs had been so long in political exile.

sermon on Ps. li: 17. Spoke at the evening meeting on Matt. x: 15. Visited Joseph Meigs, Jr.; very low. Read.

25. Wrote and finished in the evening my long report. Mr. Meigs died this morning. Cold. We have news from China that the British ships have bombarded Canton with success.<sup>1</sup> At evening a good number of our brethren came to my room, at my request, and talked over our low state, and adopted some judicious measures. May God give his blessing, and make it the beginning of great good.

26. Rode to Fairhaven in an open wagon, against a very hard, cold wind. Crossed to New Bedford, and met with the Association. Paid Mr. Seabury, Treasurer of the Home Missionary Society, \$38.37. Attended to associational business at Mr. Smith's. At evening attended the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. Mr. Clark,<sup>2</sup> the Secretary, was with us, and made a very good speech. My report was approved. Very cold. Tarried at Mr. Coffin's; he absent.

27. Attended to associational business. Left the body a little before the close to come home in the stage. A pleasant fall day. Went to the funeral of Joseph Meigs. Very large. Mr. Vose preached at the Universalist meeting-house. I prayed. Mr. Vose has not been baptized.<sup>3</sup> Attended the evening meeting. Requested the good women to commence a regular prayer-meeting.

28. Walked a distance, and visited an afflicted family. Dined out. Our people have broken ground for the new meeting-house. Rode to Rochester, and assisted Mr. Bigelow in organizing the children there as a Cold Water Army after the manner of ours. There were about fifty. At evening delivered an extempore address to the Washington Total Abstinence Society. Rode home in a very frosty evening, and was very cold. Can get but little time for myself.

29. Fear I took some cold last evening. Worked a good deal at my wood. Carrying up and piling wood. I believe it was beneficial to my cold. Wrote seven days of diary. Read. Had company.

30. Brought up wood. Afternoon rode to Bedford to exchange. Paid Mr. Seabury for Home Missionary Society for Rochester Centre, \$10.00. Paid Bourne, \$2.57. Repairing my watch, \$1.00. Purchased of Mr. Howe a valuable copy of Webster's new and last Dictionary. Had a pleasant visit at Mr. Arnold's. His grounds are splendid. Called on Francis Alden. I fear he has almost done with the world. Put up at Mr. Alfred Gibbs's, and kindly accommodated. Warm and pleasant.

31. Attended and addressed the Sabbath-school. Much improved by the revival. Twenty lately added to the church. Preached on Rev. xx: 12, etc., Heb. iv: 9. This congregation not much increased. My hoarseness is not yet gone. Rode home after meeting; brought by Mr. Hammond. Attended

<sup>1</sup> Still in the unrighteous opium interest.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph S. Clark, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Probably the Universalists would not

regard that in the same light with Dr. Robbins. They attached less importance to the outward rites of Christianity.

our evening meeting. Spoke on Luke ii: 5. Mr. Roberts preached here today very well. At noon visited Mr. Kendrick's daughter; very low. Was up late. On the 29th at evening had a meeting at Mr. Timothy Hammond's, who has lost a son of the yellow-fever at New Orleans, and preached on Gen. xlii: 36. A good meeting.

NOVEMBER.

1. Warm. Read. Mr. Anthony called on me. A man died here suddenly last night. Worked at my books. Received a good letter from Mr. Durfee, of South Dedham. At evening attended a temperance meeting. Wrote.

2. Wrote. Had company. Attended with Mr. Averill<sup>1</sup> the funeral of the man recently deceased. Visited.

3. Warm and pleasant. Rode and visited and gave tracts. Attended the evening meeting. Worked at my library.

4. Wrote in a young lady's album. Walked to Pine Islands and visited and gave tracts. Read. Quiet times for the week preceding the State election.

5. Worked at my trees. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Burt.<sup>2</sup> Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston. Began and wrote a part of a sermon on Col. iii: 11. Went into the lyceum. Visited. The aged Mrs. Weeks is very low.

6. Wrote and finished my sermon. Visited the sick. Quite pleasant for the season. I cannot well write a sermon in one day.

7. Preached with notes on Ps. cxxxix: 1-4, and my sermon on Col. iii: 11. We closed the Sabbath-school for the season. It has done well; about one hundred and thirty scholars. At evening had the monthly concert. Well attended. Visited.

8. Towards noon it became wet, and a rainy day. Unfavorable for the town meetings and State elections.<sup>3</sup> I fear it will have an unhappy influence. God is wise. Reckoned with Mr. Crosby. His charge for board, house rent, and horse hire, is about \$200.00. Received a letter from sister Battell. Wrote. My board is \$130.00; house rent, \$37.00. Paid Mr. Crosby, \$37.20. Received a letter from Mrs. Battell. Wrote to cousin J. Battell, of New York. Read.

9. Walked and visited the sick. Brought up wood. Visited a school; well kept. Wrote to sister Battell. She is very active and vigorous for her age.

10. The accounts of our election come in more favorably than was feared.<sup>4</sup> Walked a distance, and visited the sick and others. Quite cold. Dea. Hammond is quite unwell. Attended the evening meeting. Read quite late.

11. Brought up a good deal of wood. Visited the sick. Washed, etc.

<sup>1</sup> The Baptist minister.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Daniel C. Burt.

<sup>3</sup> Second Monday in November.

<sup>4</sup> Gov. John Davis was re-elected.

Visited a school. Received a letter from Brother L. Cobb.<sup>1</sup> Occupied with company. It seems that on the 8th, our State election, there was a hard snow-storm in the northern part of the State. Wrote.

12. Visited a school. We had a rainy afternoon. Read. Our State election, by divine favor, has gone very well. The efforts of the adversary were great, and the day was unfavorable. All praise is due to our fathers' God. Wrote on a sermon begun some time since. Received a letter from Mr. Howe, of Bedford.

13. Wrote for the forenoon on the sermon of yesterday. The aged and good Mrs. Weeks died last night. Visited the family. Wrote an addition to another sermon for a funeral occasion. Brought up wood. Had a good deal of company. Have to lend many books.

14. A very pleasant day for the season. Expounded on Matt. ii: 4 to iii: 7, and preached a sermon on Gen. v: 24. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Weeks. We have had fifty deaths<sup>2</sup> this year. At evening gave a part of a biography of Peter from 2 Pet. i: 17. Full meetings. Visited. Tired.

15. Last night we had more rain. Cleaned my room. Received an elegant note from Miss E. R. Arnold.<sup>3</sup> Read. Dined out. At evening attended a temperance meeting.

16. Wrote to Miss Arnold, New Bedford. Read. Had company. Visited. Read the Bible. At evening heard some poor speakers on temperance. Very cold. Wrote to J. C. Anthony.<sup>4</sup>

17. Worked at my wood. Dined out. Read Young's *Chronicles of the Pilgrims*.<sup>5</sup> Expected company which did not come. Attended the evening meeting. Wrote.

18. Read the Bible. Walked to the West Neck and visited most of the families. Cold, but pleasant. At evening had a meeting and preached on 1 Cor. vi: 20.

19. Tarried last night at Mr. Barrows's. Was brought home. Read the Bible. Afternoon we had a fine temperance performance. Our Cold Water Army were out, marched in procession, and performed well. Mr. Crosby<sup>6</sup> was here from Boston and addressed them. Visited the sick. Received a church letter from Sippican, and one from Miss Arnold, Bedford. Read. The elections this fall, excepting Massachusetts, have all gone badly. The Lord be our helper.

20. Brought up wood. Had company. Wrote and finished a sermon begun some time since on Eph. ii: 12. Wrote late.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Leander Cobb.

<sup>2</sup> This was a very extraordinary mortality for an average sized country parish in New England. We have been hearing of deaths continually through the year, but the nature of the epidemic has not been clearly explained.

<sup>3</sup> Of New Bedford.

<sup>4</sup> Julius Cæsar Anthony.

<sup>5</sup> *Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers*, by Alexander Young, D. D., pastor of the New South Church, Boston, 1825 to 1854, was first published in 1841, and to a man like Dr. Robbins would be a very rich and entertaining book. A copy of it now brings a high price.

<sup>6</sup> Judge Nathan Crosby, already noticed, who died recently in Lowell.

21. Preached with notes on Ex. iv: 31, and the sermon finished yesterday. Pleasant and full meeting. At evening meeting completed the biography of Peter on Matt. iv: 18, 19. Paid towards a periodical, the *Cold Water Army*, \$1.00. Read.

22. Read. I do but little. Afternoon rode to West Middleborough; staid at Mr. Barrows's. Wet, and at night a hard rain. Gave Mr. Briggs,<sup>1</sup> at Sniptuet, \$200.00, making \$300.00 now given him from Mattapoisett for their new meeting-house. Mr. Barrows is laborious.

23. Rode early to Bridgewater. Attended the examination of the Normal School. Gov. Davis was present, but no others of the committee. The school performed very well. A good many people were present. Left Bridgewater at sundown, and came on fourteen miles, and staid at Brother Roberts's. Pleasant.

24. Mr. Roberts<sup>2</sup> has a beautiful place, like an English gentleman.<sup>3</sup> Rode home. Have had a pleasant journey. Brought up a good deal of wood. Read. Wrote an addition to a Thanksgiving sermon. The Baptists have a protracted meeting here. It does not appear to excite great attention.

25. Thanksgiving. Preached on Isa. xii: 1, 2. Dark and wet weather. Meeting pretty well attended with men. We had our usual collection for poor widows, and got \$15.23. Dined out. Evening and night a steady rain. Found the roads on my journey very wet. Read.

26. Wrote the six preceding days of diary. Last evening received a letter from Little & Brown, of Boston. Read. At evening went into the Baptist protracted meeting, by invitation. Spoke a little. The preacher said Christ is not the infinite God, but is inferior, and we do not receive pardon from him. Read the Bible. Wrote.

27. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. We were very busy examining teachers and giving certificates to former ones. Could not finish the business. Cold and increasing. Tarried at Mr. Bigelow's.<sup>4</sup>

28. Mr. Bigelow went to Mattapoisett. Last night was very cold, and the ground is much frozen. Preached on Isa. v: 4, and Col. iii: 4. A very easy, pleasant meeting-house, and attentive congregation. Rode home. Had a solemn, active evening meeting. Spoke on Luke xix: 41, etc.

29. Wrote an article for the newspaper. A steady snow all day. Our first snow, and a hard one. Cold. Read. Received a letter from my cousin Philip Battell, of Middlebury, Vt. Wrote. Went out very little.

30. Visited a sick man. I fear that sickness is increasing among us. The Lord be our helper. The snow is about eight inches deep and heavy. Rode to Sippican in a stage-sleigh to attend the council.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Quite cold and good sleighing. The council met, few in the who e, and some absent. Mr. Leander Cobb read a summary of his articles of

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs, of North Rochester, known also by the Indian name Sniptuet.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. James A. Roberts, of New Bedford.

<sup>3</sup> He was from England, and had brought with him English tastes and habits.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Jonathan Bigelow.



faith; very satisfactory. He was installed associate pastor with his father.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Putnam preached very well. Their new meeting-house was dedicated; a very good one. Met with the trustees, appointed by the will of Mr. John Clapp, deceased, to take charge of the fund, of about \$10,000, left by him to that society.<sup>2</sup> Rode home in a sleigh. Attended our evening meeting. Visited Mr. Hammond; hard sick.

2. Wrote. Read. It thaws considerably. Rode to the Neck in a sleigh. Had company. At evening had a meeting in the neighborhood, and baptized two children.<sup>3</sup> Preached on Matt. xix: 13-15. Visited; was out late. Wrote to Esq. Smith, of Bedford.

3. Wrote to John P. Bigelow,<sup>4</sup> Esq., and Little & Brown, both of Boston. The snow thaws very much; it is bad going. Walked a distance, and at night we had a hard rain with heavy wind. At evening had a family meeting, and preached on Isa. xl: 1. Tarried out.

4. The snow is mostly gone. Attended the funeral of a valuable Baptist woman with Mr. Averill, and assisted. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture on Ps. cxl: 6. A good deal of damage was done by the wind and high tide. Received from the office two letters from Norfolk, from William Lawrence,<sup>5</sup> and young Joseph Battell,<sup>6</sup> with the distressing intelligence of the death of my beloved brother Battell.<sup>7</sup> He died Tuesday, Nov. 30th, of an apoplexy. Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord. I cannot see one reason why he should be called rather than I. Received a letter from Mr. Anthony. Wrote.

5. A pleasant day for the season. Preached with notes on Ex. xv: 2, and a sermon on Luke xvi: 25. Administered the sacrament. The church well out for the time. At evening we had a monthly concert; quite full. Read.

6. Great must be the affliction of my sister Sarah and her family.<sup>8</sup> The Lord be their helper. Brought up thirty armfuls of wood. Read. Visited a school. On the 4th examined a school-master. Wrote. Visited the sick.

<sup>1</sup> Oliver Cobb, D. D., pastor of the Sippican Congregational church since Feb. 6, 1799. He was now to have his own son for a colleague.

<sup>2</sup> Very many of the old Congregational churches of New England have funds, larger or smaller, which have been amassed from legacies of this character. In some cases these funds have proved very useful. In others they have been productive of more evil than good.

<sup>3</sup> The children were William Kempton, son of Dea. Nathaniel Crosby and Reuben Dexter, son of Mr. Edward Buell.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Bigelow was Secretary of State in Massachusetts, 1836-1843.

<sup>5</sup> William Lawrence, son of Grove and

Elizabeth (Robbins) Lawrence, was adopted (as will be remembered) by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Battell when a child, and was older than any of their own children. He was born June 28, 1801.

<sup>6</sup> Joseph Battell, often mentioned in the diary, was born April 17, 1806.

<sup>7</sup> Joseph Battell, Senior, whose death was now reported, was born in Milford, Ct., July 21, 1774, and was united in marriage with Sarah Robbins, daughter of the Norfolk minister, July 24, 1805. In the death of Mr. Battell there passed away a man of great energy and worth.

<sup>8</sup> Up to this time there had been no break, by death, in this large household, consisting of father, mother, and nine children.

7. Very pleasant. Brought up wood. Dined at Capt. Le Baron's. Walked and visited the sick. Was in at a lecture on electricity a little while at evening. Received a box of books from Boston containing the London *Evangelical Magazine*, forty-eight volumes, imported for me. It is in fine order, begun in 1793.<sup>1</sup> Cost, \$60.00. Our Baptists go on alarmingly. It afflicts me greatly. Paid for freight, .38.

8. Wrote to my afflicted sister Battell. Walked to Pine Islands and visited their school. Visited and gave tracts. Attended the evening meeting. Some of our good people are getting alarmed at the low state of the church. Had a long meeting.

9. My burdens on account of Baptists are great, and I sleep poorly. Wrote to Mr. Gould, Fairhaven. Read. A prince<sup>2</sup> was born in England, Nov. 9th. Paid a cabinet maker, \$9.75, completing the account of my biography book-case, which cost about \$22.00. Received of my collector, \$37.00. Visited. Wrote to my cousin J. Battell, of New York.

10. Worked at my wood. Began a sermon on Zeph. i: 10, and wrote as I could. Rainy. Reckoned with Dea. Crosby. Had company. Read.

11. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. We were very busy. Did not get home till dark. Preparing for the Sabbath. In the evening the brethren had a long and serious meeting, with which they were very much interested.

12. A pleasant day. Preached a double sermon on Eph. ii: 5. A serious attention. Warm for the season. The Baptists had a baptizing. Had a full evening meeting, and spoke on Matt. xix: 16, 17. Quite wearied.

13. Read. Walked out. Visited a large school. At evening had a very solemn meeting of the brethren of the church at my room. I think there is reason to hope that God is about to do something for us. Lord, help us. Received a good letter from brothers James and Francis. The letter written at Norfolk.

14. Rode to Bedford. Called on Mr. Gould, at Fairhaven, up at his own house. His mind is not in a good state.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Hammond was with me. Did errands. In the afternoon we had a hard rain. Took tea at Mr. Arnold's.<sup>4</sup> Went with them in the evening and heard a lecture from an accomplished Irish speaker. Tarried at Mr. Alden's. His health evidently improved. His brother Gideon is there. Paid for seventeen pounds of candles, \$2.55.

15. Crossed to Fairhaven. Called on friends. Rode home in the stage. Wrote. Read. At evening attended a good temperance lecture.

16. Sent to brother Francis nineteen manuscripts. Visited the sick.

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<sup>1</sup> In Haydn's *Dictionary of Dates* the *Evangelical Magazine* has its beginning in 1792.

<sup>2</sup> His full name and titles are Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Duke of Saxony, Duke of Cornwall and Rothesay, Earl of Chester and Garrick, Baron of Renfrew, and

Lord of the Isles; and all this for a man not very remarkable after all, though improving in his character and habits as years pass on.

<sup>3</sup> His relations to many of his former parishioners were not friendly.

<sup>4</sup> Hon James Arnold.

Rode to the Neck and visited a school. Came home in the rain. The roads are very wet. Evening meeting prevented by the rain. Visited. Read late.

17. Last night and this forenoon a hard rain. The ground is almost covered with water. Looked over historical facts. Occupied with company. Wrote to Hon. Daniel Webster,<sup>1</sup> Washington.

18. Called on by seamen soon to sail. It snowed moderately the most of the day. Wrote and finished a sermon begun last week on Zeph. i: 10. Wrote three pages in the evening. Mr. Crosby returned from New York, and brought me an excellent letter from Joseph Battell. His father has left a very judicious will.<sup>2</sup>

19. Sleighs move some. Expounded on Matt. iii: 7, to iv: 11, and preached the sermon mostly written yesterday. Meetings rather thin. At evening had a good number, and spoke on John vii: 37. Ate mince pie and slept poorly.

20. Walked and visited the sick and others. Received a letter from Mr. Smith, of Bedford. At evening we had a serious and animated church conference. I hope God is about to do good things for us. Read.

21. It snows moderately. Wrote to Mr. Smith,<sup>3</sup> Bedford. Read. Worked at my wood. Wrote. Visited by seamen. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston, one from Mr. Gould,<sup>4</sup> of Fairhaven, and one from Mr. Durfee,<sup>5</sup> of Dedham. At evening we had a serious prayer-meeting in the vestry. Paid a merchant, \$5.00.

22. Wrote. Very cold. The mercury at Bedford this morning at 70°. A whale brig sailed from here this morning. Visited schools and the sick. Attended our evening meeting. The brethren do well. Wrote to Mr. Gould.

23. Rode to Sippican and met with the trustees of the Clapp fund. The prospects of the fund are good. At evening had a meeting at Pine Islands, preached on 1 Cor. xi: 23, 24. Administered the sacrament on account of widow Hannah Dexter, aged almost eighty-eight. Received of the Clapp fund, \$100.00. We had a good meeting; a number of the Baptists communed with us. Mr. Barstow gave me a conveyance.

24. Last night and this morning we had a hard rain. The frost mostly out of the ground. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Hawley,<sup>6</sup> of Bedford. Read. At evening we had a good meeting at Cannonville, and spoke on Ps. xxv: 1, 2. Have much to do. Received a letter from C. C. Dean,<sup>7</sup> of Boston.

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Webster was then occupying a peculiar position, and was much blamed. President Harrison had appointed him Secretary of State. Soon after the death of President Harrison, the Vice-President, John Tyler, pursued such a course, that all the members of the Cabinet resigned except Mr. Webster. He held the office of Secretary of State until May 8, 1843. For this he was criticised, as many thought, unjustly.

<sup>2</sup> He died possessed of a large property,

amassed honorably by his own wisdom and energy.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Mather Smith, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William Gould.

<sup>5</sup> Calvin Durfee, D. D.

<sup>6</sup> Probably Rev. Wm. A. Hawley, a native of Connecticut, a graduate of Williams College in 1815, and settled for some years at Plainfield, Mass.

<sup>7</sup> Treasurer of the Massachusetts Sabbath-School Society.

25. Snow is gone. Brought up wood. Many children called on me with Christmas wishes. Began a sermon on Jer. xxviii: 46, and wrote what I could.

26. A pleasant day, though cold. Preached with notes on John xv: 22, and a sermon on 1 Pet. iv: 18. Meetings well attended. The audience attentive and solemn. Had a very full and attentive evening meeting, and some evidently much impressed. Spoke on Luke xiii: 1, 2, 3. Wrote to Brother Leander Cobb and Jacob Roberts. My health and strength, in divine mercy, are very good.

27. Brought up wood. Dined out. Quite pleasant. Attended an evening meeting. Preparing for my journey.

28. Read. Took the stage at noon and set out on my way to Boston. Visited at Mr. Isaac Bolles's with a pleasant wedding party. In the evening was carried to Bedford bridge, and crossed over. Called on Mr. T. M. Smith and Mr. Hawley. Tarried at a tavern. Afternoon wet and rainy.

29. Rode to the depot and took the cars to Boston. Met with the Board of Education; but five present, one half. My Bromfield House has changed occupants again. Did errands. Paid Dean for Sabbath-school books, \$10.00. Pleasant for the season. Read. Quite fatigued.

30. Paid Crocker & Brewster for books and balanced accounts, \$6.60. Paid Little & Brown, \$25.00. I owe them a good deal. Purchased of them the work of Valerius Maximus,<sup>1</sup> printed at Mayence in 1474; the cost \$12.00. Paid Moffatt & Swan, \$1.00. The Board of Education finished their business. Called on Mr. Blagden. In the evening attended a temperance lecture by Mr. Pierpont.<sup>2</sup> The opening of the railroad this week from this city to Albany produces much attention and great joy in the two cities.<sup>3</sup> We had considerable snow. Am kindly treated. On the 27th received of Capt. Freeman, on salary, \$25.00.

31. Took the cars to Bedford, and the stage took me at the depot and brought me home about noon. Have had, through mercy, a prosperous journey. Received a letter from Mr. Theron Metcalf, and one from Mr. Roberts, of Fairhaven. Attended the evening meeting. The attention continues well here. I am much disappointed about ministerial assistance. My neighboring brethren are much engaged. My people have done well in my absence. They have had a year of great affliction, but are closing it with hopes of great mercies. The Lord fail us not. Wrote on a sermon.

<sup>1</sup> Valerius Maximus lived at the very beginning of the Christian era. "His work contains many valuable anecdotes and examples of moral excellence, and was one of the earliest printed after the revival of letters."

<sup>2</sup> Rev. John Pierpont, born in Litchfield, Ct., 1785, graduated at Yale College, 1804, pastor of Hollis Street Church, Boston, 1819-1845, pastor at Troy, N. Y., 1845-1849, and at Medford, Mass., 1849-1856. He died at Medford, 1866. He was one of the great champions of temperance, and was thus

brought into a long contest with his people at Hollis Street Church.

<sup>3</sup> The construction of the Western Railroad from Springfield to Albany over the Berkshire hills, which occupied several years, was thought at the time to be a marvelous piece of engineering. Far greater difficulties in railroad building have since been surmounted. By the union, some years since, of the Boston & Worcester and the Western Railroads, this whole line of two hundred miles is now the Boston & Albany Road.

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## 1842.

### JANUARY.

1. During the night endeavored to commit myself and my people, and all temporal and eternal interests, to the divine disposal for another year. We have devoted this day as a day of special humiliation, fasting, and prayer, in view of our afflictions for the year past, and to plead with God to revive his work. Attended a prayer-meeting at sunrise. Had services at the usual times of the Sabbath. In the forenoon we had prayer and exhortation; afternoon Mr. Cobb came and preached for us. Meetings well attended and solemn. Had a good many children call on me. At evening wrote four pages, and finished my sermon on Jer. xxviii: 16. Was prospered in my writing. Donation, \$1.05.

2. A pleasant day for the season. Preached with notes on Matt. xii: 30, and the sermon on Jer. xxviii: 16. Attentive and solemn meetings. We have had in the past year fifty-five deaths, ten in the church.<sup>1</sup> Had a full and serious evening meeting. Spoke a short time on 1 Tim. i: 5, and went out and married Mr. Henry Barstow.<sup>2</sup> Had a pleasant wedding; no wine. Went into the meeting before it closed.

3. We continued our public meeting. Severe cold. Mr. Clark, a worthy Methodist minister at Sippican, came and assisted us. No sermon in the forenoon. Visited a sick man. Afternoon Mr. Clark preached. Meetings well attended. Evening meeting very full. Mr. Clark's assistance very useful. Wrote to Mr. Smith, of Bedford.

4. Two young women have hopefully got religion. Visited. My time is all taken up. Received a letter from Mr. Roswell Ballard, of Taunton, and one from Mr. Smith, of Bedford. Wrote. Sent my thermometer to Boston to be repaired, with \$3.00 for the charge. Walked and visited. Had a good evening meeting.

5. Visited a young woman that has got hope. Wrote a little, but am very much occupied. Walked and visited. Received a letter from George Southwick, of Boston. Our evening meeting much crowded. The harbor was shut over this morning, but got clear before night. Wrote some; quite late.<sup>3</sup>

### FEBRUARY.

1. Wrote. Made calls. Rode and walked to the Neck. Visited a school. At evening had a good meeting at Mr. T. Shaw's. He is much distressed in mind. Several were down from the village. Tarried there.

<sup>1</sup> This was an extraordinary bill of mortality for a parish of its size.

<sup>2</sup> The parties were Henry Barstow and Mary Southworth.

<sup>3</sup> Here is a break in the diary to February 1st. Dr. Robbins was probably kept so busy, by extra labors and cares in his parish, that he found no time to write.

2. Rode home. Moderate weather. We have a very open winter. Visited. Attended the funeral of my cousin Polly Le Baron.<sup>1</sup> I trust she died the death of the righteous. None of her friends were here from Bristol. At evening had a full and good meeting. Read late.

3. Rainy and wet. Made this almanack. Have not found time to do it before. Wrote. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Holmes. Attended the evening meeting.

4. Quite rainy. The frost is mostly out of the ground. Wrote on capital punishment. Read. The evening meeting rather thin.

5. Walked and visited. There are new cases of seriousness. Wrote as yesterday. Have many calls on my time. Wrote in the evening. The wicked want to do away with the punishment of death.<sup>2</sup>

6. Colder. Rode to Fairhaven and exchanged with Mr. Roberts. Went early. Bad riding. Preached on Col. iii: 11, and Rev. xx: 12-15. Returned after meeting as Mr. Roberts did. His congregation appears to be but little reduced by the secession that has taken place. Our evening meeting very full and solemn. We had the monthly concert. Our collection was \$8.50. Read very late.

7. Am quite languid. Mr. W. Barstow's daughter is hard sick. Read in *Roman History*. Wrote. Rollin's *Roman History*<sup>3</sup> is very valuable. Rainy. Evening meeting rather thin.

8. The ground quite open. Wrote. My piece on capital punishment requires much labor. Visited. Walked to the Neck. Attended a meeting in the evening and preached on Matt. vii: 24. Tarried at Capt. Southworth's.

9. Last night was very cold, with very high winds. Was brought home. Wrote on my piece for publication on the punishment of murderers. A cold day. Attended the evening meeting.

10. Warmer. The ground thaws again. Received a letter from Mr. Tillinghast,<sup>4</sup> of Bridgewater. Visited. Walked to Pine Islands and visited the sick. We have some burdened souls. At evening had a serious, good meeting.

11. Very pleasant. Brought up wood. Wrote busily copying my manuscript. I have to write slow. I believe I am debilitated by being up late at night. Had a good evening meeting. Read late. Sailors called on me. Capt. Mayhew came in from whaling on the 7th.

12. Wrote and finished my piece on capital punishment. Sent it to Capt. Sturtevant,<sup>5</sup> at Boston, to have it published. It is directed to Robert Ran-

<sup>1</sup> She lived unmarried.

<sup>2</sup> There are many, who would not be called wicked people, who hold, whether rightly or wrongly, that the death penalty ought to be abolished. The writer is not of that number, but many excellent people so think and believe.

<sup>3</sup> Rollin's *Ancient History* covers many

nations besides the Roman. But Dr. Robbins was reading especially the part pertaining to the Romans.

<sup>4</sup> Col. Nicholas Tillinghast, head of the Bridgewater Normal School.

<sup>5</sup> Capt. Samuel Sturtevant was the Representative from Rochester to General Assembly.

toul,<sup>1</sup> who has petitioned the Legislature for the abolition of capital punishment. Visited. At evening wrote notes for preaching. A very full meeting in the vestry. Received of my collector, \$40.00.

13. Preached with notes written last evening on Isa. xxviii: 17, and a sermon on Rom. ii: 4. Windy and bad walking. Meetings full. Spoke on the subject of Foreign Missions. We voted to dismiss and recommend two members of the church. Had a crowded evening meeting. Read Gannett's *Election Sermon*.<sup>2</sup>

14. Brought up wood. Read. There has been considerable excitement here about my addressing the military company on the 22d.<sup>3</sup> I have concluded to attempt it. Much occupied with company. A child died here this morning. Afternoon Mr. Homer Barrows came and assisted us very well at evening meeting. It became quite cold and windy. Meeting not full. Wrote to Mr. Knapp,<sup>4</sup> Baptist preacher at Boston. Read.

15. Very cold and high wind. Rode and walked to the Neck. Dined at Mr. Hammond's. Visited a school. They have done well. Attended a meeting at evening and preached on Matt. xi: 28, etc. God's presence, I trust, is still with us. Visited.

16. We had a very cold night. Was brought home. Very rough wind. Afternoon was at the funeral of a child with Mr. Universalist Vose. Last evening Mr. Barrows attended our meeting at the vestry. Wrote. Rev. Mr. Smith,<sup>5</sup> an agent, came here and tarried. Afternoon and evening we had a violent rain. Yesterday paid Mrs. Crosby \$5.00.

17. A very rough and heavy wind. Mr. Smith went away. Wrote on my Washington address. Attended the evening meeting. Last evening we had

<sup>1</sup> Robert Rantoul, Jr., was born in Beverly, 1805, and graduated at Harvard College, 1826. He began the practice of law at Gloucester, 1833, but removed to Boston, 1838, and was one of the prominent lawyers of the State. He was a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, 1833-1837, was chosen in 1837 one of the original members of the State Board of Education, was Collector of the Port of Boston, 1843-1845, filled out a part of the unexpired term of Mr. Webster in the United States Senate, 1851, and was Member of Congress from 1851, to his death at Washington, 1852. He was an able and true man, and a decided reformer.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Ezra Stiles Gannett, who had been settled as colleague pastor with Dr. William E. Channing over the Federal Street Church, Boston, in 1824, and was in 1842 sole pastor, Dr. Channing having resigned in 1840, preached the election sermon at the meeting of the Massachusetts Legislature in January, 1842.

<sup>3</sup> Washington's Birthday.

<sup>4</sup> Elder Jacob Knapp, a man of great power, though sometimes very rude and odd in his speech and methods, was born in Otsego County, N. Y., 1799. He often preached in Boston, but in 1841 and 1842, he was there for a longer period than at any other time. He was a Baptist Evangelist, and drew great crowds to hear him.

<sup>5</sup> This proved to be Rev. Matthew Hale Smith, whose public career was diversified to a very remarkable extent. As a preacher he began as pastor of the Universalist Church at Hartford, Ct. Here he renounced his Universalism, and then after a little while went back to it, and soon after renounced it again. Then he became a popular Evangelical preacher in Boston, was afterward Presbyterian, Episcopalian, and Baptist, and then for a long course of his later years was "Burleigh," New York correspondent of the *Boston Journal*. What his particular agency was at the time when he was in Mattapoisett, we do not know.



none. It is an unfavorable winter for business. Wrote to Mr. M. H. Smith, at New Bedford. At night very cold.

18. Wrote. Much occupied with company. Dined out. Visited. At evening we had a good meeting. Wrote late.

19. We had a hard rain again, with powerful winds. Wrote laboriously on my address. It requires much time. Walked out. Received a newspaper from Boston containing my piece on capital punishment.

20. Pleasant weather. Have not been able to write anything for today. Preached with notes on Zeph. i: 12, and a sermon on Luke xix: 43, 44. We had a contribution for Foreign Missions; extra effort. Gave \$7.00. Had a full evening meeting. I think our collection will be nearly \$50.00.

21. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Jackson,<sup>1</sup> of Bedford, and to Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridgewater. Occupied with company. Wrote on my long address. At evening went into the meeting, and after performing my usual part, left it, and came and resumed my writing, and finished after two o'clock. My strength was mercifully preserved.

22. Am much fatigued. The new military company formed here, the "Mattapoisett Guards," called for me, and we marched to the meeting-house. and I delivered my address to a full house. Forty-two years ago I spoke at Danbury<sup>2</sup> on a like occasion. Dined at Esq. Meigs's.<sup>3</sup> My strength held out better than I expected. Attended the evening meeting. The work of God is increasing in all the neighboring places. Mr. Drew, of Fairhaven, is dead.

23. Walked and visited the sick and others. Am feeble, and can do but little. Read. Had company. At evening we had a solemn and animated meeting. Wrote. Our military company had a fine band of music. In the forenoon, while I was out, Mrs. and Miss Arnold, of Bedford, called here, and stayed for some time. I regret my absence.

24. The weather appears like spring. Walked out early. A powerful work of grace has commenced in Sippican. Great are the mercies of the Lord. Read. Wrote. Walked to the Neck and attended a meeting in the evening, and preached on Matt. ix: 9. Things appear well in this neighborhood. Rode home in a frosty evening, and took some cold.

25. Received a letter from Mr. Jackson, of Bedford. Received a packet from Mr. M. C. Clark,<sup>4</sup> of the House of Representatives, Washington, informing me that I am elected a corresponding member of the National Institution for Science. Visited a school with two teachers. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Visited the sick. Read late.

26. Walked to Orcoot to visit a school. It was closed yesterday. Visited several sick persons. Afternoon and evening quite rainy. Wrote.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Henry Jackson, D. D., pastor of a Baptist church, New Bedford, 1839-1845. He was born in Providence, R. I., 1798, and died at Newport, 1863, where he had been pastor from 1847.

<sup>2</sup> At Danbury, Ct., in the year 1800, when he was teaching in the Danbury Academy.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Meigs.

<sup>4</sup> In Lanman's *Dictionary of Congress* (edition published in 1858) we do not find any Member of Congress with the name, M. C. Clark. It is more likely that he may have been in some of the government departments.

27. Rainy, with some snow. Meeting thin. Preached a double sermon on Titus ii: 11-14. Read. Had a full and good evening meeting. Visited a sick child.

28. Read. Occupied with company. A spring-like day. Walked to Pine Islands, and visited a school. Visited the sick. Attended the evening meeting. We have had a remarkably warm and open winter. I think much like 1828.<sup>1</sup> No severe cold, and but little snow. Wrote late.

#### MARCH.

1. Wrote. Rode to Bedford. Some of the way very bad riding. Called on Mr. Smith,<sup>2</sup> Mr. Jackson,<sup>3</sup> and others. Saw Mr. Matthew Hale Smith. Trying to get assistance for a protracted meeting. Called at Mr. Arnold's. At evening we had an interesting church meeting at Capt. Dexter's. Was out late.

2. Wet. Read. Had company. Received a letter from Mr. Tillinghast, at Bridgewater; and a good and affecting one from my deeply afflicted sister. She and her family are great mourners. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting; rather thin. Visited late.

3. Warm. Walked to the Neck. Visited the sick and others. At evening had a meeting, and preached on Rev. xvi: 15. Tarried out.

4. Came home. Visited sick persons. Dined out. Rode in the stage to Sippican. Preached a sermon in the evening for Mr. Cobb on Rev. xxii: 11. There is a good work of grace here. It appears very well. About twenty have hope. It appears like spring weather.

5. Rode home. Much occupied with company. Wrote. Our Baptists make me great trouble. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Nott.<sup>4</sup> Visited. Wet.

6. Mr. Holmes came from Bedford, and preached both parts of the day. In the afternoon he spoke on the Bible cause; and we had a contribution, and collected \$32.34. The most, or all of it, will be received back in Bibles. Mr. Holmes and wife returned. Had a good evening meeting at monthly concert, and spoke on Ps. cxii: 6. Was up late.

7. Warm and wet. Our people had their town meeting, and did well. Read. Wrote to Mr. Knapp,<sup>5</sup> at Boston, Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridgewater, and Mr. Holmes. Attended the evening meeting. Read late. The Miller errors and follies evidently prevail here.<sup>6</sup>

8. Wrote to Mr. J. P. Bigelow,<sup>7</sup> of Boston. Rode and visited several sick persons. Attended our evening meeting. Read. The ground is considerably settled.

9. Wrote to Mr. M. H. Smith, Bedford. Had company. Visited the sick. The Baptists have a protracted meeting, and our people conclude to

<sup>1</sup> That was the year after he left his parish in East Windsor, when he was preaching miscellaneously.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Mather Smith, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Henry Jackson, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Nott, Jr., of Wareham.

<sup>5</sup> Elder Jacob Knapp, the Evangelist.

<sup>6</sup> The Millerite delusion was wide-spread.

<sup>7</sup> Secretary of State from the year 1836 to 1843.

give up our meetings on three evenings, and attend with them. We were with them this evening. Wrote.

10. Walked and visited. Have to collect the number of the children for the schools. Afternoon visited a large school. Better than in six years past. Wrote to Rev. Mr. King,<sup>1</sup> of Carver. Attended the united meeting in the evening with the Baptists. A miserable colored man is about here lecturing about slavery.

11. Walked a distance collecting the number of the children. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston, to call a special meeting of the Board of Education on the 15th inst. I cannot go. Wrote to Gov. Davis. Wrote to Mr. Clarke, of Sippican. It snowed some. Have had my thermometer well repaired. At evening attended the meeting with the Baptists. Cold and high wind.

12. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Procured a good number of Bibles and Testaments from the depositors, for which I paid \$22.57. Paid on account, \$7.90 and \$22.57, deducted from the collection, \$32.34, leaves in my hands, \$1.87. Paid Mr. Pitman a charge on his book, \$2.83. Dined at Mrs. Coffin's, and looked at her numerous autographs. Did errands. Called at Mr. Arnold's. At evening attended Mr. Smith's meeting, and heard Mr. M. H. Smith on Universalism.<sup>2</sup> Tarried at Mr. Jackson's.

13. Mr. Jackson went to Mattapoisett, and returned after meeting. Preached to Mr. Jackson's people on Mark viii: 36, 37, and Heb. iv: 9. This is a good congregation, with a good meeting-house. Kindly treated. Returned at dusk and attended a full evening meeting. The roads are mostly settled.

14. Wrote to Mr. Barrows, West Middleborough. Visited. Wrote to Mr. Smith, Bedford. Visited a good school. Attended the evening meeting.

15. Received my box from Bedford. Bibles, thirty-six; Testaments, thirty-six. Wrote. Diligently employed in collecting the number of children. At evening we had a good church meeting at N. Barstow's.

16. Walked and made calls. Afternoon we commenced our series of meetings. Mr. Smith was prevented from coming to our assistance by ill health. I preached a sermon on Gen. xxxii: 26. The evening meeting was prayer and speaking. Mr. Arnold was with us, and many of the Baptists. The meetings well attended. Spring weather.

17. Completed my collection of the number of the children. Rode to Bedford. Mr. Jackson came down here and preached and returned, and I came home and attended the evening meeting. Both meetings full and solemn. The brethren, ours and the Baptists, speak well. Am much fatigued.

18. Occupied with my school returns. Visited. Afternoon meeting we had no preacher, but a full and good meeting. Some speakers from Bedford:

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jonathan King.

<sup>2</sup> This, of course, was after Rev. Mr. Smith had renounced Universalism. In this

very year, 1842, he published his volume entitled *Universalism Exposed*. See note on page 645.

some ladies also. At evening Mr. Jackson disappointed us on account of illness, and we had a meeting of prayer and speaking. The house very full. A good number rose for prayer. Mr. Averill assisted well. Was out late. The Lord help us.

19. A young lady here from Barnstable has got hope. Wrote. Mr. Clarke,<sup>1</sup> from Sippican, came and preached at our afternoon meeting. He performed well. This closed our connected meeting with the Baptists. They have attended and assisted well. Had our evening meeting in the meeting-house. The people are evidently fatigued with application.

20. Preached with notes on 1 Thess. v: 19, and a sermon on Isa. iii: 10, 11. Meetings full and solemn. We agreed to hold our meetings for six evenings, alternately, with the Baptists. Attended at evening at the Baptist meeting-house. Full and solemn. The work of God has evidently been advancing with us through the last week. The meeting was held late. A very mild and pleasant day.

21. Rode to Rochester and met with the school committee. We were very busy in making out our returns of the schools. Returned and attended the evening meeting at our house. A good number rose for prayers. Cool. The roads are dry, and becoming sandy. Visited anxious ones. Was up late. Am much fatigued.

22. It snowed and rained the most of the day. Attended the funeral of two aged men, forenoon and afternoon. Cold and tedious. Wrote. Preached at the funerals without notes on Ps. lxxi: 9, and on Job x: 22. Attended the evening meeting. Wrote to Mr. Barrows, West Middleborough. Read.

23. Occupied with company. Wrote. Walked and visited. We have new instances of hope. Had a good evening meeting at our meeting-house. Mr. Averill preached. My mind is greatly burdened.

24. Walked a distance, and visited the sick and others. Conversed with unbelievers. Visited. Had a full evening meeting at the Baptists' house, and I preached a sermon on Rom. ii: 4.<sup>2</sup> Am constantly up quite late at night.

25. We had rain and snow the most of the day. Made calls. Am greatly burdened with labor. Afternoon we examined, at my room, and approved of four men to be propounded for our communion. Our evening meeting was in the vestry, and on account of the storm was thin. My mind is greatly burdened. Paid for repairs of my large thermometer, \$2.00.<sup>3</sup>

26. Wrote to Esq. King, of Rochester, and received a letter from his daughter. Made calls. Rode to the Neck and visited. Conversed with persons on the subject of a Christian profession. At evening preached at

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Mr. Clarke, the Baptist minister at Sippican.

<sup>2</sup> Here is another repetition of a sermon to which attention has several times been called, as a sermon which the writer of this note heard in his early life in East Windsor. The text is: "Or despisest thou the riches of

his goodness and forbearance and long-suffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?" It was a sermon eminently fitted to touch and stir the heart.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins's thermometers were quite a burden of expense to him.

James Hammond's on Num. x: 29, and baptized his child.<sup>1</sup> Got home late. Cold.

27. Preached with notes on Prov. v: 11, 12, and a sermon on Ps. cxlii: 7. Full and solemn meetings. Propounded four men to the church. Had a full and good evening meeting in the vestry. Read late.

28. Wrote to Dr. Bull, of Hartford, and to Melinda Cannon, Sniptuet.<sup>2</sup> There appears to be a prospect of war in Texas.<sup>3</sup> Esq. King, of Rochester, and his daughters called here. Examined and gave a certificate to Miss King as a teacher. Attended the evening meeting. Rather thin. Read late.

29. Walked a distance and visited. Requesting persons to make a profession of religion. Meet with many objections. A very pleasant day. Attended a church meeting at a private house. They appointed a standing church committee. Have much to do.

30. Rode in a rough wind to Orcoot, and visited a sick woman. Attended the funeral of a child. There was a Quaker funeral at Pine Islands. Wet. Visited laboriously the sick and others. Laboring with candidates for our communion. Was so occupied that I could not attend the evening meeting.

31. Wrote. Visited. Afternoon a pretty hard storm of rain and snow. Wrote on my school report, to be presented to the town meeting. Had a thin evening meeting. Am much oppressed with labor.

#### APRIL.

1. Went out early and called at various places. Some decline making a profession that I think ought to do so. Quite cold. The ground is hard frozen. Afternoon eleven women, older and younger, were examined in my room, to be propounded for the church. They appeared well, and were approved. We had a good evening meeting.

2. Received a letter from Mr. Homer Barrows. Walked to the Neck and visited. A hard west wind. Am quite feeble, and easily fatigued. Had company into the evening.

3. Preached a double sermon on 1 Tim. iii: 16. We organized our Sabbath-school. Propounded eleven females to the church. Had an interesting monthly concert meeting in the evening. Much fatigued. Had quite full meetings. Yesterday I was informed that Mr. Averill, the Baptist, is about to leave here; and it is said that he preaches his farewell today, to go to New Bedford. The last week has been one of great mercies.

4. Rode to Sippican in the rain. Met with the school committee. Driven for time. We presented our annual report to the town meeting, which was accepted, and the committee were re-appointed. Returned. A wet day. We had no evening meeting.

5. In the forenoon quite rainy. Wrote. Visited neighbors. There has

<sup>1</sup> The child baptized was Mary Elizabeth Hammond.

<sup>2</sup> North Rochester.

<sup>3</sup> The independence of Texas had been

acknowledged in 1840. But between the United States on the one hand and Mexico on the other, Texas had little rest until it was annexed to the United States.

been considerable moving of late. Attended the evening meeting; rather thin.

6. Walked and visited the most of the day. Examined a good woman for our communion. Quite pleasant; of late uncommon. Brought up twenty-five armfuls of wood. At evening had a good meeting. I fear we have some Universalists in our church.

7. Fast. Preached with notes on Ps. lxii: 5, and a sermon on Lev. xliii: 26-31. We examined and approved a young woman, and I propounded her and another for communion. Meetings well attended; afternoon quite full. After meeting I baptized Isaiah Sears by immersion in the harbor.<sup>1</sup> The first time in my life, and I never saw it done but once, in Ohio. It was less unpleasant than I expected. Felt no particular inconvenience. Wet and rainy. Attended the evening meeting. We have very painful news from Connecticut in the entire triumph of Democracy.<sup>2</sup> Visited. I trust this has been a praying day.

8. Read. Had company. Wrote. Am much fatigued with labors. Walked out and visited. The country is suffering greatly for want of a currency. Attended the evening meeting. Read late.

9. We have constant dark, wet, cold weather. Walked a distance in a hard east wind. Preached a preparatory lecture with notes on Luke vii: 42.

10. A favored day. In the morning thick weather, but in the forenoon it became pleasant. Preached a sermon on Matt. xxvi: 26-30. We commenced our Sabbath-school. Afternoon we received five men and eleven women into the church. Five women were baptized. Another man was received by recommendation. Two that were propounded were not received; one sick, the other young, delays for the present. This addition, in God's great mercy, makes up the severe loss we sustained the last year by death. Administered the sacrament. The church very full. Afternoon and evening meetings very full.

11. Am oppressed with great debility. Visited. Worked at my trees. Had company. The political revolution in Connecticut is great and painful. Attended the evening meeting. Read.

12. Brought up wood; twenty-five armfuls.<sup>3</sup> Had company. Wrote on school returns, to be sent to Boston. Wrote to Dr. Bull, of Hartford, and to Mr. N. Willis, Boston. At evening attended a good church meeting at Dea. Crosby's. Visited a sick man.

13. Wrote copying my school returns. Occupied with company. Pleasant spring weather. My letter to Mr. Willis yesterday was for Mr. Tracy,<sup>4</sup> author

<sup>1</sup> Congregational ministers generally have been ready to admit that immersion was baptism, and in exigencies they have occasionally administered the rite in that way, though claiming, at the same time, that baptism by sprinkling was just as valid, and far more simple and convenient.

<sup>2</sup> Gov. William W. Ellsworth, who had

been four years in office, was superseded by Gov. Chauncey F. Cleveland, Democrat, of Hampton, Ct.

<sup>3</sup> These references to wood-carrying are quite frequent, and for a man nearly sixty-five years old and almost always "feeble," we should call this pretty hard work.

<sup>4</sup> This was Joseph Tracy, D. D., who not

of a new volume, *The Great Awakening*. At evening attended a meeting at the Baptist meeting-house, and heard a missionary, returned from India, speak of "abominable idolatries."

14. Rainy. Completed my school returns, and sent them to Boston. It has been quite a task. Received a letter from Mr. Homer Barrows. The work of grace increases in Middleborough. Received a letter from Dr. Bull, of Hartford, with a draft of \$54.15, from the banks. At evening rode to the Neck and performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup> We have had no meeting for two evenings.

15. Pleasant. Did bank business. Wrote. Brought up wood. I get easily fatigued. Visited and gave tracts. Attended the evening meeting.

16. Wrote a sermon on Acts iv: 12. Our people had their annual precinct meeting. They voted, by a full vote, that they are satisfied with the proposed place for a new meeting-house. Last Tuesday there was taken at our herring-weir eighty thousand herrings.<sup>2</sup>

17. A whale brig came in this morning with a good cargo, but oil is very low and has a dull sale. Preached with notes on 2 Pet. iii: 9, and the sermon written yesterday. Full meetings. The Sabbath-school appears well. Had a good evening meeting. Read late.

18. Still rainy. Wrote to Dr. Bull, of Hartford. Read *Female Sovereigns*.<sup>3</sup>

19. Received of my collector, \$100.00. Looked over papers. At evening had a thin meeting.

20. Rode to Bedford. The roads very wet and muddy. Called at Mr. Arnold's. Did errands. Called on Mr. Jackson. Paid Mr. Taber, bookseller, \$15.00. Paid Mr. Howe, the bookseller and binder, \$15.00. Sent a boot to Hartford for a pattern. At evening had a good meeting. Read Scott's *Napoleon* very late.

21. We have at length pleasant weather. Had company. Visited Isaac Bolles; quite sick. Visited and gave tracts. Attended the evening meeting. Read. News from Washington rather more favorable.

22. Spring weather. Brought up wood. Mr. Bolles is hard sick. The British arms have suffered severely in India.<sup>4</sup> At evening attended a temperance meeting. Gave tracts. Visited a school.

long ago (1874) passed away from among the living. Born in Hartford, Vt., in 1794, he was graduated at Dartmouth College in 1814, and was pastor of churches in Vermont, 1821-1829. For a number of years, both in Windsor, Vt., and in Boston, he was an editor, and after that, for many years, Secretary of the Massachusetts Colonization Society. He was a very graceful and vigorous writer, and his pen was kept busy. Besides his work, *The Great Awakening*, he wrote *Three Last Things*, and the *History of the American Board*.

<sup>1</sup> The parties united in marriage were James Allen, of Fairhaven, and Mary B. Hammond.

<sup>2</sup> The catch of such fish as move in schools is often enormous. Such facts help to illustrate those words of the Psalm, "So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable."

<sup>3</sup> This was a work in two volumes by Mrs. Anna Jameson, and published in the *Harper's Family Library*. Mrs. Jameson was pronounced by Christopher North, "One of the most eloquent of our female writers."

<sup>4</sup> "The British under a convention evacuate Cabul, placing Lady Sale, etc., as hostages in the hands of Akbar Khan. A dreadful massacre ensues of about 26,000 men, women, and children, Jan. 6-13, 1842." — *Haydn's Dictionary of Dates*.

23. Wrote. Yesterday and today I have brought up fifty armfuls of wood; the most of it heavy walnut.<sup>1</sup> Visited a school pretty low. Yesterday paid my merchant tailor, \$15.00. Mr. Bolles is hopefully better. Preparing for the Sabbath. Paid Mr. Crosby, \$25.00.

24. Attended the Sabbath-school. Assisted the older class. Preached a double sermon on Acts xiii: 2. Full meetings. A male member of our church, after long vacillating, was baptized by the Baptists. Had a good evening meeting. Read. We had a collection for our Sabbath-school library, and got \$13.43.

25. Wet. Read Scott's *Napoleon*. Preparing the missionary collections for payment. Attended at evening a temperance meeting.

26. Did errands. Received a note, most unexpectedly, from Mr. Averill, the Baptist, requesting an exchange next Sabbath morning. I conclude to throw the whole upon my people, and do as I am advised. Rode to Sippican, and met with the Association. Afternoon we had the annual meeting of the Old Colony Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society. Mr. Eddy,<sup>2</sup> the agent, was with us, and spoke well. I paid to the treasurer, \$95.10: extra effort, collected in February, \$47.75; monthly concert, \$30.35; Ladies' Mite Society, \$17.00 = \$95.10. At evening we had the associational meeting; Mr. Putnam preached. We sat at Dr. Cobb's.

27. We report to the General Association a revival in all of our twelve congregations since the commencement of the present year. Association unusually full. The committee of the Clapp fund had a meeting yesterday and today. Rode home. Visited the sick. Attended the evening meeting. I am advised to exchange with Mr. Averill.<sup>3</sup>

28. Read Scott's *Napoleon*. Mr. Bolles is still sick, and now his sister is also. Visited and gave tracts. Wrote a billet to Mr. Averill. Yesterday saw peach blossoms. Attended the evening meeting; thin. There are a great abundance of herrings in this vicinity. Read late.

29. Read Scott's *Napoleon*, and other things. Visited the sick. Wrote. At evening began a sermon on Ex. ix: 20, 21. Wrote one page. Had no evening meeting.

30. Wrote and completed my sermon begun last evening. Afternoon we had a public temperance address from Mr. Vose, Universalist. The Mattapoisett Guards appear well. There have lately been some heavy and distressing failures in New Bedford. A good Providence favored me in my writing.

#### MAY.

1. Preached in the forenoon at the Baptist meeting-house on Acts iv: 12, and Mr. Averill preached in my pulpit. Had a good audience and toward as large as ours. Afternoon preached the sermon mostly written yesterday. In the morning attended our Sabbath-school. A good number of youth and

<sup>1</sup> This is an excellent commentary on the note April 12.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Chauncey Eddy.

<sup>3</sup> This was wise counsel, and it is appar-

ent that we have made some progress in denominational courtesy since that day, or Dr. Robbins would not have referred such a matter to his people for decision.



older persons attend. Afternoon sermon on Ex. ix: 20, 21. Much fatigued and feeble. At evening had the monthly concert; rainy and the evening meeting thin. Read. Last week paid a subscription for our band of instrumental music, \$3.00.

2. Am quite feeble. Visited the sick hopefully convalescing. Wrote. Wet. No evening meeting.

3. Visited at the Neck. Rode to Bedford. Did errands. Called at Mr. Arnold's. At evening attended the church meeting at Mr. Cannon's. Visited and baptized a young child,<sup>1</sup> not expected to live. Meeting thin on account of wet.

4. There is an extraordinary and alarming state of things in Rhode Island.<sup>2</sup> Was prevented from attending meeting of the trustees of the Clapp fund on account of rain. Read. Dined out. Visited and gave tracts. Attended the evening meeting. Our work of grace seems to have much subsided. Holy is the Lord.

5. Rode to the Neck with two boys and got three ash trees. Set out one in front of this house, and gave away the other two. A pleasant day. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting. Quite thin.

6. Wrote to Mr. Cobb,<sup>3</sup> of Sippican. Read. Received a letter from Jabez H. Hayden,<sup>4</sup> of Windsor, Ct. Visited. Walked to the Neck. Visited and gave tracts. Tarried out. Cool and windy.

7. Visited, gave tracts, and took the number of the children. Walked home. Quite fatigued. Read. Wrote. Rode to Fairhaven to exchange with Mr. Roberts. Tarried at Mr. Gibbs's. Quite cool. We had asparagus at home, and I had it at Capt. Mayhew's on the 4th.

8. Preached on Isa. v: 4, and Ex. ix: 20, 21. Rode home immediately after meeting, and attended the funeral of Mr. Eaton's little child.<sup>5</sup> Attended the evening meeting. Our Sabbath-school had a contribution today for Christian charity for the first time. Read. Much fatigued.

9. Read *Ivanhoe*. Distributed tracts and took the number of the children. At evening attended a temperance meeting. Received a letter from Little & Brown, of Boston, and one from Mr. Jacob Roberts.

10. Walked to the Neck, and visited the sick. Gave tracts, and took census. Quite cool. People are planting. Had a thin evening meeting. Read. Yesterday the people commenced laying the wall for our new meeting-house. May God give his blessing.

11. Wrote. Am quite languid. Visited the sick and others. Gave tracts. Attended the evening meeting. We had a good deal of thunder.

<sup>1</sup> The child baptized was Martha Ann, daughter of Mr. Solomon Eaton.

<sup>2</sup> This remark has reference to an uprising in Rhode Island in 1842, amounting almost to a state of war, because of the narrow limitations of the right of suffrage. It is a little odd, that Rhode Island, founded by Roger Williams, should have had through

her early history a more contracted system of citizenship and suffrage than any other New England State.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Leander Cobb.

<sup>4</sup> Still living at Windsor Locks, a most intelligent and valuable citizen.

<sup>5</sup> This was the child baptized a few days before.

Mr. Larned,<sup>1</sup> Professor at Yale College, came and tarried with me. He brought me a letter from sister Battell.

12. Mr. Larned went away. Wrote. Gave tracts. Wrote to Mr. J. B. Thomas,<sup>2</sup> Plymouth. Dined out. Warm. Apple-tree blossoms appear. Visited. Read.

13. Read. Visited. Gave tracts. Visited a school. Occupied with company. Searched old books. Received of the society for wood, \$9.75. Was out late.

14. Wrote the first sermon of what may probably be a long discourse on John xviii: 37, 38. Hindered by company. Am a good deal nervous, but it pleased God to strengthen me beyond my expectation.

15. Preached with notes on 1 Pet. i: 9, and the sermon written yesterday. Had a good Sabbath-school. Gave a good many primers. Had a good evening meeting. Day meetings full.

16. Walked a distance, visited the sick and others. I supply many seamen with Bibles and tracts. Went into a private school. At evening attended a temperance meeting. Read. Connecticut Legislature is very low.<sup>3</sup>

17. Had some flannel brought from Taunton, sent there to be dressed; done very poorly. Rode to Orcoot and visited an aged sick woman; very low. Visited and gave tracts. At evening we had our church meeting. The state of things in Rhode Island is truly alarming.<sup>4</sup> Was out late.

18. Gave tracts. Rode a distance, visited, etc. There is a great and beautiful blowth on the fruit-trees. Visited the sick. Attended the evening meeting. Wrote.

19. A whale brig sailed from here yesterday which I furnished well with Bibles, tracts, etc. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow and Mr. Cobb. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston, Dr. Bull, of Hartford, and Mr. Leonard, of Wareham. Visited. Gave tracts, and took my census. Read. A fine season.

20. Rainy. Wrote on an address for the corner-stone. Read. Looked over the society records; in good order. Visited the sick.

21. Visited. Mrs. Freeman is very sick; an alarming case. This morning there was a hard frost, with a good deal of ice. Fruit-trees are in the bloom, and garden vegetables are up. Probably there is much damage. Copied my address. Afternoon I laid the corner-stone of the fourth meeting-house for this people, 1736, 1772, 1816, 1842.<sup>5</sup> Delivered my address. We had a procession, etc. Mr. Cobb<sup>6</sup> was present and assisted. Though exposed took no cold.

<sup>1</sup> Prof. William A. Larned, then engaged to Miss Irene Battell. They were united in marriage the following year.

<sup>2</sup> John B. Thomas.

<sup>3</sup> The Governor was Democratic, and the House of Representatives had a Democratic majority.

<sup>4</sup> It looked for some time as though there

would be a civil war within the narrow boundaries of the little State. But out of that violent commotion came a substantial good.

<sup>5</sup> These dates give the years in which the four houses of worship were built. The Congregational church in Mattapoisett was organized in 1740.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Leander Cobb.

22. Attended the Sabbath-school, and gave a number of primers. Preached with notes on Luke xii: 3, and a sermon on Rom. viii: 6. Full meeting. Attended the evening meeting. We had several cases for prayers.

23. Saturday evening received from Hartford a very elegant pair of boots, but too small. Walked a distance and visited the sick and others. Dined out. Wrote. Preparing for my journey. Had company.

24. Walked early, and visited a man in trouble. Saw Mrs. Freeman. I think she cannot live but a short time. Took the stage and rode to Bedford. Called on Mrs. Turner. Dined at Mr. Alden's. He is very feeble. Took the cars and rode to Boston. At evening attended the public meeting on Home Missions.

25. Walked and did errands. Warm. Had two laborious sittings with the Board of Education. We conclude to remove the Barre school to Springfield. Attended a while at the Antiquarian Society. At evening attended the meeting of the Tract Society. Was up late and much fatigued. Am kindly entertained at Mr. Homies's.<sup>1</sup> In the morning was at the prayer-meeting, and gave some account of the revival in our vicinity.

26. Did errands. Attended the annual meeting of the Convention. The business yesterday I could not attend. The sermon was by Mr. Braman.<sup>2</sup> Dined at the public meeting of ministers, mostly Unitarians. Received of the State Treasurer, \$26.00. Paid Little & Brown, \$50.00. Paid for our Sabbath-school to Mr. Tappan,<sup>3</sup> \$9.00; to Mr. Dean, \$7.00; \$2.57 more than I had received, collected for that object. Paid for the *Recorder* for the current year, \$2.50. Contribution, \$1.00. At evening we had a very interesting meeting on Foreign Missions. The Nestorian Bishop<sup>4</sup> from Persia spoke in a very pleasing manner. Was in at Mr. Abbott Lawrence's. A splendid house. A great collection of people in the city. In the morning was at prayer-meeting. Many very interesting accounts of revivals. The work of God's grace this year is very great.

27. Last night I slept with Pres. Humphrey,<sup>5</sup> and the night before with Pres. Edward Beecher.<sup>6</sup> Both spoke to me of the future disposal of my library. Left Boston in the morning cars, and came to Bedford and home.

<sup>1</sup> Of the old firm, Homes & Homer, both prominent Congregationalists.

<sup>2</sup> Milton P. Braman, D. D. He was a native of Rowley, Mass., born 1799, graduate of Harvard, 1819. Settled at Danvers, 1826-1861, died at Auburndale, Mass., Apr. 10, 1882, aged eighty-two years and eight months.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William B. Tappan was born in Beverly, Mass., 1794, and died in West Needham (now Wellesley), 1849. He was thoroughly devoted to Sabbath-school work. He was the author of the beautiful hymn, "There is an hour of peaceful rest," and other lyrical compositions of decided merit.

<sup>4</sup> Mar Yohannan, who made a great sensation in this country. He was one of the Bishops of the Old Nestorian Church in Persia, but fell in with the more evangelical views of the American missionaries. He came to this country in company with Dr. Justin Perkins. Mar Yohannan made many public addresses in America, Dr. Perkins interpreting.

<sup>5</sup> Heman Humphrey, D. D., President of Amherst College, 1823-1845.

<sup>6</sup> Edward Beecher, D. D., President of Illinois College, Jacksonville, Ill., 1831-1844.

Find that good Mrs. Freeman,<sup>1</sup> my excellent friend, died yesterday. Much fatigued. Have to rest. Visited the afflicted family. Read.

28. Am quite languid. Walked out. The wall of our meeting-house advances. Afternoon attended the funeral of Mrs. Freeman. Numerous and affecting. After this wrote a large addition to a funeral sermon on John xi: 28. Was favored in writing.

29. Read expositors. Attended the Sabbath-school. Expounded on Matt. iv: 12, to the end; and preached the funeral sermon on John xi: 28. Had a good evening meeting, and gave some account of the extensive revivals. Am something nervous. Gave primers and cards to the Sabbath-school.

30. Wet and rainy the most of the day. Had company. Read a large book catalogue. Wrote. Received an unpleasant (Baptist) letter. Visited in the evening, and out late.

31. Visited. Conversed with persons respecting a Christian profession. Walked to the Neck. Was brought home. Visited the sick. At evening attended the church meeting. Was up late. Read. The fruit-trees appear well.

#### JUNE.

1. The appearance abroad is very fine. Worked at my wood and garden. Wrote. Walked and gave tracts. We are afflicted with a bad quarrel between a husband and wife, members of the church. Had a good evening meeting.

2. Had to attend to the distressed family. The woman has returned to her father's at Bedford. Afternoon we had a large funeral of a woman who died at Fairhaven. Mr. Gould and Mr. Lewis<sup>2</sup> were with us. The latter tarried with me. It is hard to get time for sleep.

3. Mr. Lewis remained till near noon. Wrote. Had company. Rode to the Neck, and made calls; conversed with persons on the subject of professing religion. Find much reluctance. Am much fatigued. There has been a great earthquake at St. Domingo,<sup>3</sup> and a terrible fire at Hamburg.<sup>4</sup> Received a letter from Mr. Drake,<sup>5</sup> of Boston. Was out late.

4. In the morning had a hard headache. Visited and gave tracts. Two

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Seth Freeman, where Dr. Robbins first boarded at the beginning of his ministry at Mattapoisett.

<sup>2</sup> Probably James Davis Lewis, a native of Falmouth, born 1808, graduate of Yale, 1828, and of Andover, 1832.

<sup>3</sup> At Cape Haytien, St. Domingo, there occurred an earthquake, May 7, 1842, which destroyed nearly two thirds of the town, and between four thousand and five thousand lives were lost.

<sup>4</sup> The fire at Hamburg, Germany, broke out May 4, 1842, and lasted three days,

destroying over two thousand dwellings, besides many public buildings.

<sup>5</sup> Samuel G. Drake, born in Pittsfield, N. H., 1798, distinguished as a historical and antiquarian writer. In early life he established himself in Boston, and became an extensive author. He was one of the founders of the New England Historic-Genaealogical Society, and did as much as almost any other to promote that class of studies which belong especially to that organization. He passed away recently in a good old age.

young women came here and were examined for a public profession. Elizabeth Hammond appears remarkably well. Am quite feeble. At evening there was an uncommon aurora borealis.

5. Am quite feeble, and affected with headache. Opened the Sabbath-school. Preached a double sermon on 2 Thess. ii: 13. Got through the services better than I feared. At evening attended the monthly concert. Visited the afflicted.

6. Warm. Left off my flannel. Wrote to Samuel G. Drake, bookseller, Boston, and sent him \$10.00. Had company, Mr. Hammond, of Boston. Read. Had a quiet evening at home. Wrote to Little & Brown.

7. Did errands. Quite cool; had to restore my flannel. Rode in the stage to Rochester. Assisted the children in their temperance movement. Heard a lecture on temperance from Mr. Pierpont,<sup>1</sup> of Boston, in the afternoon, and another in the evening. Took an account of the children in the district.

8. Tarried last night at Mr. Bigelow's. There was a little frost this morning, but not so much as was feared. Made a call at the academy, and also at the district school. Rode home. The roads very dusty. Visited and gave tracts. At evening heard a temperance lecture in the Universalist meeting-house, by Universalist Chapin.<sup>2</sup> Read. Had company; Mr. Bond, from Springfield, and others.

9. A rainy day. The rain was very much needed. Read. Wrote. Received a heavy box of books from Boston. Some rare and valuable works. Looked them over. At evening had our weekly prayer-meeting. Read.

10. Read. Mr. Pierpont, of Boston, came here in the forenoon and remained. Conversed with a woman respecting a Christian profession. Gave tracts. Walked out with Mr. Pierpont. He is a man of good sense and information.<sup>3</sup> At evening he gave a very good temperance lecture in our meeting-house to a large audience. We had some hard showers. The ground is well wet. Was up late.

11. Mr. Pierpont went away early. Walked a distance, and visited the sick. Am pretty feeble. Afternoon attended a preparatory lecture, and preached with notes on 2 Chron. xxix: 5. We did church business. Cold.

12. An interesting day. Opened the Sabbath-school. Preached a sermon on Phil. iii: 13, 14. Afternoon we had the sacrament. A man and his wife, and three other women, were admitted to the church. Three children of one family were baptized.<sup>4</sup> Rev. Mr. Holmes,<sup>5</sup> a tract agent, came here and

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Pierpont, of the Hollis Street Church, Boston.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. E. H. Chapin, D. D., an able and eloquent preacher. After a ministry of more than forty years he died in New York, Apr. 26, 1880.

<sup>3</sup> This is rather a tame description of Rev. John Pierpont, who was of an heroic temper and mold, besides being a man of

genius in poetry and prose. He was born in Litchfield, Ct., in 1785.

<sup>4</sup> The three children baptized were Andrew Thomas, Lydia Weeks, and Mercy Swift, children of Mr. Alpheus Hamlin. Besides these, two adults were baptized the same day, whose names were Hanneman Baker and Elizabeth Pope Hammond.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Henry B. Holmes.

preached at our six o'clock meeting. He preached well, and we got a good collection. I think it will be near twenty dollars. There was a little frost this morning, but we hope not to do much injury.

13. Wrote. Visited and gave tracts. Conversed with our unfortunate church-member. Had company. Received a letter from Little & Brown, of Boston. Visited the sick.

14. Last night we had a good deal of rain. Warmer. Visited and gave tracts. Wrote on church records. At evening attended the church meeting.

15. Wet and rainy through the day; frequent showers. It is a growing time. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Have difficulty with my new boots. Dined at Mr. Arnold's.<sup>1</sup> Looked at his splendid gardens. An agent called on me, Mr. White, from Provincetown. I concluded to do nothing for him at present. At evening attended the meeting.

16. Still wet weather. Read newspapers. Had company. Wrote. Warm, and vegetation advances rapidly. A strange blight has fallen on the buttonball-trees. Wrote on the church records. Walked and visited.

17. Foggy and warm, but no rain. Rode early to the Neck and visited. Thence to Bedford to see my cousin F. L. Alden.<sup>2</sup> He is very low. The ground is very wet, and little can be done in tillage. Had company. Received a letter from Mr. Tillinghast,<sup>3</sup> Bridgewater. Left off my flannel. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston.

18. Wrote a sermon on Deut. vi: 6, 7. Still showery.

19. The morning quite wet. Sabbath-school thin. Preached with notes on Ps. xxvii: 14, and the sermon written yesterday on the subject of the Sabbath-school. A woman died this morning of consumption; visited the family. Spoke at the third meeting on Luke ix: 23. Much fatigued.

20. The forenoon very warm. Rode to Tripp's Mills and visited a school, and examined the teacher. Rode to Mr. Wood's,<sup>4</sup> lower part of Middleborough, and tarried. A pleasant family.

21. Rode early to Bridgewater. Attended the examination of the Normal School. No other visitor present. The school appears very well. Rode to Taunton, and Mr. Tillinghast with me. In the evening went into Mr. Maltby's meeting, and spoke on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. Spent the night with him. A good work of grace among his people. The most of the buttonwood-trees appear as if they were dead. The crops generally look very well. Carried some flannel to a Taunton clothier to be done over again.

22. Warm and fine weather. People generally at hoeing. They are late on account of the long wet weather. The great ponds in Middleborough are uncommonly high. Rode home. Visited. Mr. Barrows attended our evening meeting with me and preached. Much fatigued.

23. Wet again and rainy. Had some company. Wrote. Read *Life of Richard I.*<sup>5</sup> Visited.

<sup>1</sup> Hon. James Arnold.

<sup>2</sup> Francis L. Alden.

<sup>3</sup> Col. Nicholas Tillinghast.

<sup>4</sup> Where he had often been before.

<sup>5</sup> *Life and Times of Richard I.*, by William Edmondstone Aytoun, published in 1840.

24. Rode to Bedford and visited Francis Alden. He is more comfortable than last week. Brother Francis's wife is there. Capt. Freeman brought me home. Received some books from Boston; a few. Worked at my library. It is fifty years this day since my father received the rich present of the watch I now carry.

25. Wrote in a lady's album. Mr. Smith came here as agent of the American Protestant Society. Read. Things appear very alarming in Rhode Island.<sup>1</sup> Rode in the stage to Sippican to exchange with Mr. Cobb. Cool weather. A very great crop of grass on the ground. Read at Mr. Cobb's.

26. Something wet. Preached on Heb. iv: 9, and Col. iii: 11. At noon opened and addressed the Sabbath-school. They have a fine house here, and a very good congregation. I think it has doubled in two or three years. Was in at some families. Preached at the third meeting without notes on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. Visited in the evening. Read a good deal in the *Works of Dr. Edwards*, lately published.<sup>2</sup> They are very valuable.

27. Cool morning. Rode home in the stage. In Rhode Island both parties are in arms, and there is much fear of a sanguinary conflict. Mr. Cobb preached well here yesterday, and Mr. Smith, the agent, preached at the meeting-house at six o'clock. Occupied with company. Wrote minutes of a will. Gave Mr. Smith, for the Protestant cause, \$1.00.

28. Last night we had a pretty hard rain. The ground very wet. Went out, on the invitation of Mr. W. Barstow, with a small sailing party. They took a good many fish. Mr. Smith left here in the forenoon; he has collected over \$12.00. At evening attended the church meeting. Am something rheumatic.

29. Had some very respectable company; they much admired my collections. Am very languid. Read *Richard I.* Attended the evening meeting. Wrote to Rev. L. Withington,<sup>3</sup> of Newbury.

30. Am quite afflicted with rheumatism. Rode out and made calls. Warm and pleasant. Paid for a fine pair of shoes, \$2.50. Walked out. Wrote. Visited. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston.

#### JULY.

1. My rheumatism is painful, and I am quite unwell. Read. The war

Mr. Aytoun was Regius Professor of Rhetoric and Belles-lettres in the University of Edinburgh. Born in Edinburgh, 1813, died there 1865. His wife was a daughter of Prof. Wilson. Prof. Aytoun was an extensive and popular writer.

<sup>1</sup> The disturbances there continued for weeks.

<sup>2</sup> "In 1842, there was an edition of Dr. Edwards's (the younger Jonathan Edwards) works published, including not only what had been printed in his life-time, but some

additional matter from his original manuscripts, together with a brief memoir of his life by his descendant, Rev. Tryon Edwards, D. D."—*Sprague's Annals*. Dr. Jonathan Edwards died in Schenectady, N. Y., while President of Union College, Aug. 1, 1801.

<sup>3</sup> Leonard Withington, D. D., born in Dorchester, Mass., 1789, graduated at Yale College, 1814, settled in Newbury, Mass., 1816, sole pastor till 1859, senior pastor till 1885. He died April 22, 1885, aged ninety-five years, eight months.

in Rhode Island seems to be closed; the miserable Dorr has fled, and many of his followers are made prisoners. It was a bold and treasonable attempt.<sup>1</sup> Visited and gave tracts. Read.

2. Last night I took medicine, and had a very sick and distressing night. Am extremely feeble. Walked out. The framing of our meeting-house is nearly completed. Warm, and fine weather. Wrote. Can do but very little. Read.

3. Visited Capt. Sturtevant; very sick. Opened the Sabbath-school. Did but little. Am some better than yesterday, but very feeble and hoarse. Preached short a double sermon on Jer. 1: 5. Was carried through the services better than I feared. Spoke at the third meeting on Job ix: 1-4. Quite warm. At evening two young persons came here and were married.<sup>2</sup>

4. In the morning one hundred and twenty children called on me, by my invitation, for Independence. Paid for cakes, .90. The morning wet. Rode to Bedford; went into the public services. Mr. Prince, of Salem, delivered a temperance address. Dined with the Washingtonians, and Guards of Mattapoisett and Bedford. No drink but water. A great many people. Visited Francis Alden. Crossed to Fairhaven. In the evening they had good fireworks. Tarried at Mr. Gibbs's.

5. Wet and misty. Made calls. President Tyler has given another veto. He is wholly unfit for his place. Mr. Jenney made me a fine present of strawberries. Crossed to Bedford, did errands, and rode home. Received from Boston Cave's<sup>3</sup> *Lives of the Apostles*; a very valuable folio. Visited. My rheumatism is very troublesome. Capt. Sturtevant, we hope, is a little better.

6. Wet and foggy. Received of the town treasurer, as school committee, \$21.25. Paid my taxes, \$11.28. Have hard rheumatic pain. Read Cave.

<sup>1</sup> Technically it was a "bold and treasonable attempt," but there was a righteous principle as the seed-corn of it. This matter has been several times referred to, and a fuller statement of the case will be in order. Up to this time Rhode Island had lived directly under the charter received from Charles II in 1663, without any other written constitution. Under this old charter the right of voting was given only to men owning a certain amount of real estate, and to their eldest sons. The right of suffrage under this condition belonged to only about one third of the citizens, who would have been voters under the ordinary American rule of citizenship.

Thomas W. Dorr, who undertook to bring about a change in the Rhode Island laws, was a philanthropist. He did not belong to the excluded class, but as a member of the Rhode Island Legislature he sought legally,

year after year, to work out this reform. But he found that the men who had the power meant to keep it. He was a graduate of Harvard College, and was an able lawyer. In 1841 Mr. Dorr was chosen Governor by the suffrage party, so-called, and in 1842 he and his followers undertook to take possession of the government. This outbreak was quelled by military power, and Mr. Dorr was taken and condemned to imprisonment for life. But the old voters of Rhode Island could not stand the tide of public sentiment setting in against them. Mr. Dorr was released, and a more liberal constitution was adopted.

<sup>2</sup> The parties married were Daniel D. L. Purrington and Emeline Hall.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. William Cave. Dr. Robbins had previously been the owner of several of Dr. Cave's works, though probably not in the folio form.



Wrote. Rode out and attended the funeral of a child. Attended the evening meeting.

7. Am very feeble, and move with difficulty. Our meeting-house was raised; mostly not completed. All proceeded very prosperously. I prayed at the commencement. The appearance is very fine. A very favorable day. A large number of men were present.

8. Visited two schools; they have been well instructed. The raising of the meeting-house was safely completed. It appears better than was expected. Am some better, through divine favor, but quite weak. Wrote. Read. Our President does very poorly. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Withington, of Newbury.

9. Very warm. Walked a distance, and visited the sick. Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston. Have not been able to study this week. The mercury yesterday and today about 80°.

10. Attended the Sabbath-school. Expounded on Matt. viii: 1 to 22d. Preached a sermon on 1 Thess. v: 3. Spoke at a third meeting on Ps. cx: 3. The meetings quite full. Am still feeble, but better than I have been. Read.

11. Still have rheumatic pains. Read. Visited a school. Wrote to Pres. Hopkins, of Williams College, relative to my library.<sup>1</sup> Received a letter with pamphlets from my cousin J. Battell,<sup>2</sup> New York.

12. Rode to Bedford. Found Mr. Alden very low. Dined at Mr. Arnold's. Returned to Mr. Alden's, and found him dead. He expired unexpectedly. He has appeared pretty well of late respecting divine things. He leaves a wife and four children greatly afflicted. Have a meeting at home this evening, but consider it my duty to remain here. Mrs. Robbins<sup>3</sup> is here. Walked out. Quite warm. Was kindly entertained at Capt. Wood's, Mr. Alden's near neighbor.

13. The weather warm, and just such as we need. Vegetation is rapid, and it is a fine time to gather a large growth of hay. Was with the mourning family. Rode home. Still have rheumatic pains. Read. Attended the evening meeting. Thermometer 85°.

14. Read. Had company. My brother Francis came here, rejoicing my heart.<sup>4</sup> Afternoon rode to Bedford and attended the funeral of Francis Alden. His family are destitute, and greatly afflicted. Mr. J. A. Roberts was absent, and Jacob Roberts spoke at the funeral, and I prayed. He was buried at Fairhaven. A great favor that my brother and his wife could be here. Rode home. Wrote late. Thermometer 86°.

<sup>1</sup> It is possible that Dr. Robbins may have had some thought of bestowing his library eventually on Williams College.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Battell, Jr., New York.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Priscilla Le Baron Robbins, of Enfield. As we understand the mixed relations here, this Francis L. Alden was a son of Mrs. Robbins, by her first husband, Gideon

S. Alden, to whom she was united in marriage in 1803. Francis L., whose death had now occurred, was married in 1828, to Eudora, daughter of Zabdiel Sampson.

<sup>4</sup> A journey of such length is such a testimony of kind feeling and sympathy as is greatly valued by people in affliction, and is gratefully remembered.

15. Wrote. Am quite languid with the heat. Received a letter from my cousin P. G. Robbins,<sup>1</sup> of Roxbury, and one from Little & Brown, Boston. Walked and visited. Our meeting-house progresses well. Thermometer about 85°.

16. Wrote to my neighbor and friend, Mrs. Cannon. My brother and his wife came from Bedford. Dined at Capt. Le Baron's.<sup>2</sup> The hay-makers checked with a light shower. It has been a very fine week for vegetation.

17. My brother preached very well. Congregation unusually large. At the third meeting in the meeting-house I spoke on Acts xviii: 9, 10, and he assisted. The mercury yesterday and today about 83°. Francis speaks much of the improvement of our village. In the morning assisted in the Sabbath-school. My brother spoke.

18. Very warm. The mercury was at 87°. Spent the most of the day with my brother and his wife, visiting, etc. Had important conversation with him. At evening took leave of them; they are to go to Bedford in the morning.

19. We have very warm nights; fine hay weather. Wrote on a will. Yesterday gave my brother four valuable quarto volumes. Read. Thermometer 81°. Received a good payment from my collector. Paid the post office \$5.92, and balanced. I pay the most of those charges at the time.

20. Rose quite early to go away. Hindered by thunder-showers. Rode to Bridgewater. Did not get there till afternoon. Attended the examination of scholars for admission to the Normal School. Ten were admitted. Rode to West Bridgewater. Looked at the old books of Rev. Dr. Reed.<sup>3</sup> Tarried at a tavern.

21. Rode early, and came to New Bedford and home. The buttonwood-trees have come out well, after an appearance of being dead. Fine weather for haying. People have begun their harvest. Much fatigued. Paid W. C. Taber and W. Howe, at Bedford, each \$10.00 = \$20.00. Wrote. Yesterday was the anniversary of my ordination;<sup>4</sup> thirty-nine years ago. Cooler than it has been.

22. Wrote. Read. Our new meeting-house progresses. A fine time to put on covering. Walked a distance, and visited the sick and others. Still have some rheumatism.

23. Wrote a second sermon on John xviii: 37, 38. Am quite feeble. At evening went into the prayer-meeting. A brother in the church makes us trouble.

24. Am very feeble. Rode to meeting. Attended Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Matt. v: 20, and the sermon written yesterday. Quite warm and dusty. Spoke at the third meeting on Acts xx: 20, 21. Much fatigued. We had a light shower.

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<sup>1</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> Capt. William Le Baron.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. John Reed, D. D., before noticed, pastor at West Bridgewater, 1780-1831.

<sup>4</sup> He was ordained July 20, 1803, preparatory to his missionary journey to Ohio. At that time he had been a licensed preacher nearly five years.

25. Read the Bible. Wrote a charge to be presented to the church. A painful duty. Wrote. At evening attended our church meeting.

26. Rode and walked to Mr. Gould's, Fairhaven. Am feeble and languid. Met with the Association. Three absent. At evening preached before the Association in the new meeting-house in the village. A pleasant and convenient house. Tarried with Mr. Nott at Capt. Grinnell's. Very warm.

27. The Association attended to their business and completed it. We had Mr. Spaulding,<sup>1</sup> of New York, and Mr. Crosby,<sup>2</sup> of Boston, agents, with us. Rode home in the stage. The mercury about 84°. Very dusty. Towards night we had a very refreshing shower. At evening attended our stated meeting.

28. Wrote copies of our church charge, and gave one to the delinquent. He does poorly. Walked and visited. Received an interesting letter from Pres. Hopkins, of Williams College.<sup>3</sup> At evening attended a poor lecture from a Baptist from Portsmouth.

29. Walked a distance and visited a sick man. Read. Attended a church meeting. A charge of breach of marriage covenant, and other things, was presented against the delinquent, and it was voted that the articles were supported. Thermometer 82°. Wrote.

30. Wrote the most of a sermon on John xviii: 37, 38. Am very languid, and something nervous. Occupied a good deal with company. Dr. Miller, of Franklin, called on me. Thermometer at 84°.

31. Very warm with wind. Expounded on Matt. viii: 23 to ix: 10. Wrote one page in the morning and finished, and preached my third sermon on John xviii: 37, 38. Thermometer at 83°. It was at 82° at ten o'clock. We had a small temperance contribution, and collected about \$5.00. Spoke at the third meeting on John vii: 17. Much fatigued.

#### AUGUST.

1. Cooler. Read. Wrote and copied a labored admonition to the member of our church under censure. Gave him the paper. Visited. Received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Boston.

2. The French Dauphin has been killed by falling from his carriage.<sup>4</sup> Wrote to Pres. Hopkins, Williams College. Visited. At evening attended a temperance meeting. They did rather poorly. Carried my letter for Pres. Hopkins to the office, and found another from him, and had to open mine and write an addition.

<sup>1</sup> John Spaulding, D. D., born in Mason, N. H., 1800, graduated at Middlebury College, 1825, and at Andover Seminary, 1828. At the time of this entry he was Corresponding Secretary of the American Seamen's Friend Society, which office he filled 1841-1857.

<sup>2</sup> Judge Nathan Crosby, temperance agent before noticed, and heartily interested in all questions touching human welfare.

<sup>3</sup> Doubtless in answer to the one written by Dr. Robbins, July 11.

<sup>4</sup> Ferdinand Philippe, son of Louis Philippe, born Sept. 3, 1810, was more commonly known as the Duke of Orleans, than as the Dauphin. He was killed July 13, 1842. Had he lived, it is not likely that he would ever have come to the throne. His father was forced to abdicate in 1848, and died in exile.

3. Wrote. Walked under a hot sun to the lower part of the Neck. Visited a small school and families. Rode part of the way home. Attended the evening meeting. Read.

4. Our Governor Everett<sup>1</sup> is very popular in England. Wrote. The new meeting-house comes on well, and is much liked. Walked and visited. Copied my will and completed it, and signed it in the evening before witnesses. It is done from my decided sense of duty, as things now appear.

5. Rode to Bedford and attended an examination of the academy. It is a very fine school. There were many spectators. Did errands. Stopped at Fairhaven. Saw N. F. Ames. Received a letter from my cousin Isaac Robbins,<sup>2</sup> from New York. Quite warm.

6. Wrote. Rode to Orcoot and visited the sick. Occupied with company. The mercury at 80°. Preached at a preparatory lecture with notes on Deut. xxiii: 21. After which attended an adjourned church meeting. The church excommunicated the delinquent member. He conducts badly. Saw the launch of a ship.

7. Am quite feeble. Instructed a class in the Sabbath-school. Preached a sermon on Luke xxii: 15. Very warm; sultry. In the afternoon we had the sacrament. The church full. At the third meeting, monthly concert, spoke on Zeph. iii: 9. Much fatigued.

8. Last night and this morning we had heavy showers. Walked out. The ground is greatly refreshed. Had company. Wrote. Visited a sick child.

9. Visited sick persons. Two women hard sick. Wrote to my cousin, Dr. Robbins, of Roxbury. The mercury at 86°. At evening attended the church meeting.

10. Wrote. Visited the sick. The Miller delusion, I fear, will prevail here.<sup>3</sup> The Baptists make much of it. Attended the evening meeting. Read late. The warmest day of this season. Thermometer 89°.

11. Rode to Bedford. Did errands. Saw Mr. Soule, and conversed with him. The President has vetoed the Tariff Bill on which Congress have long and painfully labored. Such arbitrariness we have not known before.<sup>4</sup> Had company. Thermometer 83°.

12. Devoted much of the 10th to solemn meditation and covenanting; expecting to be occupied on the 11th. I am now sixty-five years old. Walked a distance in the heat, and visited the sick. Was out the most of the day. Received a letter from R. Rantoul,<sup>5</sup> Esq., Boston. Wrote.

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<sup>1</sup> Hon. Edward Everett was our Minister at the English Court, 1841-1845, and was eminently fitted for this high office.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Isaac Robbins, born 1770, son of Dr. Chandler Robbins, of Plymouth, was a Methodist minister, then seventy-two years old.

<sup>3</sup> That delusion had a great run all over New England among the more uneducated classes. There is hardly any portion of New

England that cannot report strange things during the prevalence of this fear.

<sup>4</sup> People did not then so fully as now recognize the right of the President to veto a bill. No doubt President John Tyler tried the Whigs that placed him in office, but they also tried him.

<sup>5</sup> Robert Rantoul, Esq., it will be remembered, was on the Board of Education with him.

13. Wrote the most of an elaborate double sermon on Acts i: 9-11. Something wet. Walked and visited a sick woman. Painfully hindered by company. A barque ship sailed from here for whaling. Have fitted out the men with Bibles, Testaments, tracts, etc.

14. Wrote half a page, and finished my sermon, and preached it both parts of the day, on Acts i: 9-11. It is on the second coming of Christ; a subject which much occupies public attention. Our Baptists are full of it. Spoke at the third meeting on Rom. ii: 4. Had to visit sick persons. We had some showers. Very much fatigued.

15. Walked out. Can do but little. Visited the sick and others. Wrote. Have to give temperance badges, and take the pledges of numbers of children.

16. Occupied with the children. Rode to Bedford. Have trouble with my new boots. Met with the annual meeting of the American Institute of Instruction. Heard a learned lecture from Prof. Sears,<sup>1</sup> of Newton. Joined the Institute, and paid \$1.00. In the evening we had a public discussion, mostly on Normal Schools. Tarried at Mr. Congdon's.

17. In the forenoon Mr. George B. Emerson<sup>2</sup> and Dr. Howe<sup>3</sup> lectured before the Institute; both good, the former excellent. Dined with company at Mr. Rotch's. Very warm. Rode home. Quite languid. Attended the evening meeting. Read late.

18. Much occupied with the children. At evening walked and visited various sick persons. The season is very favorable to vegetation. Wrote.

19. We had our temperance celebration. I have received a number of additions to our Cold Water Army, taking from each their pledge, and giving a badge. We have eighty-six males and seventy-five females. We had a procession, with the Military Guards and music, and Mr. Hathaway, of Assonet, a reformed inebriate, gave a good lecture. We went to the grove, and had a good collation. At evening we had a lecture from Mr. Colbourn, of Salem, late a drunken sailor; pretty ordinary.

20. Very warm. Am very languid. Can do but little. Visited a child hurt yesterday. Last evening received a letter from J. R. Perkins, Rochester. Wrote on the church records, to make out a list of the members. Visited a child very sick.

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<sup>1</sup> Barnas Sears, D. D., LL. D., was one of the noble men of the last generation. He was born in Sandisfield, Mass., 1802, was graduated at Brown University, 1825, and after a brief pastorate of the First Baptist Church, Hartford, he went abroad for study three years, was twelve years professor in Newton Theological Seminary, was Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education, was twelve years, 1855-1867, President of Brown University, and the remainder of his life, Secretary of the Peabody Fund for

Education at the South. He was a man of very fine presence and winning address.

<sup>2</sup> George B. Emerson, LL. D., whose life was devoted to teaching and who became very distinguished in that profession, was born in Kennebunk, Maine, 1797, was graduated at Harvard, 1817, was to his old age connected with public or private schools. He died in 1881.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Samuel G. Howe had a life so conspicuous in many ways, that we need not recapitulate. He was born in Boston, 1801,

21. Assisted at the Sabbath-school. Expounded on Matt. ix: 10, to the end. Preached a sermon on Isa. lix: 12. Spoke at the third meeting in the meeting-house on Matt. xix: 16, etc. Very warm. We had a contribution for our Sabbath-school library, and got but \$7.62. People are much oppressed with the state of the times. Visited.

22. Walked a distance in the heat and visited. Am pretty feeble. Yesterday baptized a child.<sup>1</sup> Read. At evening attended the church meeting. A child died last evening; Universalist.

23. Wrote. Received of our collector, \$20.00; of another, \$10.00. Afternoon rode to Rochester and attended the examination of the academy. There was an exhibition in the evening; both parts well done. Our Guards and music, and many of our people attended. Returned in the evening. The mercury 87°. Yesterday 86°.

24. Rose quite early. Rode to Bedford. Took the morning cars and rode to Boston and Cambridge, and went into the Commencement exercises while the salutatory oration was speaking. The exercises were good; the speaking better than usual. Returned to Boston. Paid Burnham, \$7.40, and balanced his account. Did errands. Much fatigued. Saw my cousin P. G. Robbins, but was prevented from going to his house. Was hospitably entertained for the night by a gentleman, a stranger, Mr. Whiston. Very kindly treated at Cambridge. Paid a donation from our people to the Massachusetts Temperance Union of \$5.00.

25. Paid for Sabbath-school books, \$8.37; the amount lately contributed, and got a fine addition to the library. Paid the Tract Society the amount we have raised, \$17.11, and received tracts of the value of \$9.00, for charitable distribution to seamen and others. Paid Little & Brown, \$10.00. Found my cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Eldredge, of Norfolk,<sup>2</sup> and had a pleasant visit with them. Rainy. Am prevented from visiting friends in Roxbury. Called on the family of the late Dr. Harris.<sup>3</sup> The Bunker Hill Monument makes a noble appearance,<sup>4</sup> but I could not go to it.

26. Took the cars, and rode to New Bedford and home at twelve o'clock. Showery. Received Dr. Edwards's *Works*<sup>5</sup> and Emmons's *System* from Crocker & Brewster, four fine volumes, subscribed for. Received a church letter from New Bedford, one from Stephen C. Noble, of Wareham, and one from Dr. Hopkins, of Williams College, informing me that I am elected a member of that Corporation.<sup>6</sup> There is great anxiety in the community about the proceedings of Congress. Warm and sultry. Read.

and was graduated at Brown University, 1821. He died in 1876.

<sup>1</sup> The child was Elsa Howland, daughter of Mr. Watson Cannon.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Eldridge, D. D., and Sarah (Battell) Eldridge.

<sup>3</sup> Thaddeus Mason Harris, D. D., 'with whom he had corresponded years before, died in Dorchester, April 3, 1842. He was born in Charlestown, Mass., 1768.

<sup>4</sup> This monument was then nearly finished. Its final dedication took place June 17, 1843. Dr. Robbins saw it in the distance in August, 1842.

<sup>5</sup> This was the edition already referred to, the collected works of the younger Edwards, edited by Tryon Edwards, D. D.

<sup>6</sup> He was thus called to fill a position which his father occupied nearly fifty years before.

27. Wrote the most of a sermon on 2 Peter iii: 11-14. Was much occupied with company. Was mercifully assisted in the evening, and wrote nearly half of my sermon. Very warm. Thermometer at 86°.

28. Finished my sermon and preached it in the forenoon on 2 Pet. iii: 11-14. Afternoon preached by request the sermon of Sabbath before last on Acts i: 9-11. Sultry hot and something wet. The church appointed a delegate. Spoke at the third meeting on John i: 9-12. Day meetings quite full. Much fatigued. Visited. The Second Advent matter excites much attention. Read Mr. Adams's<sup>1</sup> able and severe report on the President's late veto.

29. Visited the sick. Capt. Freeman is quite ill. Clear sun and very hot. Wrote. We had a short very hard shower. At evening heard a temperance lecture from Mr. Averill. Read late. The mercury was at 88°.

30. Wrote. Visited the sick. Read. It appears that the tariff law, about which there has been so much anxiety, is like to pass the two houses of Congress. Wrote to President Hopkins, of Williams College, and to S. C. Noble, Wareham.

31. Rode with Capt. Le Baron, my delegate, to Bedford, and met with a council of twelve ministers and ten delegates relative to the state of Mr. Smith's people. I was in the chair. We had a long and fatiguing hearing before dinner and after, till night. The council had a late evening session by themselves. We were very pleasantly accommodated at Mr. Parker's. His house and furniture and place are pre-eminent. Quite fatigued.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. The council attended to their business laboriously, and finally came to a result with unanimity, and published it about one o'clock. The proceedings of the church were censured, but Mr. Smith is dismissed, if the church by a future vote desire it, on paying him five hundred dollars.<sup>2</sup> The parties agreed on the sum. Paid \$3.25 for a puff bed-quilt, and gave it to our Mary Townsend.<sup>3</sup>

2. Am, through divine favor, better of my illness. Yesterday received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Boston, with a number of books to be revised for the common school library. Read. The President has made out to approve of the final tariff law. Visited. Thermometer 77°. Paid .50 for pamphlets from the post office. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow.

3. Wrote a fourth sermon of my long discourse on John xviii: 37, 38. Had interruptions. Am less affected with tremor than heretofore.

4. Opened the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Ps. xxvii: 14,

<sup>1</sup> Hon. John Quincy Adams, then a member of Congress.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Thomas Mather Smith was settled over the North Church of New Bedford, July 24, 1839. The arrangement made by the council seems to have been carried out,

as Mr. Smith's name does not afterward appear on the church records.

<sup>3</sup> Probably the girl who had been living with Mr. and Mrs. Crosby, where he was boarding. Dr. Robbins was very thoughtful and kind toward those who served.

and the sermon written yesterday on the Inspiration of the Scriptures. Full meetings. Attended the monthly concert at five and one half o'clock. A spirit of religious speculation much prevails. At evening visited. Cooler than it has been.

5. Read books and newspapers. Am very languid. We had a hard and refreshing shower. Had company.

6. Two good ships were launched here this morning near together. They went off very finely. A whale brig came in; had done pretty well. Had company. Rode to Sippican and met the committee of the Clapp fund. We accepted of the new parsonage-house; a good house. At evening attended the church meeting. Visited. Quite cool. Received \$2.00<sup>1</sup> from the Clapp fund.

7. Received from Boston a box of books, including a noble edition of Cicero's *Works*, printed at Oxford, 1783. Eleven quartos; cost less than \$40.00. A fine addition to my library.<sup>2</sup> Received a letter from Little & Brown, Boston. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Read late.

8. Rode and visited an aged woman, probably near her end. Several of our people have gone to the great camp-meeting near Taunton; Second Advent. Mr. Thomas Williams<sup>3</sup> came here and tarried. Yesterday wrote to Mr. Bourne, of Bedford. Received a letter from Mr. Holmes, of Bedford. Visited.

9. A cold rain the most of the day. Read. Worked at my books. Wrote to my cousin P. G. Robbins, Roxbury. Mr. Williams left here about noon for the Cape. Visited the sick. We have at present an unusual number.

10. The aged and good Mrs. Bowles died yesterday. It is *fifty years* today since I entered college.<sup>4</sup> Wrote to Mr. Bigelow. Much occupied with company. Wrote on my library catalogue.

11. Attended the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Luke xiii: 3. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Bowles. Preached the former half of a sermon on Isa. iii: 10, 11, with a small addition written this morning. Afternoon wet and the meeting thin. Spoke at the third meeting on Rev. xviii: 14. Visited two sick women, one quite low. Read. Get but little time for rest.

12. I am very languid. A very hot day. The mercury rose to 86°. Read. Wrote on my library catalogue, which has been much neglected. I have got at the rate of one hundred volumes a year, beginning with 1809, and

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<sup>1</sup> This sum was probably to pay his traveling expenses.

<sup>2</sup> Many of the books added by Dr. Robbins to his library in the later years were of the choice and costly kind.

<sup>3</sup> This was the Rev. Thomas Williams, who visited Dr. Robbins while he was settled in East Windsor. Mr. Williams was born in Pomfret, Ct., 1779, graduated at Yale College, 1800, studied theology with Dr. Nathan-

iel Emmons, of Franklin, Mass., preached Dr. Emmons's funeral sermon in 1840, and lived on to the great age of ninety-six. He died at Providence, R. I., Sept. 29, 1876, in his ninety-seventh year.

<sup>4</sup> The old-time Commencements at Yale College occurred in the second week of September. He was examined during the Commencement week, 1792. Commencement at Yale is now (1886) in the last week in June.



including one hundred and thirty-four volumes I then had.<sup>1</sup> Had my window open the most of the evening. Had company.

13. Wrote and finished for the present my book catalogue. The forenoon very hot. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow. Our meeting-house and vestry progress very well. Visited several sick persons. Mr. Ballard,<sup>2</sup> from Michigan, called on me, soliciting money to purchase a Catholic church. I gave him \$1.00, but did not send him to my people. Much occupied with company. Wrote.

14. Wrote Dr. Bull, of Hartford, and to Capt. Sturtevant,<sup>3</sup> now at Boston. Visited the sick. Dined out. Mr. Parker and his family called here from Bedford. Worked at my books. Yesterday the mercury was at 81°. It is now cooler. Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting. Mr. Baxter, from Hampshire County, came here and tarried.

15. Wet. Mr. Porter has much literary information, and is quite an antiquary. Paid him for books, \$1.75. Worked at my library. Visited. Read.

16. Walked and visited the sick. We have several cases of fever. Yesterday attended the funeral of a child, Baptist, and was informed of the death of two aged women. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Cook, who died of cancer. Visited a school. Wet. Read.

17. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Carried books to be bound. Saw Mr. T. M. Smith. His situation is trying. Did errands. Paid for Sabbath-school books, \$1.21. At evening visited sick persons.

18. Rode to Rochester and exchanged with Rev. Mr. Bigelow. Cool. Preached on Eph. ii: 12, and Rev. xx: 12-15. Returned after meeting. Spoke at the evening meeting on John iii: 6. Quite tired. Read.

19. Worked at my books and newspapers. Favored with help. Some of the books are quite mouldy. Showery. At evening visited.

20. Rainy. Worked at my books. Had company. Cannot bear much fatigue. At evening attended the church meeting. Visited the sick. Wrote to Mr. Tillinghast, Bridgewater.

21. Rode to the Randall neighborhood and attended a funeral. Preached on Isa. xl: 6. Visited a school. Got wet in a hard shower. Attended the evening meeting; thin. Wrote to Dr. Webb, Boston. This morning there was some frost. The first we have had.

22. Visited an aged woman apparently near death. Received a letter from Mr. Fowler,<sup>4</sup> of Fall River, and one from Mr. Durfee,<sup>5</sup> of Dedham. Walked to the Neck and visited the sick. A number of sick. Walked seven

<sup>1</sup> This confirms what has been elsewhere stated in our notes, that the beginnings of Dr. Robbins's library date from his settlement in East Windsor, Ct., in 1809. Thirty-three years had passed since that time, and the bound volumes in his library numbered about three thousand five hundred, with many thousands of pamphlets.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. John Ballard, born in Temple, Me., 1804, graduated at Bowdoin College, 1831, and at Andover in 1834. He was a Western missionary, and died at Perry, Ill., in 1857.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Sturtevant, Representative to the General Court.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Orin Fowler.

<sup>5</sup> Calvin Durfee, D. D.

or eight miles. A Baptist came here and lectured vehemently against the favorite sentiment of the Second Advent.

23. Visited the sick. Looked at the new meeting-house and vestry. They go on well. Received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Boston, and one from Dr. E. W. Bull, of Hartford, with a draft on Suffolk Bank of \$66.93. Looked over papers. Wrote. Wrote to Gov. Davis. Dr. Bull paid for me at Hartford, \$15.07, including \$10.00 for a pair of boots. This morning there was a pretty hard frost.

24. Wrote my fifth sermon on John xviii: 37, 38. In the forenoon attended the funeral of an aged woman, carried to Rochester for burial. Was favored with regard to other interruptions. Wrote rapidly in the evening.

25. Very pleasant fall weather. Opened the Sabbath-school. Preached with notes on Jer. xxix: 13, and the sermon written yesterday on the Internal Evidence of the Inspiration of the Scriptures. Spoke at the evening meeting on John xxi: 17. Visited a sick child. Read. It is said Mr. Averill<sup>1</sup> has left here, perhaps finally.

26. Visited the sick. Sickness is evidently increasing among us. The Lord be our helper. Visited two schools. Read. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Whitmore,<sup>2</sup> Eel River. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Durfee, of Dedham.

27. Rode early a part of the way, and then walked to the Neck and visited three sick houses. Some hard sick. A hot day. Thermometer about 70°. Much fatigued. Visited a school. At evening attended a temperance meeting.

28. Visited a number of sick at Pine Islands. The mercury was at 76°. Am quite languid. Read. Worked at my trees. At evening we had no meeting, as Mr. Plummer<sup>3</sup> preached in our meeting-house against Millerism, and all went to hear him. I think he is doing good, though quite erroneous himself. I had no notice of the matter. Visited the sick.

29. Received a letter from Gov. Davis, and one from Fowle & Capen, of Boston. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Cooler. Visited my cousin Mrs. Alden,<sup>4</sup> the afflicted widow. Saw Mr. Hitchcock,<sup>5</sup> a candidate, now preaching there. Purchased a new sofa for my new pulpit at the low price of \$15.00. At evening attended the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. Quite feeble and considerably unwell.

30. Wrote. Worked at my newspapers. I easily get fatigued. At evening attended a small meeting to improve our sacred music. Wrote late.

<sup>1</sup> The Baptist minister at Mattapoisett.

<sup>2</sup> This was Rev. Benjamin Whitmore, graduated at Brown University, 1814. In the ecclesiastical table for Plymouth County in the eighth volume of *American Quarterly Register*, this name is by some mistake printed Whitman. The church at Eel River was the fourth church of Plymouth, Mass., now known as the church of Chiltonville. Mr. Whitmore died in 1857.

<sup>3</sup> The Baptist minister, who was preaching against Millerism.

<sup>4</sup> Widow of Mr. Francis L. Alden.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Robert S. Hitchcock (son of Rev. Calvin Hitchcock, of Newport, R. I., and afterward of Randolph, Mass.) Rev. Robert was graduated at Amherst College, 1837, and at Andover, 1842. He was afterward settled for a time over this North Church in New Bedford.

## OCTOBER.

1. Visited two women, both badly hurt by falling down stairs. Attended the funeral of a young child. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture on Gal. iv: 6. Am not able to do much at my studies.

2. Opened the Sabbath-school, and taught a class. Preached with notes on John xvi: 33, and a sermon on Heb. xii: 16. Administered the sacrament. Quite a number of the church absent on account of sickness. At evening had the monthly concert; the principal exercise was reading the account of the late great and interesting annual meeting of the Board at Norwich, Ct.<sup>1</sup> Much fatigued.

3. Went to the Neck and visited sick families. Am quite feeble. Was brought home. Wrote. There is a fine crop of corn. Wrote in a lady's album.

4. Visited the sick. The aged Mrs. Dexter, of Pine Islands, appears to be near her end. I fear we are to have more breaches in the church. Brought up wood. The ground has become quite dry. Mr. Taylor,<sup>2</sup> of Boston, came here and gave in the evening an eccentric, excellent temperance lecture.

5. Read. Wrote to Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridgewater. Worked at my trees. Wrote on church records. At evening had a very thin meeting. Wrote on pecuniary accounts. Visited the sick.

6. Walked, and rode to the Neck and visited the sick. Some are very low. Was brought home. Visited. Read. We have cool nights, but very pleasant fall weather.

7. Wrote to Mr. Maltby, of Taunton. Received a letter from Samuel H. Riddell,<sup>3</sup> of Boston, about the Education Society. Received a letter from Alvin Gibbs, of Wareham, and wrote him in return. Visited a number of sick ones. Dr. Southworth died last night. Attended the funeral of the aged Mrs. Dexter, and preached on Phil. i: 23. She has been a member of this church sixty-one years. Had young company in my chamber. Gave Joseph Bowles a Bible and tracts.

8. The fine new ship, Josiah Meigs, sailed from here this morning. I fitted them out with books and tracts. Rode to the Neck and visited sick and mourners. Mr. Shaw died last night.<sup>4</sup> Rode, and walked to Orcoot and visited sick ones. The ground is very dry and dusty. Wrote.

9. Went late into the Sabbath-school. Preached a double sermon on Isa. lv: 6. At the intermission attended a part of the funeral of Dr. South-

<sup>1</sup> No place could be found more thoroughly in sympathy with the work of the American Board than Norwich, Ct.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Edward T. Taylor, Seamen's Chaplain.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel H. Riddell, born in Bristol, Me., 1800, was graduated at Yale College, 1823, and at Andover, 1826, pastor at Glastonbury, Ct., 1827-1837, and Secretary of the

American Education Society, 1842-1850. He was also well known as a scholarly writer and editor, and was one of the founders of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society. He died at Des Moines, Iowa, June 1, 1876.

<sup>4</sup> It was again almost as sickly at Mattapoisett as during the sickly season of the year before.

worth; spoke and prayed at the house, then the Universalists took the service to their meeting-house. Our afternoon meeting was thin. At evening married Nathaniel F. Ames to Mary Townsend, of this family.<sup>1</sup> Went afterwards into the evening meeting and spoke on Heb. i.

10. Visited a number of sick ones. I fear the number increases. Received a letter from Mr. Maltby, of Taunton, who consents to preach at our dedication. Gave Mr. Ames<sup>2</sup> a good Bible, and they went to his new house. Read. Connecticut has done well at their town meetings. Our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society have collected \$23.50.

11. Rode, and walked to the Neck and visited the sick and afflicted. Warm and very dusty. Read. At evening attended the church meeting. Was out late.

12. Wrote to Mr. Nott, of Wareham. Visited the aged Mr. Cannon; very low. A whale brig came in; done well. Wrote. Visited the sick and others. Attended our evening prayer-meeting. Our new vestry is greatly prospered.

13. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Nott. Wrote to Mr. Alvin Gibbs, of Wareham. Visited the sick. Concluded to take a pew in the meeting-house for debt. Read.

14. Walked to Pine Islands and visited the sick and others. My cousin Dr. Robbins, of Roxbury,<sup>3</sup> came very unexpectedly to make me a visit. Very dry and dusty. Quite warm. Walked with my cousin and called on our connexions. Read late.

15. Received a letter from Mr. Maltby,<sup>4</sup> of Taunton. Visited the sick. I think Mr. Cannon cannot live. Visited with my cousin. Afternoon Mr. Briggs<sup>5</sup> came here, and I rode to Sniptuet to exchange. The streams are very dry and very low.

16. Preached on Col. iii: 11, and Heb. iv: 9. This congregation is small, but appears well. I think they have the best pastor they have ever had. After meeting rode home. Met and passed Mr. Briggs. Spoke at our evening meeting on Isa. i: 18. Dr. Robbins was with us.

17. Walked out with my cousin. Afternoon he and some others went a fishing, and had good success. Wrote and delivered in the evening a temperance address. It was unfinished. Mr. Cannon died last night. Visited the family. Read late.

18. Had a present of a large piece of coral from a seaman neighbor. Am quite unwell with a disordered stomach. Unable to write or read. My cousin Peter went off for Plymouth and home. He has made me a very pleasant visit.

19. Had a very ill night. Through mercy, I am better, though quite

<sup>1</sup> This is the Mary Townsend mentioned September 1, and we have now the secret of the puff bed-quilt which Dr. Robbins gave her for a present.

<sup>2</sup> The husband of Mary Townsend.

<sup>3</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M.D., son of

Chandler Robbins, D.D., of Plymouth, and father of Dr. Chandler Robbins (Unitarian) of Boston, was born in 1781, and was only four years younger than Dr. Thomas.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Erastus Maltby.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs.

weak. Walked out. Wrote a little. Attended the funeral of Mr. Eben Cannon, Senior. Many people present. Attended the evening meeting. Fuller than it has been. Read Stuart<sup>1</sup> on the *Prophecies*.

20. My health, through divine favor, improves. Wrote to Esq. Hale, of Bridgewater. Had company. Visited people not sick.

21. Quite cold. Walked to the Neck, and visited the sick and others in the village. Some are bad cases. Received an excellent letter from sister Battell, and one from Dr. Robbins. Read. Ohio has done poorly. Wrote.

22. Began to write a sermon in my long discourse on John xviii: 37, 38. Had company and interruptions the most of the day. Wrote but little. Was called to see a man apparently near dying. Received of my collector, \$60.00. Two Wareham men came here about their small church.<sup>2</sup>

23. Our Sabbath-school was closed for the season. The pupils about one hundred and sixty; teachers and managers about twenty. They have been employed mostly in learning Scripture. Preached a double sermon on 2 Pet. iii: 9. Took notice of the late death of Mr. Cannon. Spoke at the evening meeting on Ps. xxxii: 5. Visited.

24. Wrote to Mr. Maltby, of Taunton, and Thomas Williams,<sup>3</sup> Rhode Island. Received a letter from Mr. Tillinghast, Bridgewater. Read. Our country's prospects not very promising. At evening wrote laboriously, and began and completed a report for our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. Much favored in writing. Paid for one and one half cord of pine wood, \$4.50.

25. Rode in a chaise to Dartmouth, and met with the Association. Afternoon we had the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. Presented my report. Mr. Clark,<sup>4</sup> the Secretary, was not with us, as we hoped. We had a good meeting. At evening we had a hard storm of wind and rain. Tarried at Capt. Rider's. This society is improving, and Mr. Bigelow<sup>5</sup> is doing well.

26. Attended the usual business. The meeting for last evening and associational sermon, was prevented by the storm. We had a pleasant session. Rode home. The rain after a long drought has much improved the roads. Paid toward a sofa for the new pulpit, \$15.00. Paid for twenty-three pounds of candles and a box, \$3.65. Attended the evening meeting. A funeral here, grown persons, yesterday and today.

27. In the forenoon attended a wedding;<sup>6</sup> a pleasant one. No drink but water. Read. At evening visited; was out late. The Le Baron family<sup>7</sup> are much opposed to our new meeting-house.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Moses Stuart, professor at Andover, published, in 1842, his work entitled *Hints on the Prophecies*.

<sup>2</sup> It will be remembered that they had a church division over at Wareham, as they had in Fairhaven, and such divisions are difficult of settlement.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Thomas Williams was stated supply of the pulpit of the Richmond Street

Church, Providence, R. I., from 1807 to 1816 and long made his home in that city.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph S. Clark, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Andrew Bigelow was settled there, Aug. 25, 1841.

<sup>6</sup> The persons united in marriage were Frederick W. Russell and Caroline Barstow.

<sup>7</sup> The children of the former minister, Rev. Lemuel Le Baron.

28. Set out early, and walked to the Neck and visited the sick and others. Miss Anna Barrows appears to be in a dying state. Had a different sofa from the one I had selected brought from Bedford, at the cost of \$26.00. Read.

29. Had a small, new stove brought from Bedford. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Tillinghast. Occupied with company all the forenoon. A Jew lecturer called on me. Miss Barrows died last night. Rode to Middleborough to exchange with Mr. Putnam.<sup>1</sup> Tarried on the way at Mr. Wood's.<sup>2</sup> Cold and frosty.

30. Rode in the morning to Middleborough. Preached on Acts iv: 13, and Col. iii: 11. A very large and highly respectable congregation. After meeting married a young couple who came to Mr. Putnam's. At evening rode to the Eddy neighborhood, and preached in the school-house on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. Mr. Putnam performs great labor.<sup>3</sup>

31. Rode home. We have cold nights, but pleasant days. Dea. Hammond attended Miss Barrows's funeral yesterday. Wrote to Mr. Homer Barrows. In the lower part of Middleborough saw a lad, Thomas Reed, eleven years old, weighing two hundred and forty-three pounds. At evening had a meeting in the vestry, and, in a manner, took our leave of that room. A holy God has there given us great mercies. On the 30th received for the marriage, \$2.00, and gave it to Mrs. Putnam.<sup>4</sup>

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Wrote to Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridgewater. Worked piling wood. Occupied with company. Read. Mr. Berk, the Christian Jew,<sup>5</sup> came here. He lectured in the evening on the past state of his people. I have an influenza cold, which has been coming on some time.

2. Am much oppressed with my cold. Wrote considerably. A good woman died today. Mr. Berk delivered his second lecture in the evening to a large audience; a very good one. Mr. Harlow paid me \$8.09, and closed my salary for the year ending September, 1841.<sup>6</sup> Visited.

3. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Procured for our pulpit a very good quarto Bible, for which I paid \$10.00, contributed by our ladies. Paid for my stove and appendages, \$4.11. A cold day; the first we have had. At evening attended Mr. Berk's third lecture. I hope he may do much good. Mr. Vaill<sup>7</sup> came here as agent for Amherst College. Was up late.

4. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Maltby, of Taunton. Have a bad influenza cold. Mr. Berk went away. Paid him for a book, *History of*

<sup>1</sup> Israel W. Putnam, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> His old stopping-place.

<sup>3</sup> His parish was large, reckoned by families, and larger territorially.

<sup>4</sup> That was the fit and proper thing to do under the circumstances.

<sup>5</sup> In those years there were almost always two or three converted Jews wandering about among the churches, soliciting money in be-

half of the Society for Ameliorating the Condition of the Jews. We hear less about that society now.

<sup>6</sup> And it was then *November, 1842*. Times are certainly better now in some respects.

<sup>7</sup> Joseph Vaill, D. D., was a native of East Haddam, Ct., graduated at Yale, 1811, settled at Somers, Ct., and Palmer, Mass., and other places. He died in 1869.

*the Jews*, 75. He sold about thirty here. Subscribed a conditional sum for Amherst College, and Mr. Vaill went away. We observed this as a *Humiliation Day*, in reference to the removal of our place of worship. We had a prayer-meeting at sunrise, and one at ten o'clock; in the afternoon Mr. Cobb preached very well. We had an evening meeting; all in our good new lecture-room. The first service in the house was prayer, "Our Father," etc. At one o'clock attended the funeral of good Mrs. Bartlett. Mr. Vaill urged me too hard.

5. Rode to the Neck and visited the sick. Two women hard sick. Am pretty feeble. Visited. Capt. Mayhew and his wife are strongly opposed to our new house. A painful fact. Received a letter from Rev. George C. Shepard,<sup>1</sup> at Boston. Paid a woman for work, \$3.00. Wrote. Yesterday quite cold.

6. Preached with notes on Eph. ii: 4, 5, and a sermon on 1 John i: 7. Spoke with much difficulty on account of my cold and hoarseness. We took our leave of the house of worship where this people have assembled for twenty-six years. I said but little on the subject on account of the feelings of the Le Baron family. We had the monthly concert in the evening; quite full in the lecture-room. Previous to the evening meeting Mr. Harlow and Mrs. Freeman came in, and were married.<sup>2</sup>

7. Am quite feeble. Had calls from school-teachers. Walked a distance, and visited families. In the evening the Baptists had a meeting, with noise and commotion. Was out late. We have much anxiety about the sale of our pews.

8. Read. Wet, and a rainy day. Near noon met Mr. and Mrs. Maltby, from Taunton, at Capt. Le Baron's. The storm pretty hard. Mr. Maltby came here with me. At evening made calls. Read late.

9. Dedication of our new meeting-house to God and his rich grace. Mr. Maltby preached very well. I made the dedicatory prayer. Dr. Cobb, Mr. Bigelow, and Mr. Briggs performed parts. The house was very full. Afternoon the pews were sold. The sale much exceeded our expectations. The cost of the house with the lot (\$450.00) is about \$6,200.00, carpetings and lamps included. The lecture-room, with the raising the earth, etc., gratuitous, about \$620.00. Pews, seventy-four; six free, fifty-six sold, including the choice money, will nearly pay the bills. Twelve remain, and all wanted. All of the rich mercy and grace of God. Our highest expectations are exceeded. The house is much admired. The most of our Association were present. At evening Mr. Barrows preached very well. I bless God for this day. My influenza continues.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. George C. Shepard was the Episcopal clergyman, with whom Dr. Robbins was on familiar terms during his settlement at Stratford, Ct. Mr. Shepard was a native of Little Compton, R. I., a graduate of Amherst College, was Episcopal minister at Hebron, Ct., 1827-1829, and at Stratford,

1829-1839, at Jamaica Plain, Mass., 1843-1845, afterwards at Grace Church, Amherst, Mass., where he died in 1863. A friendly relation existed between him and Dr. Robbins.

<sup>2</sup> Abner Harlow, before noticed (whose first wife was a Wood from Middleborough), and Mrs. Sylvia A. Freeman.

10. Wrote a good deal of diary. Visited. Received a letter from Miss Fanny Leonard, Bridgewater. Young Mr. Hitchcock,<sup>1</sup> from Bedford, called on me. At evening had a meeting in the lecture-room. Read.

11. A number of people seem to be disappointed that they have got no seats in the meeting-house. Much occupied with company. Began and wrote a part of a sermon on Ps. xxvii: 4.

12. Walked out and visited. Wrote and finished my sermon. Wrote slow. Wet. Our bell was removed to the new house.

13. Preached with notes on Matt. x: 7, and my sermon on Ps. xxxvii: 4. The sermon on the occasion of our entering our new house. May God make it his holy abode. The house quite full. My cough and hoarseness are still bad. At evening delivered an introductory lecture without notes on Prov. i: 4, preparatory to a course for young people in the meeting-house. Visited. Last night we had a hard rain.

14. Walked to the Neck. Visited at distant places. Much talk about the meeting-house. Wet. Most people gone to town meeting. This town did well; fifty-nine majority. At evening Dr. Tenney,<sup>2</sup> formerly of Wethersfield, came here. Last night we had a heavy rain. The State of New York have done very poorly. Late at evening reckoned with Mr. Crosby. His charges are board, \$130.00; house rent, \$37.00; horse and carriage, \$33.23 = \$200.23. I had paid him \$168.40; paid now \$31.83, and balanced accounts.

15. Spent a considerable part of the day with Dr. Tenney. He much likes our meeting-house. Read. Wrote to Mr. Parker, of Bedford. At evening attended our church meeting.

16. On the 14th put on my flannel. Visited. Helping people to get pews in the meeting-house. My cough continues. Attended our stated evening prayer-meeting. Wrote to Fanny Leonard, and Marshall Simmons, of Sippican.

17. Walked to the Neck and visited. Had to make a good deal of stay in two families. Read *History of the Jews*.<sup>3</sup>

18. Last night we had a hard rain. Read. Wrote a long letter to sister Battell. This State has done poorly at the late election.

19. Quite cold. The ground frozen. Wrote a lecture sermon for our young people on Prov. i: 7; four and one half pages in the evening. Had hindrances.

20. Preached a double sermon on Lev. xxvi: 41. My cousin Dr. Lemuel Le Baron<sup>4</sup> is here from the West. Quite cold. The meeting-house was well filled. At evening delivered my lecture written yesterday. Well attended. Visited.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Robert S. Hitchcock, son of Rev. Calvin, at Randolph, having just completed his studies at Andover, was supplying the pulpit of the North Church, New Bedford.

<sup>2</sup> Caleb J. Tenney, D. D., pastor in Wethersfield, Ct., 1816-1841. He was a graduate of Dartmouth College, 1801.

<sup>3</sup> This was the book which he had purchased for seventy-five cents of Rev. Mr. Berk, the Jewish agent.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Lemuel Le Baron was the oldest son of Rev. Lemuel and Elizabeth (Allen) Le Baron, and was born in 1775, then sixty-seven years old. He was graduated at Brown University, 1799, and died in 1852.



21. Called on Dr. Le Baron. Dined at Capt. Mayhew's. Visited. Walked a distance and visited. Dea. Hammond is quite unwell. We had a brilliant aurora borealis.

22. Rode to Bedford. Colt,<sup>1</sup> the murderer at New York, committed suicide last Friday, just before he was to be led out of prison to be hanged. Did errands. At evening visited. A woman died here today of consumption.

23. Wrote a sermon on Ps. xxiii: 1. Wrote five and one half pages by candle-light. Began late. Was quite fatigued. Paid .90 for a turkey. Did errands.

24. Thanksgiving. The morning and forenoon a hard rain. A number of men at meeting. Preached the most of a sermon written yesterday. Our people are furnishing and dressing the pews very handsomely. Dined out, and with Dr. Le Baron. Visited. Read. My influenza still continues.

25. A frosty morning, and very pleasant. A whale brig came in here; done poorly. Dined out. Wrote. Dr. Le Baron called on me. Wrote. At evening was in a little while at the lyceum.

26. Rode in a cold morning to the poor-house, and met with the school committee. Miss Leonard went with me. We examined and approved six teachers, and gave certificates to eleven former teachers. Had to go into the evening.

27. Last night and this morning we had a pretty hard rain. Preached with notes on Ps. cxix: 97, and a sermon on Acts xxiv: 25. Afternoon the house well filled. The meeting-house is not sufficiently warmed. At evening delivered again, by request, my Thanksgiving sermon on Ps. xxiii: 1. Very high wind. Read late. We had our usual Thanksgiving contribution for the benefit of poor widows, and got but \$5.62.

28. Received a letter from Marshall Simmons, of Sippican. Very cold and blustering. Thermometer about 24°. Did errands. Went into two schools. At evening read. Winter seems to have commenced.

29. The mercury about 21°; constantly below freezing. Read in *Ecclesiastical History*. Wrote to Mr. Nicholas Tillinghast, Bridgewater. Have had my bed made over, and much improved. At evening attended our church meeting. On the 26th paid for washing, .75. Read late.

30. Thermometer last night at 21°; this morning higher. Brought up wood. There is still much anxiety about our State election.<sup>2</sup> New Bedford

<sup>1</sup> John C. Colt was a native of Connecticut, of good family, but unrestrained in his youth. He was tried and condemned to death for the murder of a Mr. Adams. His execution was fixed for Friday, Nov. 18, 1842. On the morning of that day he was united in marriage with his mistress, Caroline M. Henshaw, to legitimate their child. In the afternoon he was to be executed at four o'clock. Before this hour, he desired to be left alone, and when the officers went to his cell to prepare him for execution, they found him

dead from the stab of a dagger which he had contrived to conceal. The whole story of Colt was very sensational, and the public mind was full of it.

<sup>2</sup> It was then three weeks nearly since the State election had taken place, and it was curious that there should yet be doubt as to the result. This was that eventful election when Hon. Marcus Morton was chosen Governor of Massachusetts, by *one* majority, over Honest John Davis. It was an election freak.

has done well. There was a great Second Advent meeting here last night with the Baptists. Very extravagant and noisy. At evening we had hard snow and rain. Wrote on the records of the school committee. Read. This snow is the first this season. We had no evening meeting. Wrote a letter to William T. Weaver, at Pensacola, at the request of his wife. We had an excellent visit from my cousin Dr. Le Baron. He dined with us. We have had an uncommonly pleasant fall.

## DECEMBER.

1. Stormy, but not very cold. Wrote a good deal, and completed my records of the school committee. They had got much in arrear. Dined out. Visited. At evening my good friend and neighbor, Capt. Freeman,<sup>1</sup> came in here with Miss Dolly P. Handy, and were married. Received a letter from my young cousin S. P. Robbins.<sup>2</sup>

2. Pleasant, but winter weather. Visited our two village schools. Both over sixty scholars, and all over ten years of age. Received a good letter from brother James, and one from Fowle & Capen, of Boston. Paid for repairing my bed, \$5.40.

3. Wrote a sermon on Acts xi: 18. Wrote five and one half pages in the evening. Have many interruptions. Was much favored in the evening. Had a very valuable new great coat brought for me, probably my last one, from a merchant tailor in Bedford. Afternoon had our sacramental lecture, and preached with notes on Mark iv: 20. Well attended. Wrote late.

4. Preached with notes on Ps. cxxx: 7, and a sermon on 1 Cor. xi: 1. A pleasant day, and meetings and the church quite full. I hope our congregation is permanently increased. All of God. Preached at evening, the monthly concert, the sermon written yesterday. We had the sacrament at noon. Read.

5. Mr. Thomas Williams came here from Wareham,<sup>3</sup> and spent the day. Wrote. Visited a sick woman.

6. Visited two schools; west and east. A good new school-house at Pine Islands. Visited. Mr. Williams went away at noon. Pleasant.

7. Brought up wood. Read the Bible. Wrote to my cousin Dr. Le Baron, from whom I have recently received a letter, and to Fowle & Capen, of Boston, and Marshall Simmons, Sippican. Dined out. Had a good evening meeting.

8. Read. Rode to the church district, and visited a school; taught in

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<sup>1</sup> This was Capt. Seth Freeman, with whom Dr. Robbins lived on first coming to Mattapoisett, and whose wife, it will be remembered, died some time before.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Samuel Prince Robbins, son of Rev. Samuel Prince Robbins, of Marietta, Ohio, was graduated, as may be remembered, at Andover in 1835, and went as a missionary to Siam. In 1840 he was obliged to return

to this country, because of ill health. In 1842 he was in Home Missionary service in Maine, but his ill health continued, and he died in 1846, in Marietta, Ohio.

<sup>3</sup> When here before, Mr. Williams was on his way to the Cape. Now he was returning. He had probably been supplying the pulpit for a time at some place on the Cape, for he preached in many pulpits.

the best manner by a Normal School teacher, Miss Leonard. A hard storm of snow and rain. Tarried out.

9. Was brought home. The frozen ground is very wet. Wrote. Hindered by company. At evening visited and read. Yesterday a barrel full of charcoal was given me. The British arms make progress in China.<sup>1</sup>

10. Read. Cold, and quite steady winter weather. Rode to Bedford to exchange with Mr. Hitchcock. Read the President's Message.<sup>2</sup> Not bad. Wrote.

11. Mr. Hitchcock went to Mattapoisett. Preached on 1 Cor. xiv: 1, and Col. iii: 11. Cold and some snow. This congregation, I fear, is diminished. Went into the Sabbath-school. The church have got hold of the miserable business of slavery.<sup>3</sup> I fear Satan is permitted to afflict them. At evening preached a sermon on Acts xi: 18. Tarried at Mr. Parker's. I think I have never been in a finer house. My hoarseness continues, but is abated.

12. Mrs. Alden does well; she has the blessing of the widow's God. Did errands. Rode home in the stage. Read. Am pretty languid. At evening visited. Out late.

13. Walked to the Neck. Visited the school. A pretty hard snow-storm; at evening mixed with the rain. Went to Mr. Gillett's, Senior, and tarried. Had a tedious time. They have a very sick child here.

14. Mr. Hitchcock was well liked here last Sabbath.<sup>4</sup> Mr. Averill preached another farewell sermon. His people here are much divided about the Second Advent. Received an apologetic letter from Folsom & Capen, Boston. Read the Bible. Dined out. Cold, but no sleighing. Attended the evening meeting. Visited. Read late.

15. Received a letter from Esq. Bates, of Wareham. Pleasant. Wrote. Read the Bible. Visited.

16. Rode early to the Neck, and had two very fine ash-trees taken up, and brought here and set in front of the meeting-house. They are much alike, forty-two feet high, and eight inches diameter. Had good help. Received a letter from Thomas Williams. Cold.

17. Occupied with company. Wrote a lecture sermon on Heb. xii: 1; five pages by candle-light. Dined out. A severe cold day. A little snow, but no sleighing.

18. Preached a double sermon on Acts xv: 19. Quite cold, and hard wind. Full meeting. At evening delivered my lecture on Heb. xii: 1. Visited a sick woman. Thermometer late at night 20°.

19. Wrote. Brought up thirty armfuls of wood; twenty-five before noon.

<sup>1</sup> In a war full of unrighteousness. The miserable consequences of forcing opium upon the markets of China were never more apparent than now, more than forty years later.

<sup>2</sup> This was the second regular annual Message of President Tyler, at the opening of Congress.

<sup>3</sup> The church had had hold of the wrong end of the slavery business for a long time. Now it began to take hold at the right end.

<sup>4</sup> He was soon settled at New Bedford, where he remained till 1846, then settled at East Boston, 1846-1850, and since has been South and West.

Walked a distance and visited. Bad walking; icy, with light snow. Read late.

20. Walked out. Rode in the stage to Rochester, and visited a school; well taught by a female teacher. Spent the evening and night at Mr. Bigelow's. Have some rheumatic pain at my breast.

21. Walked and rode home. Wet and rainy. Afternoon and evening had a hard rain. Procured two hundred weight of hard coal. Made a fire in my large room, to warm the room and dry the books. Instructed the youths of this family. Read.

22. We have had a great rain. The snow and ice are gone. Read Thomas's *History of Printing*;<sup>1</sup> very valuable. Wrote to Rev. Dr. Burgess,<sup>2</sup> of Dedham.

23. Last night we had a good deal of snow. Last evening had my school again. Wrote one half of a sermon on James iv: 14. Visited. The snow four or five inches. The British forces have had great success in China. A great event in divine Providence.<sup>3</sup> Read.

24. The mercury this morning at 7°. Not lower than 20° before this season. Severe cold through the day. Wrote a lecture sermon on 1 Cor. xv: 16, 17. Five pages in the evening. Have some rheumatic pains. My coal fire very useful in the library.

25. Thermometer last night at 16°; this morning near freezing. A very chilly, south wind. The meeting-house not well warmed. Preached a double sermon on 2 Sam. vii: 27, and in the evening the sermon written yesterday. My cough not wholly gone. Our meetings much fuller than they were in the former house. Read.

26. Much debilitated by late labor, and want of exercise. Visited. Trying to improve the meeting-house fires. Wrote to Mr. H. Mann, of Boston. Read about China. At evening was at a temperance meeting.

27. Carried up twenty armfuls of wood. Dined at cousin Lazarus Le Baron's.<sup>4</sup> Visited. At evening we had a good church meeting. Dr. Le Baron was with us. Read. The events in China are great. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston.

28. Very cold. Thermometer at 16°. Read. Dined out. Have considerable rheumatic pain in my hip. Had a good evening meeting; well attended. Paid \$10.00 on my subscription for our new lecture-room. Visited a sick woman.

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<sup>1</sup> Isaiah Thomas, LL. D., was born in Boston, 1749, and died in Worcester, Mass., 1831. In 1771 he started the *Massachusetts Spy*, still existing, and in 1812, he was the founder of the American Antiquarian Society. In 1810 appeared his *History of Printing*, in two volumes, which is still a standard work in this department.

<sup>2</sup> Ebenezer Burgess, D. D., was a native of Wareham, Mass., born in 1790, was grad-

uated at Brown University, 1809, and was pastor at Dedham, Mass., from 1821 to his death, 1870.

<sup>3</sup> If might makes right England is to be praised for her work in China, 1838-1842, otherwise she is to be condemned. But God makes the wrath of man praise him.

<sup>4</sup> Lazarus Le Baron, son of Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, was born in 1789, one of the younger children.

29. Read. Dined out. The ground is hard frozen. Wrote. At evening attended a sort of abolition meeting.

30. Last night a hard storm of snow and rain. The high winds and high tide damaged our wharves. The ground very wet, and the snow mostly gone. Wrote to Mr. Roberts, Fairhaven. Reckoned with Mr. Wilkey. Gave up a note of \$160.00 and interest. He had made some payments. Took of him a good pew in the meeting-house at \$114.00.<sup>1</sup> Paid him charges. I now owe him, \$12.36. Had a very good flannel gown made. Paid for work, \$1.25. Visited the sick.

31. Milder weather. Wrote a sermon on 1 Cor. vii: 31. A few of the last times after the beginning of the year. Walked out. Occupied with company. The closing year has been to me one of much prosperity and great mercies from God.

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<sup>1</sup> This was a business transaction which Dr. Robbins entered into, as the only means of getting a part of what was due him, on this note of one hundred and sixty dollars.

## 1848.

JANUARY.

1. Last night I was up after midnight, and endeavored to consecrate my all to God, with a deep sense of unworthiness and dependence. Am pretty feeble. Preached with notes on Jonah ii: 8, and the sermon written yesterday on 1 Cor. vii: 31, for the New Year. The services appeared to be solemn. Not as many deaths as the preceding year, yet a large number. Average for ten years past, twenty-seven. At evening we had the monthly concert. Visited Mrs. Snow, very sick.

2. In this my forty-seventh almanack may God enable me to record his great mercies. A large number of children came and wished me a happy New Year. To our great surprise and affliction my good friend, Mr. Barstow, has failed, to appearance, very badly. At noon took the stage, rode to Bedford, and took the cars and rode to Boston. It snowed moderately the most of the day. Am well accommodated at the Bromfield House. Many Representatives on the way.

3. Considerable sleighing in the city. Met with the Board of Education; not full. We have two very valuable new members—Mr. Phillips<sup>1</sup> and Prof. Sears.<sup>2</sup> I had to take the chair, Did errands. Saw Mr. Fenwick,<sup>3</sup> the Catholic bishop. Spent the evening with Mr. Prescott<sup>4</sup> very pleasantly. Paid Little & Brown, \$20. The streets very slippery.

4. This is the election day, but the House of Representatives are so nearly balanced, and all present, that, sitting till evening, they could not organize. Our Board had no session. Did errands. Purchased a very splendid Bible, an exact transcript of the first edition of James's translation, 1611; lately printed at Oxford. Cost, \$24.<sup>5</sup> Went into the new Exchange;<sup>6</sup> very splendid and magnificent. At evening rode to Roxbury and spent the night with Dr. Robbins.<sup>7</sup> Paid for tracts, \$3.

5. Rode early to the city and met with our Board. We had two sessions

<sup>1</sup> Stephen C. Phillips, of Salem, born in Salem, 1801, and graduated at Harvard College, 1819. He was a prosperous merchant, and to a very large degree a public man. He was free-soil candidate for Governor in 1848 and 1849. He served several years on the State Board of Education.

<sup>2</sup> Barnas Sears, D. D., LL. D., mentioned in a previous note. In 1842 he was professor in Newton Theological Seminary.

<sup>3</sup> Bishop Benedict J. Fenwick, born in Maryland, 1782, died in Boston, 1846. He was Bishop of Boston, 1825-1846, and was a man of marked ability in his office.

<sup>4</sup> William H. Prescott, LL. D., the historian, born in Salem, 1796, and graduated at Harvard, 1814. His *Conquest of Mexico*, in three volumes, was then nearly finished, and was published that year (1843).

<sup>5</sup> As a collector of books, Dr. Robbins had reached that stage when money was of small account in the presence of a book having anything rare or curious in itself, or in its history. He was never a lover of money in itself. He spent freely for things needful and convenient, and gave generously.

<sup>6</sup> In State Street.

<sup>7</sup> Dr. Peter Gilman Robbins.

and closed about sundown. We have had a pleasant meeting. The House of Representatives had another session of seven and one half hours, and did very little. There is much excitement. Was in the House near an hour before the adjournment. About three hundred and fifty members. Called on Chandler Robbins,<sup>1</sup> who was out. Took tea with Dr. Parkman.<sup>2</sup> It thaws considerably.

6. Left Boston early. Tavern bill, \$4.37. I had fires in my chamber. Rode home about noon. Mr. Barstow's failure produces much distress here. He owes many people here; a number \$1,000 or more. His circumstances were unknown and unsuspected. He still retains public confidence. Received a letter from Mr. Roberts, Fairhaven; from Dr. Ellis, Sippican; and from Pres. Hopkins, Williams College. Wet and foggy. Visited Mrs. Snow; apparently recovering. Quite fatigued. My expenses to be charged to the Board are \$10.28. Articles purchased, \$5.08.

7. Read. The ground thaws and is very wet and muddy. Looked over the accounts of my journey. At evening rode to Fairhaven to exchange. Staid at Mr. Gibbs's. Called during the day at Mr. Gideon Barstow's. They are greatly afflicted.

8. Mr. Roberts rode to Mattapoisett, and returned after meeting. Preached on 1 Cor. xv: 16, 17. This congregation appears to be about the same as in years past. Afternoon meeting late. Preached on Ps. cxlii: 4. Rode home after sundown. The traveling very slow and heavy. Attended our evening meeting and spoke on Mark xiv: 36.

9. Warm and steady rain through the day. The ground must be fully thawed. Made this forty-seventh diary. I hope, through great mercy, to be able to finish it, and record the blessings of divine grace. Worked at my books. Warmed my large room. Wrote.

10. Still wet and misty. Wrote diary. Wrote an inscription for Mr. Clapp, of Sippican. Walked and visited. At evening attended the church meeting. Read late in Thévenot's *Travels*.<sup>3</sup>

11. Wrote to Dr. Ellis, of Sippican. Worked at my books. Read. Visited. Attended the evening meeting.

12. The rain continues the most of the time through the day. Worked at my books; I fear several are irrecoverably lost. Wrote on a piece for publication. Occupied with company.

13. Last night it rained hard, and continues wet. Wrote. Visited. The ground is very wet. Dined out. It now appears that our State Senate is

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<sup>1</sup> Chandler Robbins, D. D., of the Second Church, Boston.

<sup>2</sup> Francis Parkman, D. D., born in Boston, 1788, and graduated at Harvard, 1807. He was pastor of the New North Church (Unitarian), Boston, 1813-1849. He died in Boston in 1852.

<sup>3</sup> Melchisedec Thévenot was born in Paris

in 1621, and became, for that age, a noted traveler. He also corresponded extensively with learned men in all parts of the world. His work was entitled, *Voyages and Travels*. He died in 1692. He had a nephew, John De Thévenot, of much the same tastes and habits as himself, and who wrote on similar topics.

Loco-foco, and I suppose the Governor<sup>1</sup> and Council will be the same. Holy is the Lord.

14. We have at length clear weather. Wrote a lecture sermon on Heb. i: 2. One half in the evening. Did not go into the street.

15. Preached a divided sermon on Rom. ix: 14, 15, on divine sovereignty. Pleasant day and full meeting. At evening delivered my lecture, the biography of Deborah and Ruth, written yesterday. Read.

16. Walked and visited on the Neck and in other families through the day. The Miller fanaticism prevails much in this vicinity, mostly confined to the Baptists. It is thought that time will end and the personal reign of Christ commence this year. Paid Mr. Gideon Hammond for the two ash-trees set in front of the meeting-house, \$7.

17. Brought up wood. Read. Occupied with company. At evening had a meeting at a private house. Visited the sick. There is a considerable number. Very pleasant winter weather.

18. Brought up wood. Visited sick children. Purchased a valuable new map of the United States for \$2.50. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting. Well attended.

19. Rode to Bedford. Did errands for Mrs. Crosby and myself. The ground is thawed and partly dry. Read. Brought up wood. Wrote. Am rather languid.

20. Uncommonly warm and pleasant. Thermometer near 60°. Our State government, except the House of Representatives, is Loco-foco in the lowest state.<sup>2</sup> Wrote a piece for the New York *Tribune* on Sabbath-schools in former times in this country. Received a letter from Bartlett & Welford, of New York, and one from Dr. Ellis, of Sippican. Much occupied with company.

21. Read. Much occupied with company. Some friends from Bedford. Mrs. Roberts, of Fairhaven, is dead. Died suddenly. Wrote a lecture sermon on Acts xxiv: 16. More than five pages by candle-light. One of our young blacksmiths concludes to be a Baptist preacher. This week has been as unusually pleasant as the last was dark and rainy.

22. Am constantly in labor. Preached with notes on 1 Kings xiv: 6, and a sermon on Ps. lxxxiv: 11. At noon attended a class of young men in the Sabbath-school. At evening preached the sermon written yesterday. Full meetings. Visited.

23. Read. Dined out. Received a letter from M. P. Parish, at Boston, temperance agent. Wrote. Went into a temperance meeting.

24. Sent to New York my piece for publication. Had a tooth extracted.

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<sup>1</sup> The Governor will be Loco-foco by one majority. This word "loco-foco" came into use about this time in New York as a designation for the Democratic party; said to be derived from a self-lighting cigar, with a match arrangement at the end, invented in

New York in 1834. New York has originated several curious party names.

<sup>2</sup> Massachusetts survived to elect Hon. George N. Briggs Governor in the following year, who was continued by re-election till 1851.



Read the Bible. At evening had a good church meeting. Received of Capt. Freeman, \$25, in good time.

25. Rode to Sippican and met with the trustees of the Clapp fund. Cold. Pretty good riding. Received \$2.37 for expenses, etc. At evening had a good meeting; Mr. Gould was with us and assisted. Visited.

26. Thermometer about 20°. Brought up wood. Had company from Bedford. Dined out. Visited the sick. Read. People labor very comfortably in the ship-yards.

27. Visited the sick. Rode to Tripp's Mills and visited the school. Good traveling. Mr. Parish, temperance agent, came here and delivered in the evening a very good public address. We had a contribution and got but little.

28. Read. Occupied with company. Began late and wrote a lecture sermon on Acts vii: 9. Six pages by candle-light. Was much prospered. Mr. Parish left here a little before noon. A rainy day.

29. The ground is covered with a light snow. Preached a double sermon on Prov. xxiii: 26. Went into the Sabbath-school; it is well managed. Had a good evening meeting and preached the sermon written yesterday—the biography of Joseph. Visited. Great is the mercy of God that I can perform so much labor.

30. Walked and visited. Had company. Afternoon and evening was in at a town temperance convention. I hope it will do good. The ground is wet. Read Gov. Morton's address. Visited the sick.

31. Walked out. The ground very wet and muddy. Read. Looked over John Smith's *History of Virginia*.<sup>1</sup> He was one of the first fathers of our country. Wrote. At night we had a very hard storm of rain. The month has not been so cold.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Rainy through the day. Wrote on statistics and my new map of the United States. At evening attended the meeting. Pretty thin. The ground is very wet. Read the Bible.

2. Wrote. The first three of the United States in populousness are Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.<sup>2</sup> It grew cold and windy through the day. Brought up twenty-five armfuls of wood. Visited. Thermometer late at night 11°.

3. Thermometer this morning at 7°. Read. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Baker,<sup>3</sup> of Medford. Visited.

4. The ground is covered with snow. Occupied with company. Wrote one half of a sermon and finished it, begun some time since, on James iv: 14.

5. We had a hard snow-storm. Afternoon very severe. The mercury

<sup>1</sup> *The Generall Historie of Virginea, New England, and the Summer Isles*, by Capt. John Smith, was published in 1624; a work of great interest and value.

<sup>2</sup> In density of population—so many to a square mile.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Abijah R. Baker, who began his ministry in Medford, April 23, 1838.

above freezing. Preached with notes on Rom. vii: 22, and a sermon written in 1812 on 1 Cor. ii: 16. Afternoon meeting thin, and had no monthly concert. At evening read and had company.

6. The snow is eight or ten inches deep. High wind. Walked and visited. Sent a volume to Mr. Wm. H. Prescott, of Boston, and a volume and three pamphlets to Mr. A. R. Baker, of Medford. Both loaned. It became very cold. Read late.

7. Thermometer this morning at 14°. Very cold through the day. Read the Bible. Had company. At evening attended the church meeting. Performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup> Visited. Pretty good sleighing. Was out late.

8. Thermometer about 15°, and did not rise much through the day. Much ice in the harbor, but the wind prevents it closing. Read. Went into a school and exhibited my new map. Paid a tailoress, \$1.83. At evening had a good meeting.

9. Thermometer about 12°. Clear and pleasant sun, but very cold. Walked a distance and visited. At evening had a meeting at Mr. I. Bolles's, and preached on John x: 27, 28. The evening very cold. Very good sleighing. My stove-pipe took fire and burned alarmingly.<sup>2</sup> Read late. Thermometer when I went to bed seven and one half degrees. In the forenoon worked at my wood.

10. Thermometer this morning at 5°. Read on prophecy. Our harbor is very well frozen over; not before this winter, and not at all last winter. At evening heard a miserable abolition lecture.<sup>3</sup>

11. The weather much moderated. We had a heavy rain. Wrote a lecture sermon on Rom. xi: 26, 27.

12. Cold and wind. Thermometer 23°. Preached with notes on Ps. lxxviii: 20, and a sermon written a week ago on James iv: 14. Heard a Sabbath-school class. Wrote. Had a full evening meeting and delivered my lecture written yesterday on the prospects of the Jewish people. Read.

13. Thermometer about 25°. Worked at my wood. Read. Received a letter from Mr. C. W. Everest,<sup>4</sup> Episcopal minister at Hartford. At evening had a good meeting at Dea. Hammond's and preached on John v: 25. Slippery and bad walking. Was up quite late. Read.

14. It snowed through the day. Mr. Goodrich, of Simsbury, Ct., came here, and I had to write a deposition and make oath to it, to be carried to the Superior Court at Hartford. At evening we had a meeting at Capt. Dexter's, with a set of noisy persons from Bedford.

15. Thermometer about freezing. It rained and snowed the most of the day. Read. Dined out. This is the first day set by the Millerites for

<sup>1</sup> The persons married were Joshua Bolles and Rachel M. Kinney.

<sup>2</sup> The soot which had gathered in the pipe.

<sup>3</sup> Those lectures were to grow more and more frequent.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Charles W. Everest was a graduate of Trinity College, Hartford, 1838, and a poet of considerable merit. He published several books of poems before 1842, and was afterward at the head of the Episcopal (Rectory) School at Hamden, Ct.

the second advent.<sup>1</sup> Expected by some with a good deal of confidence. Attended the evening meeting. One young woman has hopefully got religion.

16. Thermometer about 15°. The ground is fully covered with snow and ice. Walked to the Neck. Good sleighing, but very hard walking. Severe cold. Walked and visited a school. It did well. Was brought home. Attended a full evening meeting at Isaac Bolles's. The Baptists are troublesome.

17. The mercury last evening at 9°; this morning at 7°. A very cold night. Read. Occupied with company. At evening we had a good meeting of the brethren of the church at my room. Very cold. Much snow and ice.

18. Thermometer about 10°. Read. Hindered by company. Wrote a sermon on Luke xxiii: 34. Over half in the evening.

19. The cold abates. We have an addition to the snow. Preached with notes on Phil. ii: 6, and the sermon written yesterday. Attended the Sabbath-school. It snowed some, but thawed considerably. Had an active, good evening meeting in the lecture-room. Visited.

20. It thawed much through the day. The streets very wet. I fear I have lost books. Wrote. Visited the sick. We have some bad cases. Received a letter from Mr. Benjamin P. Pratt, of Middleborough.

21. Thermometer about 10°. Wrote. Attended the funeral of a child. At evening we had a good church meeting. Visited. Wrote a short piece for publication on slavery.

22. It snowed the most of the day; to wit, afternoon and evening. Our military guards were out and appeared well.<sup>2</sup> Dined with them. Wrote to Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven. Our evening meeting thin. Read.

23. Our snow is near a foot deep. Thermometer about 20°. Read the Bible. Wrote. Had a new small book-case brought and set up. Had company. Much fatigued.

24. Rode in a sleigh and visited the church district school. Fine sleighing. Visited a school of sixty scholars. Called on another school. Visited. Read. Thermometer 13°.

25. Much occupied with company. Cannot write, as I designed to do. Mr. Bullard, Sabbath-school agent, was here. Very clear sunshine. Thermometer about 18°. Wrote to Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridgewater. Wrote. Was up late.

26. Preached with notes on Matt. xxii: 42, and a sermon on Ps. 1: 5. Opened the Sabbath-school and instructed a class. The ground thaws a little, but the winter continues. Had a good evening meeting. Read. Much fatigued.

27. We have some addition to our snow. Worked, arranging newspapers. Some are missing. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridge-

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<sup>1</sup> The scenes witnessed that day all over New England were among the strangest and oddest in her history. Almost every town has some curious facts to relate.

<sup>2</sup> This was Washington's Birthday. The day, though observed in many places at that time, was not, probably, so generally recognized as now.

water. At evening heard a good temperance lecture. Am up too late at night.

28. Rode and walked to the Neck. Visited. Young Mrs. Allen is very sick. In the morning visited my neighbor, Mrs. M. Snow, apparently near death. Paid for hard coal, \$1. At evening we had a meeting. Mr. Cannon and two others from Bedford were with us. They appear to be Millerites<sup>1</sup>. I fear their coming does no good. Received a letter from Mr. Seth Haskell.

#### MARCH.

1. Rode early to Fairhaven with Dea. Hammond and met with an ecclesiastical council, and installed Mr. Gould and ordained Mr. Poor as associate pastors of the new church<sup>2</sup> and congregation. I was in the chair and made the first prayer. Mr. Poor performed very well on the examination. The prospects of this people are good. Pleasant, and it thaws some. Spent the night at Mr. Gibbs's. Young Mr. Washburn<sup>3</sup> preached in the evening. The sermon, by Mr. Rogers,<sup>4</sup> of Boston, was very good.

2. Very cold and high wind. Thermometer at 18°. Rode home in the stage. Am very unwell. I conclude I have taken cold. I found yesterday morning that my neighbor, Mrs. Snow, was dead. At evening rode to the Neck. Young Mrs. Allen is very low. A most distressing case.

3. Thermometer about 16°. Am a little better than yesterday, but very feeble. Can do but little. Afternoon attended the funeral of Mrs. Snow, with Elder Howe, of New Bedford. He preached pretty well. Visited. Had company.

4. Am more unwell. The cold and wind just about the same as yesterday. Am not able to write. In the forenoon visited the large school in this district. Very tedious to be out. Had company. Read. Visited Mrs. Gifford; sick and much distressed. Her sister, Mrs. Allen, died yesterday.

5. Thermometer about 18°. The wind very rough and cold. Am very feeble. Spoke with difficulty. Preached a double sermon on Acts x: 34, 35. Got through better than I feared. Attended the evening meeting—monthly

<sup>1</sup> The adjournment of the day, time and again, seemed to make little difference with the firm believers.

<sup>2</sup> The new church over which these two pastors were settled was organized with ninety members on the 31st day of March, 1841 (see entry in the diary under that date). It seems not to have had any settled ministers until March, 1843, and it disappears from the records in 1849. The senior pastor, Rev. William Gould, was pastor of the old church in Fairhaven from 1822 till the late troubles arose, when he was dismissed. Rev. Daniel Warren Poor, D. D., son of Daniel Poor, D. D., the honored missionary to Ceylon, had finished his studies at Andover the sum-

mer before, and this was the beginning of his public ministry. He has now for many years been an able Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Education at Philadelphia. In our Congregational records this new church dates from 1842, but its organization was as given above.

<sup>3</sup> Edward Abiel Washburn, of Boston, who had been a fellow student with Mr. Poor at Andover, and was in after years a distinguished Episcopal clergyman. He died in New York city, as rector of Calvary Church, in 1881.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William M. Rogers, of the Central Church, Boston, whose ministerial life was short but notable.

concert. Last night had a very long, salutary sleep. Mr. Thomas Williams came here on Friday and stayed till yesterday afternoon.<sup>1</sup> I have eaten but little for several days.

6. Brought up wood. The cold and wind much the same. Rode to the Neck to the funeral of Mrs. Allen, daughter of Gideon Hammond. The funeral was attended at the meeting-house. Many people. I spoke on Job xvi: 22. Mr. Williams was here again. He is very useful in Rhode Island. At evening attended a town temperance convention. They seem determined to suppress the sale of intoxicating drinks. Read very late. Mrs. Allen left an infant child, her first, and her husband is at sea.

7. Thermometer about 15°. People complain of the cold more than they have done. The wind is very rough and tedious. Had a fire in my north room. Mr. Gould and Mr. Poor were here from Fairhaven. Yesterday Mr. Hitchcock and Mr. Buell, late from sea, were here from Bedford. Visited a sick woman. At evening attended our church meeting. Wrote diary. I had got much in arrear. Brought up wood.

8. There is a gradual abatement of the cold this seventh day of clear sunshine, severe cold, and high rough wind. There has been scarcely any thawing at all. The ground partially covered with snow and ice. Much the severest turn of winter. The harbors are firmly frozen. Visited. Read. My health, by divine favor, is in a good degree restored. Received a letter from Mr. Thaxter, Fairhaven. Attended the evening meeting. Wrote this page of diary.

9. Read. Rode to Bedford. The ground thaws moderately. Called on Mr. Holmes; a prospect of his being dismissed.<sup>2</sup> He and his family are much depressed. At evening attended a splendid exhibition at Fairhaven. I have lost two bills, a one and three dollar. I conclude stolen. Got home late. Thermometer about freezing.

10. Yesterday paid to A. H. Seabury, Treasurer of Old Colony Auxiliary Home Missionary Society, our collection of \$22.50. Wrote on an elaborate letter to C. W. Everest. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, of Hartford. Visited the sick and others. Received a church letter from Mr. Holmes and a committee of his church.<sup>3</sup> Read late.

11. The weather moderates. Visited the sick. Wrote on a sermon begun some time since on Isa. xxviii: 16, and finished it. Read.

12. Preached with notes on Judges vi: 13, and the sermon finished yesterday. Opened the Sabbath-school. Cold and windy. Had a good evening meeting. Visited. Out late.

13. Set out to ride to Bridgewater. Cold and hard riding. Got to

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<sup>1</sup> He was probably on another of his circuits.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Sylvester Holmes, born in Plymouth, 1788, was settled in New Bedford in 1811. For some years before the date of the present entry he had been absent on

various enterprises, and his pulpit had been supplied by others, but up to that time there had been no formal dismission.

<sup>3</sup> This was to call a council to consider and advise on the question of Mr. Holmes's dismission.

Mr. Wood's, lower part of Middleborough, and we had a hard and tedious rain-storm. Spent the afternoon and night at Mr. Wood's. Kindly entertained.

14. Rode in a very cold and stormy wind to Bridgewater. There is much snow remaining this way and the riding is bad. Afternoon attended the examination of the Normal School, which was good. The school not as large as at some times. Tarried at Mr. Gay's.<sup>1</sup>

15. Left Bridgewater and rode on ice and frozen ground; severe cold. After two o'clock got to New Bedford. Met with a council called by Mr. Holmes and his church. We had a laborious hearing and deliberation. Adjourned late in the evening. Mr. Holmes and some of his friends are much afflicted. Many people were in at the council. Tarried with Mr. A. H. Seabury.

16. The council met early, had another hearing, a remonstrance was presented, but they published their result a little before noon. Mr. Holmes was dismissed, on the ground of mutual agreement between him and his church. He was fully recommended. There were a good number in, and the scene was impressive. Rode to Rochester and visited Miss Leonard's<sup>2</sup> school; very finely instructed. In the evening rode home. Heavy wheeling. The ice went out of our harbor on the 14th. Much fatigued.

17. Last night we had a good deal of snow. High wind and a very tedious day; snow and rain. Received a number of pamphlets and papers by mail. My cousin Gideon A. Alden,<sup>3</sup> from Enfield, called on me and brought a letter from brother Francis. He<sup>4</sup> has his tedious headache. Visited. Read.

18. Brought up twenty-five armfuls of wood. Visited a school. Wrote my diary. My valuable thermometer has been broken this week, hanging out in my absence.<sup>5</sup> The roads are very wet. Read. Retired early.

19. Clear weather, but cold. Meeting-house cold. Preached a double sermon on Rom. ii: 6-11. Full meeting. The ground very wet. Had a full evening meeting. Visited a sick woman. Read.

20. Brought up wood. Much occupied with company. Read. Visited the sick and others. Wrote and finished my letter to C. W. Everest.<sup>6</sup>

21. Walked a distance and visited the sick. Dined out. Mr. Hitchcock,<sup>7</sup> from Bedford, called on me. The people there have given him a call for settlement.<sup>8</sup> Visited. At evening we had a good church meeting. Received a letter from Dr. Ellis, of Sippican.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Ebenezer Gay.

<sup>2</sup> This was the superior lady teacher from the Bridgewater Normal School.

<sup>3</sup> Gideon S. Alden (so named from his father) who went with his mother, Mrs. Priscilla Le Baron Alden, to Enfield, Ct., at the time of her second marriage with Rev. Francis Le Baron Robbins. He was now a man well-nigh forty years old.

<sup>4</sup> The word "he" refers to his brother Francis.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Robbins's thermometer bill was quite heavy.

<sup>6</sup> The poet and Episcopal minister settled in Hartford.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Robert S. Hitchcock.

<sup>8</sup> The dismissal of Mr. Holmes was a step preparatory to this call.

22. We have pleasant weather, but cold north wind. The snow does not get away. Dined out. Wrote to Mr. Allen and Mr. Meigs, our Representatives at Boston.<sup>1</sup> Visited the sick. Some bad cases. Read. Received a letter from Dr. Bull, of Hartford, with a draft on bank dividends of \$54. The stock is much taxed. He had paid for me for the *Courant* and a *Register*, \$2.25. Mr. Averill, my Baptist neighbor, informed me yesterday that he is going to Fall River to stay there.

23. Stormy. We had a good deal of snow. Am taking the number of the children and an account of the schools. Visited. Wrote. The Baptists had a late meeting and a good deal of commotion.

24. Visited the sick. Took the number of the children of the Pine Islands district. Last night and the forenoon very cold. On the 22d paid Rogers Barstow, merchant, \$10. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Nott, of Wareham, and one from Mr. Poor,<sup>2</sup> of Fairhaven.

25. Rode to Tripp's Mills neighborhood and took the number of children. Visited the sick. Received a large bundle of books; Mr. Brimmer,<sup>3</sup> Mayor of Boston, has sent twenty-four copies of the *School and Schoolmaster*,<sup>4</sup> one for each of the twenty-three school districts in this town. He has done the same for the whole State. A great donation. Wrote. Had a piece of unpleasant intelligence. The Lord be my helper.

26. Last night slept poorly.<sup>5</sup> Preached with notes on Ps. lv: 16, and a sermon on Ps. cxlii: 4. Very high winds and cold. Opened the Sabbath-school and came out. Mr. Allen, one of our Representatives, informed me last evening that our famous General Court adjourned yesterday morning at five o'clock. They have done little good, and fortunately not much hurt. Had a good evening meeting. Visited.

27. Rode to the poor-house and met with the school committee. A cold morning. We were busy until night in making out the summary of the school registers for the public returns. Carried up Mr. Brimmer's books. The work is a good duodecimo of 552 pages. Rode home in the evening. Read.

28. A hard violent rain. It began last night and continued about twenty-four hours. Still cold. The snow is now mostly gone. Did not go out of the house. Wrote to Mr. Nott, of Wareham, and sent him the statistics of this church. Wrote on a public report of the town schools. Read. Great excitement in Connecticut relative to the coming election.<sup>6</sup> Had the privilege of retiring early.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Silas B. Allen and Mr. Loring Meigs were the Representatives from Rochester that year.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Martin Brimmer.

<sup>4</sup> This volume, the exact title of which was *The School and the Schoolmaster*, was prepared by Bishop Alonzo Potter, D. D., and George B. Emerson, LL. D. It would seem that Hugh Miller, a few years later,

might have had the title to his book, *My Schools and My Schoolmasters*, suggested by this volume.

<sup>5</sup> It may be presumed that his thoughts were kept busy over the "unpleasant intelligence" referred to, whatever that might be.

<sup>6</sup> Hon. Chauncey F. Cleveland, the Democratic Governor, was re-elected in April, 1843. He was afterwards Member of Congress, 1849-1853.

29. Cold wind again. Paid a post office bill of \$4.08. Wrote. Visited a child in a dying state. Visited the Pine Islands. School very well instructed. Attended the evening meeting. I am in a great strait. I trust in Him who has never forsaken me. Can sleep but little.<sup>1</sup>

30. A clear spring day. The ground dries considerably. Walked a distance and visited. My brethren called on me. At evening attended with an informal meeting of most of the church, and they voted unanimously, on a late slander with which I have been abused, that they received my statement as correct, and that they were fully satisfied.<sup>2</sup> They are faithful brethren, but it is all from the infinite mercy of God. I am devoted afresh to him for time and eternity. Read the Bible.

31. Visited a little child very sick. Wrote. Attended the funeral of a child lately deceased. Very cold and rough weather. Preached at a preparatory lecture on John xv: 9. Read late. Much damage has been done by the late rain. I am quite feeble. Received a letter from Mr. Burt,<sup>3</sup> Head-of-the-River, and one from Mr. Durfee,<sup>4</sup> of Dedham.

#### APRIL.

1. Rode in a cold day to the poor-house and met with the school committee. Had to make my last collection of the number of the children on my way. We completed our summary of the schools. They have done well for the year past. Got home at dark. Very wet and very bad riding. Visited Mr. Barstow's sick child. Very low.

2. Cold and very severe wind. Preached with notes on Rev. ii: 7. Administered the sacrament. The church rather thin. The meeting-house quite cold. Preached a sermon on 1 Peter i: 17. The ground is very wet. At evening attended the monthly concert. The resources of the Board of Foreign Missions fall off alarmingly. Yesterday my people had their precinct meeting. Very harmonious and pleasant.<sup>5</sup>

3. Wrote laboriously on a school report and finished it about noon. Rode to Rochester. The school committee made oath to their returns, and we presented our report to the town meeting and it was accepted. We also gave out the volume presented by Mr. Brimmer, with a report of the Board of Education, to each school district. The town passed a vote of thanks to Mr. Brimmer. The weather moderates. Much fatigued. Visited.

4. Visited the sick. Some are quite bad. Walked a distance. At evening attended our church meeting. Quite thin.

5. Quite rainy through the day. Wrote a Fast sermon on Matt. ix: 15. Finished in good season. The ground is full of water.

6. Fast. Cold and windy. The frost is mostly out of the ground. Preached with notes on Zech. xii: 11-14, and the sermon written yesterday.

<sup>1</sup> The sore trouble above referred to was preying upon his mind.

<sup>2</sup> We have no knowledge what the rumors were that are here mentioned.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Daniel C. Burt.

<sup>4</sup> Calvin Durfee, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> The evil rumors which had been in circulation seem not then to have disturbed the members of his parish. They never proved to be of any serious nature.



Had a season of prayer in the intermission. Meeting pretty well attended. At evening had a common evening meeting. Visited; out late. Much fatigued.

7. Walked and visited the sick. This place is greatly afflicted for want of employment for the mechanics. The price of oil also is very low. Sperm oil at fifty-two cents per gallon. Am quite feeble. Have various trials. Read. Connecticut has failed in their election. A holy Heaven frowns upon them. Visited.

8. I do not have good sleep in the night. Wrote. Wrote a letter of grateful acknowledgment, in behalf of the town, to Mr. Brimmer, of Boston, for his late donation. Rode and walked to Orcoot, and visited an aged woman very sick. Received a letter from Frederick H. Wolcott,<sup>1</sup> of New York, and one from Mr. Burt, Head-of-the-River.

9. Preached a double sermon on John iii: 14. Attended the Sabbath-school. Had a good evening meeting. Am quite feeble. A mild spring day.

10. Wrote to Mr. Poor, Fairhaven. The Connecticut election has gone all for Democracy. An important and painful event. Visited the sick. Some bad cases. Wrote to Rev. Calvin Durfee, Dedham.

11. Rode in the stage to Fairhaven. Some of the road still quite wet. Conversed with Mr. Gibbs. The Lord give his blessing. Rode back partly and walked to the Neck. Visited. Am quite feeble. Tarried out.

12. Walked and visited. People are beginning to plow. Warm. Am very feeble. Came home. I am fearful my trials will bring upon me a fever. Attended our evening meeting. Received a letter from Mr. Cobb,<sup>2</sup> of Sandwich.

13. Wrote to Mr. Cobb. Visited the sick. Pleasant spring weather. People begin to take herrings. Received a letter from Little & Brown, of Boston. Capt. Gillett called on me.

14. Wrote on school returns. Wet. Am very feeble. My rest at night is very poor. Received a letter from brother Burt. His wife is very sick. Visited. My cousin, Mrs. Mayhew, is very unwell. This has been a great herring day. The herrings have come suddenly, of good quality, and an immense number. A very great blessing to the town. It is said they have taken today 70,000.

15. Read. Wet and rainy. Rode to Sippican to exchange with Mr. Cobb. Through mercy took no cold.

16. Mr. Cobb, with my horse and chaise, rode to Mattapoisett. Preached on Mark viii: 36, 37, and Ps. cxlii: 4. This congregation not as large as ours. Went into the Sabbath-school. Attended the evening meeting in their

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<sup>1</sup> Frederick H. Wolcott, born Aug. 19, 1808, was son of Frederick, born in Litchfield, Ct., Nov. 2, 1767; who was the son of Oliver, Governor of Connecticut, born in

East Windsor, Ct., Nov. 20, 1726; who was the son of Roger, Colonial Governor of Connecticut, born in East Windsor, Jan. 4, 1679.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Asahel Cobb.

good vestry, and preached without notes on Acts xvi: 25. Spoke feebly, and my lungs much exhausted.

17. Rode home in the stage. Read. Visited the sick and others. Wrote. I have, through mercy, some more strength than last week.

18. Mr. Crosby's fine lad went off to his parents in Vermont. Wrote on the school returns for the Secretary of State. Wet and rainy. Worked some at my books. Many are missing. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston. Wrote to him and to Mr. Durfee, of Dedham. Church meeting prevented by the rain.

19. Wet and quite cold. Had to inform an afflicted family of the death of a son at sea. Wrote. My trials are great. In God is my hope. Evening meeting thin. Worked some at my books.

20. Still wet and cold. Began a sermon on Matt. xvi: 18. Occupied with company. Received a letter from Mr. Poor, and one from Mr. Gurley,<sup>1</sup> of Washington. Visited the sick. Our people suffer much for want of employment.

21. Worked at my books. Walked and visited. A pleasant spring day. Read. Am very languid.

22. Walked out. I get in some of my missing books. Rode to Fairhaven in the stage to exchange. Crossed to Bedford. Failed of seeing Mr. Hitchcock. Tarried at Mr. Robinson's. Mr. Poor has a good boarding-place.

23. Mr. Poor went to Mattapoisett, and returned towards evening. Wet and rainy through the day. Thin meetings. Preached on Isa. xxviii: 16, and Ex. ix: 20, 21. Went into a small evening meeting.

24. Last evening and night it rained very hard. Wrote to Dr. Hitchcock,<sup>2</sup> of Randolph. Rode home. The ground is very wet. Mr. Poor was well liked here yesterday. Visited the sick. Read.

25. Walked out. Rode in the stage to Rochester and met with the Association. We had in the afternoon the annual meeting of the Old Colony Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society. Made our annual payment, \$40; \$25 from monthly concert, and \$15 from the Ladies' Mite Society. Mr. Eddy,<sup>3</sup> agent, was present and spoke well. At evening we had the Association sermon. Mr. Roberts preached well, on the return of the Jews. Tarried at Dr. Haskell's.

26. The Association attended to ordinary business and adjourned. Rode home. Am quite feeble. Attended the evening meeting. Read.

27. Wet and rainy. Occupied with company. Finished the school returns and put them into the post office for the Secretary of the Commonwealth. Received a strange letter from Mr. Paige, of New Bedford. Wrote to Mr. Laban S. Wheaton,<sup>4</sup> of Norton.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Ralph R. Gurley, son of Rev. John Gurley, of Lebanon, Exeter Parish, Ct., Secretary of the American Colonization Society at Washington. He was graduated at Yale, 1818, and died in 1872.

<sup>2</sup> Calvin Hitchcock, D. D., father of Robert S. Hitchcock, of New Bedford.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Chauncey Eddy.

<sup>4</sup> Founder of the Wheaton Academy for Young Ladies, at Norton, Mass.

28. Am very feeble. My help under trials must be from the blessed Saviour. Much occupied with company. Received a letter from Sec. Bolles. Two whale brigs sailed from here this morning. Wrote on an addition to a sermon.

29. Rode to Bedford with Mr. Hammond. Called on Mr. Paige.<sup>1</sup> Cold east wind. The roads are mostly dry. Received a letter from Mr. Holmes, of Bedford. Wrote in the evening and finished a large addition to a sermon.

30. In the morning preached a sermon on Micah vi: 8, and afternoon one on Ps. xcvi: 1, 2. Spoke considerably on the subject of our seamen, and of one, Mr. Coleman, lately deceased in the West Indies. Full meeting. Opened the Sabbath-school. Spoke feebly. Evening stormy, and a small meeting. Was carried through the labors better than I feared.

#### MAY.

1. Last night and during the forenoon we had a severe rain-storm. The ground is exceedingly wet. Wrote. Afternoon pleasant. Walked out and visited. Wrote to Mr. Holmes, of Bedford. I am feeble and nervous.

2. Walked and visited the most of the day. Went to the Neck. Sent to Bartlett & Welford, of New York, \$16.50, to pay what I owe them. Capt. Le Baron paid me \$12. Attended the church meeting in the evening. Read. People begin to garden.

3. Walked and visited the sick. We have two men very sick, in middle life. Am troubled with rheumatism in my knee, which interferes with walking. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting; quite thin. Cold.

4. Wrote on a sermon begun some time since on Matt. xvi: 18. Walked and visited. I cannot write long without exercise. Brought up wood.

5. Visited the sick. Wrote on my sermon. Mr. Crosby and several others went off to Providence to work on a large ship. They went yesterday. The season advances slowly.

6. Worked and finished my long double sermon on Matt. xvi: 18. Much occupied with company. Examined and approved a school-teacher.

7. Rainy and showery through the day. Omitted the sermon that I had prepared, and preached with notes on Ps. xxxvii: 34, and a sermon on John iv: 29. Morning meeting quite thin. At evening had the monthly concert. The Catholics are making immense exertions in various parts of the world. My strength held better than I feared. Read.

8. Wrote to Little & Brown, and sent them \$60 to be set to my account. Assisted in organizing our summer public school. Had company. Visited. Read the Bible.

9. Read. Worked at my wood. Walked and visited. My cousin, Mrs. Mayhew,<sup>2</sup> continues long sick. Am quite feeble.

<sup>1</sup> Probably with reference to the letter he had just before received from him.

<sup>2</sup> Lucy Le Baron, daughter of William Le Baron, of Fairhaven, married Thomas May-

hew (sometimes written Mayo). She was born, 1778, and was one year younger than Dr. Robbins. She seems to have been highly esteemed by Dr. Robbins.

10. The ground dries, and people are gardening and planting. Taking the number of children for the schools. Read the Bible. On Monday received a letter from Philip Battell, of Middlebury, Vt. Very hard to read. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting.

11. Read the Bible. Wrote to my cousin Philip Battell. Received a letter from Mr. Paige, of Bedford. Walked out and saw friends. At evening married my good friend and neighbor, Mr. Bealls.<sup>1</sup>

12. Rode to Bedford and saw Mr. Paige, etc. At evening visited. Read. Paid Mr. Eddy for a mattress, etc., \$8.90. Am much oppressed.

13. Warm. Had company. Some of my people show me great kindness. Took the stage about noon and rode to Fairhaven. Read. Toward evening Mr. Jenney gave me a conveyance to the Head-of-the-River to exchange with Mr. Burt. Kept at Judge Spooner's. Yesterday procured a large and valuable thermometer; the cost, \$6.

14. Preached on Isa. xxviii: 16, and John iv: 29. This congregation is small, but gradually improving. Warm, and the roads are dusty. Yesterday saw blossoms on the fruit-trees. After meeting called on Mrs. Burt; convalescing from severe sickness. Attended an evening meeting; Mr. Lafon,<sup>2</sup> late from the Sandwich Islands mission, was with me. Am quite feeble.

15. Was kindly treated at Judge Spooner's. They gave me a few old books. Rode with him to Bedford. Did errands. Took the stage and came home. Much fatigued. Mr. Hammond called and gave me good intelligence.<sup>3</sup> I have great reason to devote my remaining days to the service of Christ. Read. Mr. Averill called on me. He has run out his Millerism. Visited.

16. Worked at my wood. Visited a school. Wrote. The first real warm day of the season. The mercury above summer heat. At evening attended the church meeting. Paid for white-washing, fifty cents.

17. Am very languid. Visited a school. Received a letter from Benjamin Ives Gilman,<sup>4</sup> at New York. Examined a school-teacher. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Read the Bible.

18. Read. The ground is becoming quite dry. Visited. Am so feeble that I can do but little. Our people are more busy than they have been. Had company.

19. Brought up wood. Wrote to my cousin B. I. Gilman. Fruit-trees are getting into blossom. Visited. Read. Paid for cleaning my rooms,

<sup>1</sup> The parties were Charles P. Bealls and Martha C. Weaver.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Lafon, M. D., was a native of Chester County, Va., and went to the Sandwich Islands as a missionary physician, sailing from Boston, Dec. 14, 1836. In 1841 he was released from service, and became ill-affected toward the American Board. He caused some discontent and trouble among

the churches. He has been dead now for some years.

<sup>3</sup> This doubtless has reference to the matters which have been troubling him.

<sup>4</sup> Benjamin Ives Gilman, Jr., son of Benjamin Ives and Hannah (Robbins) Gilman. He was graduated at Brown University, 1813, while his parents were living at Marietta, O.

seventy-five cents. Had some unpleasant company. Read late. Wrote a part of a sermon on Rev. i: 8.

20. Wrote and finished my lecture sermon on Rev. i: 8. The ground has become quite dry and dusty. This week has been fine seed-time. Received a good letter from Mrs. B. The Lord is my helper. Wrote.

21. Preached a double sermon, lately written, on Matt. xvi: 18. Instructed the elder class in the Sabbath-school. After meeting, the school was reorganized for the coming season. Had the third meeting at six o'clock, and delivered my lecture on Rev. i: 8. Visited the sick. Much fatigued.

22. Rode to Bedford. Saw Mrs. B. Had a satisfactory interview. Returned at noon. Procured a new hat made for me; cost, \$5. Wrote. Yesterday had Mr. Sullings,<sup>1</sup> the Baptist, with me at the third meeting. Wrote to Mr. Crosby at Providence.

23. Visited two schools. We have some rain on the dry ground. Read. Wrote a long letter to Frederick H. Wolcott,<sup>2</sup> of New York. Wrote late.

24. Last night we had a very grateful shower. Wrote. Am quite languid. Walked and visited. Visited the sick. Attended the evening meeting.

25. Walked to the Neck and visited families and the sick. There is a pretty good blowth on the orchards, but not great. Walking fatigues me. An unusual portion of our people are at work on the land.

26. Am very languid. Read. Examined and approved a young woman for keeping school. Wrote a part of a sermon on 1 Tim. i: 16. Walked out. Wrote.

27. Wrote and finished my sermon begun yesterday. Wet. Worked at my wood. Received of Mr. Hammond, including previous sums, \$63.50, on my current salary. I get fatigued easily. Paid for sawing wood, \$4.50.

28. Preached with notes on Luke xix: 27, and a sermon on Matt. v: 5. Instructed a class in the Sabbath-school. At the third meeting delivered my lecture on 1 Tim. i: 16. Wrote to Mr. Gould, Fairhaven. Preparing for my journey.

29. Rose early. Rode with Capt. Freeman to Bedford. Took the cars, quite cold, and rode in them to Boston. Went to the meeting of the Historical Society.<sup>3</sup> Found several gentlemen there from Connecticut. We went to the church in Chauncey Place, and listened to a fine address from President J. Q. Adams. Procured some Sabbath-school books. Find many acquaintance. At evening was at a very respectable literary party at Mr. Savage's. Mr. Day and Mr. Olmsted there from Hartford.<sup>4</sup> Have a good deal of a cold.

30. Coughed a good deal in the night. Am kindly accommodated at

<sup>1</sup> This seems to be the name as written in the diary. We cannot trace him.

<sup>2</sup> See note, April 8, 1843.

<sup>3</sup> The Massachusetts Historical Society.

<sup>4</sup> Probably Hon. Thomas Day and Charles Olmsted, Esq.

Mr. Shepard's, Pearl Street.<sup>1</sup> Did errands. Attended the Pastoral Association. Pres. Hopkins<sup>2</sup> preached well. Took tea with Mr. Brimmer,<sup>3</sup> the mayor. A pleasant man. Was at a public meeting on home missions. Meeting large.

31. Attended the morning prayer-meeting and the Pastoral Association. We had the annual meeting of the Board of Education. Two sessions. Gov. Morton did pretty well.<sup>4</sup> Gave an order on the State treasury of \$30.28. Rode to Roxbury and tarried with Dr. Robbins.<sup>5</sup> Much fatigued.

JUNE.

1. Dr. Robbins rode with me very kindly, and visited the Bunker Hill Monument. We ascended the spiral stairs to the top, 297 steps and eight circuits.<sup>6</sup> The workmanship is very fine, and the view was imposing. Attended the meeting and public service of the convention. Dined with the ministers. It is said there was considerable frost this morning. Heard of the death of the venerable Noah Webster.<sup>7</sup> The evening meeting on foreign missions was solemn and prayerful, and very full. Paid Crocker & Brewster for books, \$12. For *Recorder* and *Connecticut School Journal*, \$3.50. I get but little sleep.

2. A cold night and morning. Was up early. Received a letter from Mr. William H. Prescott. Left my kind host, took the cars and came to New Bedford, and in the stage home. Have had a prosperous journey. Received a letter from F. H. Wolcott, New York. Am much fatigued. At evening Mr. Crosby returned from Providence. To be charged to the Board of Education.<sup>8</sup>

3. Am quite feeble. Read. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture, with notes, on Rom. xiii: 12. My ash-trees have come out well.

4. Preached with notes on Rev. iii: 12, and a sermon on Gen. xxxii: 26. Administered the sacrament. We had a contribution for the Sabbath-school library and collected \$7.42. Attended for our third meeting the monthly concert. Pleasant day and full meeting. At evening Mrs. Mayhew appeared to be in a critical state.

5. Wrote nine days of diary. Warm. Till today have kept a steady fire. Received a letter, with a book, from Lewis & Sampson, of Boston. Read. Had company. Examined and approved a female school-teacher. Paid a tailor, \$1. Thermometer about 70°. Received of my collector, \$12.

6. Much occupied with company. Paid for my small book-case, \$7; and

<sup>1</sup> Pearl Street in 1843 was partly a street of dwelling-houses; now entirely devoted to business.

<sup>2</sup> Mark Hopkins, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Martin Brimmer.

<sup>4</sup> A worthy and capable man.

<sup>5</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>6</sup> A good climb for two gentlemen, one of whom was sixty-two years old and the other

sixty-six. After some years an elevator was used for a time, but that was discontinued through fear of accidents.

<sup>7</sup> Noah Webster, LL. D., died in New Haven, May 28, 1843, in his eighty-fifth year.

<sup>8</sup> That is, the expense of his journey to Boston, which was primarily to attend the meeting of the Board of Education, May 31.

an old stove valued at \$3. Wrote to Mr. Gould, Fairhaven, and received a letter from him. Read D'Aubigné's *History of the Reformation*;<sup>1</sup> a good work. Warm. Thermometer at 75°. We had a grateful shower.

7. Languid. Visited and took the number of children. Dined out. Vegetation advances well. Read D'Aubigné. Attended the evening meeting.

8. Walked to the Neck and visited a school and families. Warm. Much fatigued by my long walk. Walked farther and visited the sick. We have several good women dangerously sick. My cousin, Mrs. Mayhew, is in a critical state. Paid for towels, seventy-five cents. Yesterday began to write on my Williamstown address.<sup>2</sup>

9. Walked; visited the sick. Wet. Read D'Aubigné. Began a sermon on 1 Cor. xv: 3, 4.

10. Wrote and finished my sermon on 1 Cor. xv: 3, 4. Visited the sick. Mrs. Mayhew is very low. Thermometer 75°. A ship of 400 tons was launched here.

11. I depended on Mr. Gould to be here and preach for me. He did not come. Preached in the morning with notes on Matt. xxv: 29; afternoon a sermon on Prov. v: 12. Afternoon rainy, and thin meeting. Had no third meeting. Read more than a hundred pages in D'Aubigné.

12. Wrote. Visited the sick. Read. Thermometer at 80°. Am quite languid. Vegetation advances vigorously. Our people are much in want of employment.

13. Left off my flannel. Walked a distance to visit a school, and found none for today. Visited sick ones. Read D'Aubigné. Visited Pine Islands school; in a very restless state. At evening had a small church meeting; Mr. Homer Barrows was with us.

14. Visited the sick; Mrs. Gorham very low. Read the Bible. Read D'Aubigné. Worked some. Am feeble. Attended our evening meeting; quite thin. Occupied with company.

15. Wrote on my Williamstown address. Visited the sick. Walked a distance and visited a school and families.

16. Wrote. Am something rheumatic. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridgewater, and one from Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven, and wrote him in return. Rainy; grateful to the ground. The aged Mr. Hammond died today. Wrote on my address.

17. Had a long talk with Dea. Crosby. Am greatly afflicted.<sup>3</sup> Dined out. Rode to Fairhaven for Mr. Hammond, and brought down Mr. Gould. He tarried here. Was up late.

18. Had a poor night. I have fire most of the time. Mr. Gould preached

<sup>1</sup> Jean Henri Merle d'Aubigné was born near Geneva, Switzerland, in 1794. His *History of the Reformation in the Sixteenth Century*, which was published in 1835, was an exceedingly popular work, and very widely read in both hemispheres.

<sup>2</sup> An address to be delivered at the coming Commencement at Williams College.

<sup>3</sup> His recent troubles have not been wholly laid to rest. A man in Dr. Robbins's position may be very greatly afflicted by rumors that have really no foundation.

both parts of the day, very well. Afternoon we had the funeral of Mr. Hammond, and our house was very full. Mr. Sullings, the Baptist, made the first prayer. At the third meeting I delivered my lecture sermon on 1 Cor. xv: 3, 4. Mr. Gould went home. Last evening visited Mrs. Gorham; very low.

19. Am rheumatic and very languid. Found a valuable volume which had long been missing. Wrote to Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridgewater. Had company. Read.

20. Visited the sick. Walked and rode to the Randall district and visited their school. Took the number of the children. Came down to Mr. Gorham's and attended the funeral of his wife, with Elder Howe. She has left twelve children, and lost two, not young; and the oldest, first-born, is twenty-one. Quite warm. Read in the newspaper Mr. Webster's splendid oration at the Bunker Hill celebration. It was a magnificent scene, with an immense collection of people. Probably the greatest ever seen in this country.<sup>1</sup>

21. Wrote on my public address. Visited. Found another missing volume. My second large tree at the meeting-house is coming out well. The first began to leaf the beginning of the month. I had been concerned about this. Had company. Visited the sick. We have cases of influenza. Read. At eve had a good meeting.

22. Wrote. Have rheumatic pain. Quite warm. Thermometer at 87°. Walked and visited. Have some relief from my trials, through God's mercy. Read. Ireland is in a bad state.<sup>2</sup> A fine time for crops.

23. Wrote the most of the day on my address. Much the warmest day we have had. Thermometer, at ten o'clock, 88°; at twelve, 87°. Walked and visited the sick. Read.

24. Wrote the most of a second sermon on 1 Cor. xv: 3, 4. Am very languid. Read. Have received a valuable pamphlet from Pres. Hopkins. Thermometer at 87°.

25. Preached with notes on 2 Kings vii: 3, and a sermon on Rom. ix: 15. Opened the Sabbath-school and taught a class. The mercury continued to rise till one o'clock, when it was 91°. Finished my lecture sermon on

<sup>1</sup> Hon. George Washington Warren, President of the Bunker Hill Monument Association, in his *History*, published in 1877, gives us the following glance at the scene: "As he (Mr. Webster) contrasted the principles on which our government was founded with those on which the ephemeral governments of South America were set up, he said, 'I would that the fifty thousand voices present could proclaim it with a shout which should be heard over the globe.' The clear, sonorous sound of his voice reverberated from the monument, and the words came back in distinct echo, 'over the globe.' Then those voices gave in response a cheer loud enough

to have drowned the cry and noise of battle which was made sixty-eight years before." This oration was given on the 17th of June, 1843. The day before (June 16) was one of drenching rain. But the 17th was bright and beautiful.

<sup>2</sup> This was back in the days of Daniel O'Connell. In the January following, O'Connell and others had their long and vexatious trial for political conspiracy. Ireland has been "in a bad state" ever since. And now in these passing days of April, 1886, we are reading day by day of Mr. Gladstone's efforts to establish home rule in Ireland, and the fierce opposition which he encounters.



1 Cor. xv: 3, 4, and delivered it at the six o'clock meeting. At evening walked out.

26. Read D'Aubigné's *History*. We have some cases of influenza. It is said to be very prevalent at New Bedford and New York. Received a letter from Hon. Timothy Pitkin,<sup>1</sup> of New Haven. Visited the sick. Thermometer at 87°. Mr. Crosby is quite sick with influenza and fever. Read.

27. Wrote to Mr. Pitkin. Rode to Bedford in the stage. People have begun haying. Did errands. The ground has become quite dry and dusty. Thermometer about 86°. Many people affected with influenza. Visited. Am quite feeble. Yesterday made a quarter payment at the post office.

28. Morning and forenoon excessive hot. Mercury at nine o'clock at 89 1-2°. After noon it was at 91°. Am almost unable to do anything. Had company. Finished my letter of historical recollections to Mr. Pitkin, and sent him my folio volume, *Pitkin's Manuscript*,<sup>2</sup> which he begged. Read D'Aubigné. Wrote. Had a thin evening meeting. Visited the sick.

29. Walked and visited. Have some difficulty in procuring a horse. Thermometer at 88°. Yesterday paid for a box of figs, \$1. Rode to Middleborough. Tarried at Mr. Putnam's.<sup>3</sup> The drought is severe. People are mowing their high lands to save the light crop. Very dusty.

30. Rode to Bridgewater. Attended the examination of the Normal School. No other of the committee present. We had a long, arduous session. The pupils appeared well; forty, mostly males. Rode, in severe heat, to Middleborough, and preached a preparatory lecture for Mr. Putnam, without notes, on 1 Cor. xv: 3, 4. Rode down to Mr. Abner Wood's, and had a meeting in the evening, and spoke on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. Had green peas. The ground is drying.

#### JULY.

1. Rode home. The heat very oppressive. Had a good journey. The mercury was at full 96°. Yesterday it was about 93°. Am very languid. Read. Mr. and Mrs. Crosby are quite unwell.

2. We have warm nights. Sleep on a mattress and wear summer dress. Thermometer, at ten o'clock, 93°, and very hot through the day. Preached a double sermon on Ps. xlviii: 12-14. Our third meeting was the monthly concert, with a season of prayer for rain. Visited the sick. People suffer much with the heat. Heard a class in the Sabbath-school.

3. Cooler. Some thunder last night, and rain at a distance. Walked

<sup>1</sup> Timothy Pitkin, LL. D., was born in Farmington, Ct., 1766 (son of Rev. Timothy, pastor of Farmington, 1752-1785). He was eminent for his legal and historical knowledge. He was graduated at Yale, 1785, and received his LL. D. from Yale, 1829. He died in 1847. The Pitkin name was common in Hartford, as in Farmington.

<sup>2</sup> This manuscript volume was probably composed of the papers connected with the

official life of William Pitkin (born in England in 1664; Chief Justice of Connecticut, 1713, to his death, 1723), and his son, William Pitkin (Member of the Council, Judge of Supreme Court, Lieutenant-Governor, Chief Justice, and Colonial Governor of Connecticut). The latter died in 1769. The Pitkin family in Connecticut has been one of high character and honor.

<sup>3</sup> Israel W. Putnam, D. D.

and visited the sick. Wrote to Mr. Putnam, of Middleborough, and received a letter from Mr. Holmes,<sup>1</sup> a tract agent, and a church letter from the North Church, Bedford. Wrote. Had company. We hear of a great fire at Fall River, and one in the woods at Sandwich. Read late.

4. The children called on me for the salutations of Independence, 104 in number. Dined out. Thermometer yesterday and today about summer heat. Very little movement in our village.

5. Quite cool. Have a fire. Wrote on my public address. It requires much labor. Read. Received a letter from J. A. Roberts. Walked out. Attended the evening meeting; thin.

6. Wrote on my address. Walked and visited. Wrote to Mr. Fowler, Fall River. The fire there has been great and very destructive. Wrote laboriously. My address is like to be long.<sup>2</sup> Thermometer 80°.

7. Wrote and finished the first draft of my address; fifty quarto pages. I need exercise. Dined out. Read. People are haying. A very light crop. At evening walked and visited.

8. Wrote a sermon on Acts ix: 6; half a page in the evening. I have seldom written as much in a week as this. I bless God for the ability. Walked out. Thermometer 83°.

9. Preached with notes on Ps. cx: 3, and the sermon written yesterday. Heard a class in the Sabbath-school. Sultry hot. Thermometer rose to 89°. Rev. Mr. Holmes, tract agent, attended our third meeting with us, and spoke very well. We collected for him about \$12.

10. Mr. Holmes went away. Am very languid, through mental labor. Had company. Read. Paid a town and county tax, \$9.72. Received of the town, as school committee, \$18.93. Visited. Thermometer very near 90°.

11. Walked and rode to the Neck. The drought is very severe. Much of the mowing is very light. Visited families and a school. Bore the walk better than I feared. Read. Paid Mr. Shaw for carting wood, \$2.50. Thermometer about 80°.

12. Visited two schools. Had company. Read. Wrote to brother Leander Cobb. Began the copying of my Williams College address. At evening had a thin meeting. Thermometer 81°.

13. Wrote on my address. It is laborious. Received a letter from Mr. Cobb, and wrote to him. Visited the sick. There are quite a number. Read. The drought very oppressive. The mercury at 83°.

14. Wrote. Much interrupted with company. There was a famous exhibition here of a caravan of wild beasts. I attended by invitation.<sup>3</sup> About six hundred persons present. Read. Visited the sick. Thermometer at 89°.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Henry B. Holmes.

<sup>2</sup> It is a curious fact in human nature that when a man makes such a discovery, he is apt to think that in his own peculiar case it is inevitable, and that *his* hearers will like to have it so, and would not wish him to drop a single one of his precious words.

<sup>3</sup> The old conditions in such cases often ran, "Children half price, ministers' families free." Dr. Robbins seems to have been more kindly disposed towards this exhibition than some previous ones, though he would not probably adopt Mr. Barnum's language and call it "a moral show."

15. Wrote on my address. Elizabeth Baker is very sick. I fear one of my large trees at the meeting-house will fail by the drought. Dark and a little showery, but little wet. Rode to Sippican in the stage to exchange with Mr. Cobb. He came here. The drought is very extensive. Read. Our late General Association had a slim session.

16. Preached on Isa. xxviii: 16, and Isa. v: 4. This congregation increases. Attended a third meeting near Dr. Cobb's, and preached without notes on John x: 16. Had Dr. Cobb with me. Much fatigued. Very warm.

17. Rode home. Visited the sick. Read. Wrote on an ordination charge.<sup>1</sup> Am quite languid. Vegetation advances little. Worked some.

18. Finished my charge. Received a letter from Mr. Henry Barnard,<sup>2</sup> of Hartford, asking for historical facts. Rode to Bedford to attend the ordination. Visited our people there at work in the shipyard. Kindly accommodated at Mr. Parker's. Thermometer at 89°. Am easily fatigued.

19. Attended the ordination of Mr. Hitchcock. I presided and made the consecrating prayer. His father<sup>3</sup> preached. Dr. Codman<sup>4</sup> gave the charge. The council and audience were numerous. A hot day; I think the mercury must have been at 90°. Came home with Capt. Snow, very pleasantly, in his vessel. Attended the evening meeting.

20. Walked and visited the sick. Watered my large trees. One appears to be failing. Read. Cooler, but no rain. Thermometer about 76°.

21. Wrote diligently on my address. Occupied with company. My address requires much labor. The drought appears to be extensive and severe.

22. Watered my trees laboriously. Wrote on my address. Am unusually languid and feeble. People are getting alarmed about the drought. Wrote to my sister Battell. Thermometer 83°.

23. Wrote notes and preached with them, in the morning, on Matt. xxii: 5. Afternoon a sermon on 2 Cor. v: 11. Attended the Bible class in the Sabbath-school. Quite unwell. At half-past five o'clock we had a special season of prayer on account of the drought. Mr. Sullings and the Baptists and Universalists were with us. It was a solemn season. Much fatigued. Yesterday received a box from Hartford by the public conveyance. Thermometer at 89°.

24. Watered my trees. Visited the sick. Mrs. Mayhew is very low. In the afternoon it pleased God to send us a most grateful shower. It was

<sup>1</sup> The ordination of Robert S. Hitchcock at New Bedford was drawing near, and Dr. Robbins was preparing to give the charge.

<sup>2</sup> The time was now nigh at hand when Dr. Robbins and Hon. Henry Barnard would have larger business transactions than ever before, in the arrangements for the transfer of the library to Hartford.

<sup>3</sup> Calvin Hitchcock, D. D., of Randolph, Mass.

<sup>4</sup> John Codman, D. D., pastor of the Second Church, Dorchester, 1808-1847. He was born in Boston, 1782, graduated at Harvard, 1802. He was a very prominent man in his generation. He seems to have given the charge, which Dr. Robbins had been expecting to give. At least, under date of July 18, he speaks of having finished his *charge*, which we interpreted as having reference to this ordination.

pretty violent and not long, but a great blessing. Our village seems to have been the center of it. Took the stage and rode to Wareham to attend Association. Tarried at Mr. Nott's. But little rain here.

25. Read. Association met; not full. We examined and licensed Mr. Thacher,<sup>1</sup> of Dartmouth. He appeared very well. Mr. Bigelow preached well. His place suffers much with the drought.

26. We closed our business at noon. Rode home with Mr. Gould. Attended the evening meeting.

27. Wrote. Am quite unwell. Read. Visited. Mrs. Mayhew continues very low. A very oppressive heat. The mercury at 91°.

28. We have hot nights. Wrote to Dr. Bull, of Hartford. The earth has become very dry again. Wrote on my address. Received a short letter from brother Francis. I conclude his wife is at Bedford. Had company. We had a moderate and most grateful shower. Thermometer at 84°. Read. Watered my trees.

29. Wrote to brother Francis. Wrote on my address. The heat very oppressive. Mercury at 92°. Am greatly afflicted and very languid. Saw harvesting on the 25th. We had another moderate, precious shower. Read.

30. Wet and rainy. Just what the ground needs, God gives. Preached with notes on Matt. xxvii: 54. At the intermission it rained hard, and we had no Sabbath-school. In the afternoon Mr. Cannon, from Bedford, delivered a sermon for us. At the third meeting preached on the authenticity of the Book of Genesis, from 2 Pet. i: 21. After the afternoon meeting, attended the funeral of a young child. Wrote considerably.

31. Still wet. Afternoon the kind rain was closed. Read. Walked and visited. Mrs. Mayhew is in a distressed state. Puseyism<sup>2</sup> makes bad work in England, and perhaps will in this country. Wrote on my address. Had company.

#### AUGUST.

1. Wrote on my address. Dined out. Took a chaise, with company, and rode to Middleborough, North. Good riding. There was a great rain in this quarter last Sabbath. Tarried at Mr. White's. A good family.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Isaiah Crocker Thacher, born in South Dartmouth, 1815, graduated at Union College, 1841, and at Yale Theological Seminary, 1844. Dr. Robbins probably had little thought that he was examining a man who was to be his immediate successor in the church at Mattapoisett. He was settled there, Dec. 25, 1844, and remained till 1849. He had several settlements, but was never out of office, except for a very short time. He was an earnest, working minister. His last pastorate was at Lakeville. He died at Peabody, the home of his second wife, March 16, 1880.

<sup>2</sup> Puseyism is a word constructed from

the name of Edward B. Pusey, D. D., Regius Professor of Hebrew at Oxford. Webster's *Dictionary* thus defines it: "The principles of Dr. Pusey and others at Oxford, Eng., as exhibited in various publications, especially in a series called *Tracts for the Times*, in which it was proposed to carry back the discipline and doctrine of the Church of England to an imagined period when there would have been no ground of separation from the Church of Rome." Dr. Samuel H. Cox, of Brooklyn, N. Y., in an off-hand way defined Puseyism as "the quintessence of the Middle Ages." The substance of Puseyism still exists under other names.

2. Rode to Bridgewater and assisted the teachers of the Normal School in examining candidates for admission to the school. There were thirty-two whom we received. We had two long sessions. Rode back to Mr. White's at Middleborough. Cooler.

3. Rode home. Called at Mr. Briggs's,<sup>1</sup> Sniptuet. Called on my sister, Mrs. Robbins.<sup>2</sup> Visited the sick and afflicted. Wrote on my address. Have to add new matter. Paid a stage-driver, \$1.50.

4. Visited two schools. Attended the funeral of a young child. Read. Thermometer 83°.

5. Visited two schools. Our schools are very difficult to be kept in order. Wrote some on my address. It is nearly finished. Preached a preparatory lecture, with notes, on Luke xxii: 46. Wrote. Thermometer 90°.

6. In the morning we had a most beneficial rain. Preached with notes on Gen. iv: 7, and a sermon on John xi: 42. Administered the sacrament. The church and forenoon meeting thin. Attended the monthly concert. Much fatigued. Read my address.

7. Cool. Wrote on my address and finished the copy. Have had the divine favor in the work. Read. The agitations in Ireland excite much attention.

8. Revised my address. It will be long.<sup>3</sup> Very hot and sultry. Visited the sick and others. Walked and visited a school. Much oppressed with the heat. My thermometer not out. I think it must have been as high as 90°.

9. Wrote. Walked and visited a school. Had a shower. Attended the evening meeting. A good number. Read.

10. Mr. Bourne, of Wareham, called and occupied me the most of the forenoon. Rode to Rochester and visited the academy. A small school, in good order. Wet, and towards evening we had a hard shower. A good God has watered the ground plentifully and most kindly. Read.

11. Walked and visited. Wet. Gave Mrs. Mayhew a bottle of the best port-wine. Received a letter from brother James, one from Dr. Bull, of Hartford, and one from R. D. Smyth,<sup>4</sup> of Guilford, asking for historical facts. Attended to some of the duties of my birthday. At evening the church committee called on me and made considerable conversation. Received of Mr. Buell, collector, \$4. Paid a merchant, \$3. Have many trials.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Isaac Briggs.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Francis Robbins, of Enfield, who still continued her visit at New Bedford.

<sup>3</sup> An excellent time then to shorten it.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. Ralph Dunning Smyth. What he was as a historical student may be gathered from the opening sentences of the preface to Franklin Bowditch Dexter's recent volume on the early graduates of Yale College. He says: "Biographical sketches of the graduates of the college down to the year 1767 were prepared, with more or less fullness,

by the Hon. Ralph Dunning Smyth (Y. C. 1827), of Guilford, Ct., who died in 1874. The manuscript of these sketches was given to the college by his widow, and has served as the original basis for those now printed; but so much labor has been expended upon the subject matter by the present compiler that no part of the work as published can fairly, either as to form or as to substance, be represented as Mr. Smyth's, though his researches were almost indispensable to the undertaking."

12. Wrote to Mr. Gould, Fairhaven. Preparing for my journey. Received of Mr. Hammond, collector, \$35. Read. Gave some shells, etc., to a collector from the West. Looked over notes.

13. Preached with notes on Ps. xxv: 22, and a sermon on 1 Pet. iv: 7. The meeting-house very warm. The mercury at 85°. At the third meeting delivered a lecture on the inspiration of the Book of Genesis, from 2 Pet. i: 21. Had company. At evening called on Mrs. Mayhew—very feeble—and rode with her son to the depot at Bedford, and tarried at a tavern. Much fatigued.

14. Took the cars and rode in less than three hours to Boston. Very warm. Did errands. Received from the State treasury, \$30.28. Paid Crocker & Brewster, \$12.30. Wrote. Took tea at Mr. Blagden's. Wrote.

15. In the morning rainy. Took the cars and rode to Pittsfield. Dined at Springfield.<sup>1</sup> Got acquainted with Bishop Onderdonk.<sup>2</sup> The scenery and the work of the railroad between Westfield and Pittsfield are astonishing.<sup>3</sup> Took a stage and rode to Williamstown. Very kindly entertained at Pres. Hopkins's. Had a pleasant day.

16. Attended an interesting meeting of the alumni. I am the senior present. Attended the public services. The president delivered a very good address respecting the college. I delivered mine. Too long—an hour and forty-five minutes—but kindly heard.<sup>4</sup> The alumni had a long public dinner. A very numerous and highly respectable collection. Gov. Morton is present. At evening attended the speaking of under-graduates. Brothers James and Francis arrived in the morning. Not greatly fatigued.

17. Met with the corporation. We voted two divinity doctorates. Attended the Commencement exercises; good, but want of variety. It is said that there has never been so great a collection of people on a like occasion. See many former acquaintance. Feel a want of rest. The alumni voted to publish the president's address and mine. Left Williamstown towards evening. Tarried at a private house in Hancock.<sup>5</sup>

18. Our kind host made no charge for keeping us. I am a passenger with brother Francis. Rode to Lebanon Springs.<sup>6</sup> Quite warm. A great deal of company at this and other springs. Rode to Richmond and visited our friends, Mr. and Mrs. Clark.<sup>7</sup> We had a pretty hard shower. Rode to Lenox to brother James's.

19. The forenoon quite rainy. Rode with brother F. and brother James

<sup>1</sup> This was, without doubt, the longest railroad journey he had ever made.

<sup>2</sup> There were two Bishops Onderdonk, but this was probably Benjamin T. Onderdonk, D. D., Bishop of Eastern New York.

<sup>3</sup> As suggested in a previous note, the construction of a railroad over the Berkshire hills was thought to be as far as engineering skill could possibly go. It would now be regarded as an easy task.

<sup>4</sup> About twice too long.

<sup>5</sup> Hancock touches Williamstown, and its western boundary is New York.

<sup>6</sup> In Columbia County, New York.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Eber L. and Sally (Lawrence) Clark, formerly at East Granby, Ct., and Winchendon, Mass. After Rev. Mr. Clark's death his widow was married to a Rev. Mr. Newcome. She died, aged eighty-eight, in Amherst, Mass., May, 1886.

and his wife to Norfolk. Came here at dark. Sister Battell has most of her children at home. The evening rainy. Have had a fatiguing week, but very prosperous. Had some word from Hartford. My cousin Joseph Battell is here.

20. Preached for Mr. Eldridge on Acts iv: 12, and Heb. iv: 9. Brother Francis assisted at the exercises, and preached at the evening meeting. This congregation much as it has been for many years. Our family circle is a very pleasant one. Am much exhausted by fatigue.

21. Wrote to Mr. Simeon Loomis, Hartford. Read. Wrote diary. This town appears slowly improving. Drank tea at Mr. Eldridge's; father's old mansion.<sup>1</sup>

22. A rainy day. Some of the time very hard. Wrote to Mr. Gould, of Fairhaven, and Mr. Wilson Barstow, of Mattapoissett. Wrote. Yesterday afternoon we rode and visited brother Ammi. Four brothers and our sister were together. Ammi is feeble and aged, and has not walked in about eight years. We all took tea at William Lawrence's.<sup>2</sup> He is in good circumstances. The ground is almost covered with water.

23. Left Norfolk and came to brother Ammi's. Sister Battell and I took the stage and came to Hartford. The roads are very wet. Quite warm. Saw several acquaintance. Stage fare, \$1.50. Tarried at a tavern.

24. Looked at the rising walls of the Athenæum.<sup>3</sup> A prospect of a magnificent building. The Historical Society have a valuable collection. Saw Mr. Goodwin.<sup>4</sup> He has labored in the printing-office seventy-four years. Many accounts in the papers of the late great rains. Rode in the stage to East Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott<sup>5</sup> still lives, though quite feeble. Read. Wrote. The crops here appear very well. This family are prosperous.

25. Last night was taken ill. Am very feeble, but just able to go out. Made two or three calls. This place appears to me much like home.

26. Wrote. Am, through mercy, much better than I was yesterday. The verdure in this street is very fine. Afternoon rode with Mr. and Mrs. Bissell<sup>6</sup> to Hartford. Made calls. Saw sister Battell. Kept at Mr. Loomis's. Quite warm. The waters of the river here were very high last spring.

27. Preached at the South Society on Acts iv: 12, and Heb. iv: 9. This congregation is a good one, and their meeting-house one of the best. Went into the Sabbath-school. Was at Mr. Robinson's at dinner, with sister Battell. An oppressive heat. At evening heard Mr. Ray, of Glenn's Falls.

<sup>1</sup> A large and handsome new house, completed in 1885, now stands on this spot, erected by members of the Battell family, for a family school, kept by Rev. John W. Beach.

<sup>2</sup> Son of Grove and Elizabeth (Robbins) Lawrence. He was now a man of forty-two years, and his wife, to whom he was married in 1830, was Caroline Augusta Rockwell. They had no children.

<sup>3</sup> He saw the building, then in process of erection, where his large library was soon to find its home, though the details of the arrangement for this transfer of his library had not yet been completed.

<sup>4</sup> George Goodwin, Sr., then approaching ninety years.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Abiel (Tudor) Wolcott, at his old home in East Windsor.

<sup>6</sup> Edgar and Eveline (Wolcott) Bissell.

28. Rode to the Retreat with sister Battell. The situation of the buildings is very beautiful. In the middle of the day we had a hard shower. It is a wet season. Dined at Mr. Barnard's.<sup>1</sup> Visited with my sister at Mr. Trumbull's. The ground very wet.

29. See many friends. Am quite unwell. I believe I have eaten too much fruit. Had a poor night. Henry Barnard is a very interesting and useful man. Took the stage and rode to East Windsor. Had calls from friends. This family are prosperous. Paid for two bandanas, \$2. Mr. S. T. Wolcott paid me \$300 on a note given me by his father,<sup>2</sup> for \$312, dated Dec. 6, 1838, which I have now indorsed on the note (no previous indorsement), and sent the same, by his desire, to Dr. E. W. Bull, of Hartford, by mail. Sept. 15, 1843.

30. Wrote. Am very languid. Read. Attended the affecting funeral of Mr. Edwin Birge, who died of an apoplexy. I have not health to visit much. Called at Dea. Reed's. There is a great crop of tobacco in this vicinity. Have kind invitations from this family with regard to future time.

31. Took the stage early and rode to Enfield. Find Mr. Jenney, of Fairhaven, here, with his whole family. They rode to see the Shakers. Severely hot. Afternoon preached a preparatory lecture for my brother, on Acts iv: 13. Towards evening my brother rode with me to Springfield. He returned. The whole country is rich with verdure. Tarried at a tavern. This town is large.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Took the cars early and rode to Boston. Quite cool; a great change from yesterday. Made calls. Procured Bishop Bull's works<sup>3</sup> from my book-sellers. Rode in the cars to New Bedford, and in a hack to Fairhaven. Much fatigued. Tarried at Mr. Gibbs's.

2. Read. Warm again. Rode home. Find things well. Have had, through great mercy, a very prosperous journey. Saw Mrs. Mayhew; no better of her terrible disease. Am quite feeble. Received a letter from Rev. S. Bailey,<sup>4</sup> of Dorchester, and a short billet from —, without offense. Received several pamphlets. Quite warm and very languid weather.

3. Preached a double sermon on 1 Tim. iv: 8. The heat oppressive. Mercury at 90°. Attended to my Bible class in the Sabbath-school. Attended the monthly concert. We get small contributions. Mr. Gould supplied here in my absence, very acceptably. Mr. Bailey, agent of the

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Henry Barnard.

<sup>2</sup> His father had been dead a few years.

<sup>3</sup> George Bull, D. D., born at Wells, Gloucestershire, Eng., 1634; educated at Oxford University; and, after filling many important offices in the church, was made Bishop of St. David's in 1705. He died, 1709. He published several theological works, which were regarded with great favor.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Stephen Bailey was residing at Dorchester without pastoral charge, but acting for the Seamen's Friend Society. He was a native of Greenland, N. H., born in 1784, and had not received a college education. He was settled for a time at Raymond, N. H., beginning his ministry there in 1817. He died in Dorchester, Dec. 11, 1867. He preached also at Nantucket, Wellfleet, Truro, and Mariners' Church, Boston.



Seamen's Friend Society, preached the afternoon of August 20, and he collected about \$10. Much fatigued.

4. Read. Paid the Fairhaven Bank, \$150, sent by Mr. Hammond, my indorser, to take up my note. The expenses of my late journey were about \$25. Very hot. Mercury at 91°. It has been at 90° repeatedly, in my absence, and August 31st, and once or twice more, at 92°. The last month was very warm and very wet. Walked out. Mrs. Mayhew had a very distressed day. Read late.

5. Wrote. Had company. Cooler; the mercury at summer heat. Read. Visited the sick.

6. Walked and rode to New Bedford and back. Had a kind interview with —. Wrote. Our people are encouraged that the price of oil is improving. Thermometer 78°. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston. Yesterday read in the works of Bishop Bull; they are great. At evening we had a good prayer-meeting. Sent Mrs. Mary Anne Cannon, \$7.24, to be paid from Hartford.

7. Read the Bible. Walked to the upper neighborhood and attended the funeral of a young child. I walked better than I have done, through mercy. Visited.

8. Visited the Pine Islands school; doing poorly. Read. Visited the sick. We have some bad cases. Our executive national government is very much degraded.

9. Cool. Have a steady fire. Wrote a sermon on Rom. v: 12. Received a box of books from Boston—Rushworth's *Collections*<sup>1</sup>—a rare work. Was much favored in my writing.

10. Preached with notes on Acts v: 20, and the sermon written yesterday. Afternoon wore my cloak. At the third meeting gave a lecture from Ps. cv: 37, 38. Much fatigued.

11. Read. Visited, and walked to Tripp's Mills district. At evening had a good meeting, and preached on Luke xv: 10. Tarried out. Quite cool.

12. Yesterday forenoon worked at my books. Rushworth's eight folios make a good addition. Visited a school. Was brought home. Two gentlemen from Wareham called on me. Attended the funeral of a young child. Read. Visited.

13. Wrote. This morning there was some frost, not hard; the first of the season. Wrote. Walked to Orcoot and attended the funeral of an aged man. Quite tired. Attended our evening meeting; quite thin. Read Rushworth's *Collections*.

14. Wrote to my brother Francis, and to Mr. Hitchcock, of Bedford. Received a letter from Pres. Hopkins, of Williams College. Visited. Mrs. Mayhew is very low.

<sup>1</sup> John Rushworth was the secretary of Sir Thomas Fairfax, Commander-in-Chief of the parliamentary army during the civil war in England. He made large and valuable

historical compilations pertaining to this period. He was born, 1607, and died, 1690. Bishop Warburton says of his work, it "is full of vastly curious and valuable matter."

15. Wet. Visited the sick. Wrote to Stephen Phillips,<sup>1</sup> Esq., of Salem, and to Dr. Bull, of Hartford. Read. The Democracy of our country seems to be getting into a favorable division.

16. Commenced transcribing my Williams College address for the printer. Attended the funeral of an infant child. At evening wrote notes for preaching. Warm. Mercury at 82°.

17. Preached with notes on Luke xv: 10, and a sermon on John i: 19. Full meetings. Had the third meeting in the evening in the lecture room. Attended my Bible class. Mercury near 80°. Read.

18. Wrote. Had company. Dea. Crosby paid me \$76 on his note, and gave me a new note of \$50. I have lost some of my coins. Read late. Thermometer about 80°.

19. Read. Walked out. Wrote, transcribing my address. Thermometer about summer heat. Visited.

20. Wrote. Have many interruptions. Visited a school. Attended the evening prayer meeting. Am quite languid. Thermometer about 75°.

21. Wrote what I could. Have many calls. The heat oppressive.<sup>2</sup> Thermometer at 80°. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Hitchcock, of Bedford. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>3</sup> Wrote.

22. Attended the funeral of a fine lad at the Neck, who died suddenly. The ground has become quite dry. Read. Wrote on my address.

23. Wrote a sermon on John xiii: 34. Visited the sick. Warm. Wrote late. Have much trouble in getting a passable pen.

24. Preached with notes on Ps. lxxviii: 18, and the sermon written yesterday. Attended my Bible class. Very warm. The mercury was at 88°, and near that the most of the afternoon. Attended the evening meeting. Read.

25. Wrote to Mr. May, of Lexington.<sup>4</sup> Read. Received a letter from Dr. Bull, of Hartford, with a draft of \$62.50. Visited the sick. We have frequent deaths of late. Wrote. Cool again.

26. I am troubled with waking nights. Walked, and rode to the Neck and attended the funeral of a young child. An affecting case. Last night we had a hard and grateful shower. Wrote on my transcribing. Visited.

27. Quite cool. We had a large county temperance meeting here. Some very bad-spirited persons present. It went off pretty well. Attended the three meetings. Many people called upon me. Opened the meeting.

28. We had a pretty hard frost. The first to check vegetation. Rode to Bedford. Paid Mr. Richmond, my merchant tailor, \$30; to Mr. Howe, \$10;

<sup>1</sup> Stephen C. Phillips, before noticed, then on the State Board of Education with Dr. Robbins.

<sup>2</sup> We have often called attention to the hot weather apt to occur in September. This year it continued later than usual.

<sup>3</sup> The parties married were John P. Carr and Martha Cannon.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel J. May, whom Dr. Rob-

bins used to visit many years before at Brooklyn, Ct., and with whom he established very friendly and intimate relations, though Mr. May was a Unitarian, and Dr. Robbins was strict on matters of religious doctrine. Mr. May was at the head of the Normal School at Lexington, 1842-1845. He was a man of admirable character, and an active philanthropist.

to Mr. Taber, \$10; to Mr. Bennett, \$10, which, with \$15 before, makes \$25 for the sofa in my pulpit, and finished his account. President Adams was at Bedford, and appeared publicly at the town hall and spoke to a great collection of people. I sat with him. He spoke very well. My debts, mostly for books, are larger than they should be. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>1</sup> We had a serenade from the band of music.

29. Wrote what I could. Had company. Received two letters from Mr. May, of Lexington, one from Mr. Stoddard,<sup>2</sup> Boston, and one from Mr. Richmond, of Bedford. Visited. Frost this morning. Wrote late.

30. Wrote on my transcribing. Read. Received a letter from Mr. John Barr, of Cleveland, O. Preached a preparatory lecture on Ps. li: 10.

#### OCTOBER.

1. A rainy day; cold and uncomfortable. Preached with notes on Ps. xxv: 22, and a sermon on 1 Cor. ii: 10. Administered the sacrament. The church and meetings quite thin. Had no evening meeting or Sabbath-school. At night severe wind. Read.

2. Visited. Mrs. Mayhew very low, but we hope no worse. Wrote and finished transcribing my long address for the press. Have had much labor with it. I hope it may be very useful. Read. Quite warm. Mercury up to 76°.

3. Revised and corrected my address, and sent it to Mr. Charles Stoddard,<sup>3</sup> of Boston. Wrote to him. Mr. Crosby went on a journey to Maine. Read. Am quite fatigued with my writing and study.

4. Had company. Dined out. Walked out and visited the sick. One of our large government steamships has been burnt at Gibraltar. Read. Attended the evening meeting; quite thin.

5. Wrote. Cool, like fall. We have quite a number of dwelling-houses in building. Visited our grammar school. It does pretty well.

6. Visited the Pine Islands school. Received a letter from Mr. Dyer at New Bedford, in answer to one I wrote to him yesterday, one from Mr. Stoddard, of Boston, and one from Mr. Edmund Gifford, of Fairhaven. — all post-paid — and one from Mr. Fowler,<sup>4</sup> of Fall River.

7. Began and wrote part of a sermon on Isa. lxi: 1, 2. Have many hindrances. Wrote to Mr. Fowler, Fall River. Cool and wet. Read.

8. A wet and rainy day. Meetings thin. Preached a sermon on Ps.

<sup>1</sup> The persons married were Joseph R. Taber and Laura Ann Hall.

<sup>2</sup> Dea. Charles Stoddard.

<sup>3</sup> One might wonder why his address at Williams College, when ready for the press, should be sent to Dea. Charles Stoddard. This wonder may be resolved by a word of explanation. In 1830 Williams College lost a brilliant and able young professor, William Augustus Porter, son of David Porter, D. D.,

of Catskill. He had only been three years in office, and his loss was deeply felt. Dea. Stoddard, in 1832, married Prof. Porter's widow, and this fact brought him into natural relationships with the college. Mrs. Porter, who became Mrs. Stoddard, was the daughter of Hon. Daniel Noble, of Williams-town, and Dea. Stoddard was also on the Williams Board of Trustees.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Orin Fowler.

xvi: 11; divided. Visited Mrs. Mayhew; very low. I fear she cannot live. At evening the storm was very hard. Got quite wet. Read.

9. Very pleasant and warm. Received from Boston a part of proof-sheets of my address, and revised them in part. Read. At evening was in at a temperance meeting. There was a poor and useless debate. Traded, etc., \$1.58.

10. Finished revising my sheets and sent them to Boston. Walked and visited. Mrs. Mayhew is very feeble. Read late. It is said the crop of corn is great, and the potato crop light.

11. Wrote. Worked at newspapers and pamphlets. Wrote to Col. S. T. Wolcott, East Windsor. Attended our evening prayer-meeting. Had a good meeting.

12. Worked at my newspapers. Read. Had company from Bedford. We have good news from Southern elections. At evening visited.

13. Walked and visited the sick. Received a letter from Hon. Stephen C. Phillips, Salem. Read. Preparing for my journey.

14. Rode early to Bedford, and in the stage to Fall River. Something wet. The ravages of the late fire in this place were very great. Many new buildings are now rising. Mr. Fowler went to Mattapoisett. Took tea with Dr. Durfee<sup>1</sup> in his very splendid new house. He showed me some of the new buildings.

15. A pleasant day. Preached on Isa. xxviii: 16, and Heb. iv: 9. This is a good congregation; sufficiently large, notwithstanding the late separation.<sup>2</sup> Went into the Sabbath-school; quite large. At the evening meeting preached on 2 Peter iii: 11-14. The church here, now divided, have had long difficulties. Much fatigued.

16. Wet again. Walked about town with Dr. Durfee. The great factories are very extensive and powerful. There is much wealth here. Mr. Fowler returned from Mattapoisett. Afternoon Mr. Willard gave me a conveyance to Bedford, and I crossed over to Fairhaven. Very rainy. Did not get much wet.

17. Called on Mr. Roberts.<sup>3</sup> He is much depressed. Read. Took the stage and came home. Received a letter from Pres. Hopkins. Received pamphlets. Gave tracts to a number of seamen. Visited.

18. Am trying to find accommodation for the expected session of our Association. Revised a proof-sheet received yesterday from Boston, and sent it back to the printers. My people have warned a precinct meeting. My trust is all in God. Was out late. Read. Quite cool.

19. Early this morning we had a hard shower. The hardest thunder, I think, that we have had this year. Wrote. A whale brig sailed from here. Walked a distance and visited the sick. Read D'Aubigné.

<sup>1</sup> Nathan Durfee, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> The Central Church, so called, in Fall River, was organized, 1842. The First Church dates from 1816. This being a manufactur-

ing village, none of the churches in the place are really ancient, as in many of the old New England towns.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Jacob Roberts.

20. Have much anxiety about the society meeting.<sup>1</sup> Made various calls and consulted friends. Have much to do in preparing for Association. Have a good account of Southern and Western elections. Mr. Robbins' and wife, of Milton, called to see me. I was out late.

21. Made calls. Paid for drawing wood, \$2. Wrote. My mind is much oppressed. My people had a precinct meeting. I sent them a paper relinquishing claims for salary for the current year on account of their embarrassments in business, and the erection of the meeting-house. This was kindly received and their thanks voted. I excepted what may be done by individual donations. Am too feeble for mental labor.

22. Pleasant and warm. Preached with notes on Gal. iii: 13, and a sermon on 1 Peter iv: 7. Attended the Sabbath-school. Had a good meeting. Spoke at the evening meeting on Mark x: 47. Much fatigued.

23. Wet. Did errands. Read. Georgia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Ohio have done well for their country. Read ecclesiastical history. Received a letter from my sister Battell, informing me that brother Ammi is quite unwell; I fear in his last sickness. Holy is the Lord. Wrote.

24. Warm and pleasant. Did errands. Read the Bible. Wrote to Mr. Roberts, of Fairhaven. Wrote on a temperance address. Had company.

25. Brought up wood. Read. Wrote on my address. Attended the evening meeting. Wrote late.

26. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Roberts. Walked and visited. We hope our sick are something better. We have an account of bribery in our Legislature last winter. It will probably increase.

27. Wrote and finished my temperance address. Received a letter from Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridgewater. Worked at my books. Received from Mr. Stoddard, of Boston, twenty-five copies of my Williams' College address.<sup>2</sup> It was very well executed. A few copies of Pres. Hopkins's address, on the same occasion, came with them. A rainy day.

28. We have had a great deal of rain. Wrote. Visited. Mrs. Mayhew is hopefully a little better. Wrote a part of a missionary report for Association. Preparing for their accommodation. Paid a tailoress, seventy-five cents.

29. Rode early to Fairhaven on an exchange. Mr. Roberts went to Mattapoisett. Something wet. Preached on Isa. xxviii: 16, and Acts iii: 16. Visited a sick child. Much fatigued.

30. Had a remarkably good night's rest. Walked and visited. Wrote. Read. There is a high political excitement in the State. At evening we had a temperance meeting in the meeting-house, and I delivered my address. After this I wrote one half of my report on missions, and finished it.

31. Wrote on records. Had company. The Old Colony Association

<sup>1</sup> The troubles which Dr. Robbins had been passing through had probably wrought some disturbance in the parish, and the congregation would be naturally sensitive.

<sup>2</sup> A son or grandson, probably, of Rev.

Nathaniel Robbins, who had been pastor at Milton, 1750-1795.

<sup>3</sup> For some reason this address has not commonly been enumerated among Dr. Robbins's publications.

met here. Nearly all present; thirteen ministers in all. We dined and took tea at Capt. Dexter's. Afternoon we had the annual meeting of the Old Colony Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. Many of our people were at a political meeting at Rochester. Our meeting being thin, we organized for the coming year and adjourned to evening. At evening we had the Association sermon, by A. Bigelow,<sup>1</sup> after which we had the missionary meeting. I read my report, and there was very good speaking. The house was cold. Mr. Putnam<sup>2</sup> staid here.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. A very hard frost. The Association was attentive to business and finished at noon. We dined again at Capt. Dexter's. I paid Mr. Gould,<sup>3</sup> \$7, in consideration of his labors here during my late journey—\$1.75 of which was contributed by others. Visited a sick child. Much fatigued. Read.

2. In the morning we had a hard rain. Wrote to Mr. Sampson, of Bedford. Read. Visited. Wrote.

3. Cold. Brought up thirty armfuls of wood.<sup>4</sup> Read the Bible. Much occupied with company. Wrote records. Visited the sick child.

4. Wrote on a sermon on Isa. lxi: 1, 2. Much hindered by company. Cold. My sermon was begun some time since; I wrote laboriously in the evening, five pages, and finished it.

5. Was considerably unwell last night. Preached my sermon, divided, on Isa. lxi: 1, 2. The meeting-house cold. Attended the Sabbath-school. At evening we had the monthly concert. Visited Mr. Howland's afflicted family. His daughter is dead.

6. Brought up my thirty armfuls of wood. Read. Cold. At evening walked and visited. Mrs. Mayhew is apparently sinking under her long disease. Received a letter from Mr. Sampson, of New Bedford.

7. Read. Brought up wood. Attended the funeral of Mr. Howland's child. Mr. Gould was with me. Visited. Mrs. Mayhew appears near her end. Reckoned with Mr. Crosby. His charges: board, \$130; house-rent, \$37; horse-hire, \$14.49 = \$181.49. I have paid him during the year, \$77. Paid him now, \$10, and owe him \$94.49. His charges are high.<sup>5</sup> I have received but little from my people.

8. Rode to Bedford in the stage. There is a great political excitement about the State election. Attended the evening meeting. Mrs. Mayhew,<sup>6</sup> my excellent cousin, died today. Visited the family. We had the annual meeting of our Auxiliary Home Missionary Society. Last evening and night we had considerable snow. Paid Mr. Crosby, \$15, and received of my collector, \$13.

<sup>1</sup> Andrew Bigelow, D. D., of Dartmouth.

<sup>2</sup> Israel W. Putnam, D. D., of Middleborough.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William Gould, of Fairhaven.

<sup>4</sup> This he did for a kind of daily exercise.

<sup>5</sup> They would be called low now, but they

were nearly double what he used to pay Maj. Abiel Wolcott, twenty-five years before, at East Windsor, Ct.

<sup>6</sup> Mrs. Thomas Mayhew, whose maiden name was Lucy Le Baron, daughter of William Le Baron, of Fairhaven.

9. Still cold. Mercury from 25° to 30°. Had company. Wrote to Mr. Hall,<sup>1</sup> of Plymouth. Visited our north school. Very well instructed. Visited. Wrote.

10. Brought up wood. Wrote to my sister Battell. Read. Began a sermon on Phil. i: 23, 24, and wrote considerably.

11. Wrote and finished in the evening the sermon begun yesterday. Afternoon attended the solemn funeral of Mrs. Mayhew. Had the service in the old meeting-house. Her death is a great loss. Afternoon wet, and in the evening a hard rain.

12. Preached with notes on John v: 40, and my funeral sermon on Phil. i: 23, 24. Full meeting and solemn. We closed our Sabbath-school,<sup>2</sup> which has done well. Spoke at evening on John xi: 42. A high wind.

13. Prepared for journey. Our people are considerably excited with the election. Took the stage and rode to Bedford, and the cars to Boston. The excitement of the election was great all the way. The Whigs in Bedford and Boston in high spirits. Got to Boston at dark. Cold.

14. The papers have got election returns this morning from the most of the State. Very favorable to the Whig cause.<sup>3</sup> All from the rich grace of God. Last night there was some snow. Quite cold. Rode in a stage to Lexington. Kindly received by Mr. May<sup>4</sup> of the Normal School. Mr. Knapp,<sup>5</sup> of Billerica, came, and I went with Mr. May and him to Waltham, to Mr. Ripley's,<sup>6</sup> and met with a Unitarian association. Their session was about two hours. The most of them are abolitionists. Mr. Ripley has Gov. Bradford's<sup>7</sup> tankard. At evening returned to Lexington and went to Mr. Eli Robbins's, a distant cousin. Was kindly received. Was well treated at the association.

15. Was in last evening at Mr. Stephen Robbins's, father of Eli. He is eighty-five years of age, and his wife near the same, and they have been married more than sixty years. He is considerably active and attends to business. His grandfather Thomas and my grandfather Philemon were brothers. Was carried to the Normal School and was in it for the forenoon, and the afternoon in the Model School. The latter one, children, finely instructed. Found the tombstone of Thomas Robbins; died 1791, aged eighty-nine. Was carried back to Stephen Robbins's, and had a pleasant evening with kindred.<sup>8</sup> Quite cold. It is said there is sleighing in Vermont.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Robert B. Hall.

<sup>2</sup> Closed for the winter.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. George N. Briggs, of Pittsfield, was elected Governor.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel J. May.

<sup>5</sup> Probably Rev. Nathaniel P. Knapp, a graduate of Harvard College, 1826; not settled in Billerica, but very likely supplying the pulpit there.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Samuel Ripley, son of Ezra Ripley, D. D., of Concord. The son was graduated at Harvard College, 1804, and was settled in Waltham, 1809. He died in 1847.

<sup>7</sup> Gov. William Bradford, of Plymouth. Dr. Robbins was looking on a relic of one of his own ancestors.

<sup>8</sup> Richard Robbins, the founder of the family, having lived in Cambridge, where also the earlier generations made their homes, it was natural that there should be many of the name in all the region. A recent *Boston Directory* shows about one hundred and thirty persons of this family name. Moreover, the name was spread abroad in the land, not only from Richard, of Cambridge, but from John Robbins, of Wethersfield, Ct.

16. Eli, Jr., again carried me to the Normal School early. Spent the forenoon on it. I think it is the best school I have ever been in. Said a good deal to the pupils. Mr. May is very faithful and skillful. Wet. Mr. May gave me a conveyance to Cambridge, and I took the hourly<sup>1</sup> to Boston. Did errands. The State election has issued very favorably. May God be praised.

17. Took the cars and came to Bedford and home. Have had a prosperous journey. Not so cold as it has been. Expenses of my journey, \$9.82. To be charged to the Board of Education, \$9.25. Received a letter from sister Battell and one from brother James. Both gave me an account of the death of my elder brother Ammi.<sup>2</sup> He died, in comforting hope, October 29th, Sabbath evening, and was buried at Norfolk. May God in infinite mercy prepare the five that remain to follow the three that are gone. Holy is the Lord. I stand next. Received a letter from Mr. Hall, of Plymouth. Received a paper from a few individuals. Read. Much fatigued. Paid postage, fifty-one cents.

18. Last night we had a pretty hard rain. Wrote diary. Read. Did errands. A number of people here are sick.

19. Preached a sermon, divided, on Hab. iii: 17, 18. Spoke on my brother's death. At evening spoke on John x: 42. Read. I asked public prayers, and wore full mourning.

20. Walked a distance and was brought home. Wrote to Mr. Dyer, of Bedford. Visited the sick. Mrs. Dea. Hammond is very sick. Read.

21. Brought up wood. We had a hard rain. Wrote to Mr. Eli Robbins, of Lexington. Gave him a good deal of our family history. Had company.

22. Walked early and visited the sick. Quite cold. Rode to Bedford. Called on Mr. Dyer and Mr. Hitchcock. Had some snow. Attended our evening prayer-meeting. Visited. Read. Received a packet from Copenhagen,<sup>3</sup> Denmark.

23. Wrote to my sister Battell. Walked and visited. Am able to walk a good deal, through great mercy. Quite pleasant. Brought up thirty armfuls of wood. Dined out.

24. Wet and rainy. Prevented from going to the Neck. Read the Bible. Received a letter from Mr. Hitchcock, of Bedford. Read. The opening of China is a great event to the civilized world. Visited. Have taken some cold. Much warmer than last week.

25. Very pleasant for the season. Wrote a sermon on Gal. iii: 8. More than half of it in the evening. Hindered by company. I am much favored

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<sup>1</sup> That word *hourly* is a veritable record of old times. Now, when the horse-cars are passing on different lines between Cambridge and Boston every three minutes, it seems odd enough to think of an omnibus setting out once an hour to do this business in 1843.

<sup>2</sup> Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, Jr., was born

Jan. 3, 1768, and was seventy-five years and nearly ten months old at his death. Though he had lived many years in Colebrook, Ct., he was buried in Norfolk, Ct., his native place.

<sup>3</sup> Doubtless from the Society of Northern Antiquarians, with whom he corresponded through Dr. Thomas Hopkins Webb.



with regard to the tremor in my hand. There is an unpleasant excitement among my people.<sup>1</sup>

26. Preached with notes on John v: 39, and the sermon written yesterday. Have a bad hoarseness, and spoke with difficulty. Had a good evening meeting, and spoke on 1 Chron. iv: 10. Visited. Cannot sleep well at night. Wrote.

27. Quite cold. Walked to the Neck. Visited. Visited their schools; small, but in a good state. Rode the most of the way home. Mrs. Hammond is hopefully some better. Heard a temperance lecture, quite good except some little things, by a Universalist preacher. Visited. Was out quite late. A cold night.

28. The mercury about 20°. Read. Had company. Visited the sick; we have quite a number. Am much depressed.

29. Read. Had company. We had some snow. Attended the evening meeting in a private house. Wrote. The number of sick increases. Had two invitations to dine tomorrow.<sup>2</sup>

30. Thanksgiving. Preached a sermon on Ps. cxvi: 12. The ground is covered with snow, and it is cold. Thin meeting. Dined at Mr. Arvin Cannon's, at an excellent dinner. Had company. Received a letter from W. J. Russell, of Wilmington, N. C. A Mr. Tobey, of Rehoboth, made me a visit. Read. We had our customary contribution for poor widows.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Wrote. It snows. I fear our sickness increases. A woman died yesterday. Visited the sick and others. Have many hindrances. Read.

2. A neighbor showed me a paper that is a foolish thing. Rode to the poor-house and met with the school committee. We were very busy examining seven new teachers, and giving certificates to them and others. Got home in the evening. Very cold. Thermometer in the evening 17°. Am much depressed. Up late.

3. Preached on Luke xii: 42. The house cold. Had the sacrament—a short exercise. The church thin. At evening attended the monthly concert. Visited. Some of our people act very strangely.<sup>3</sup>

4. Rode to the Neck and visited the sick. We have a number of people hard sick. Walked home. Read. It thaws and the snow is much diminished. Received a letter from Chandler Robbins,<sup>4</sup> of Boston. A Mr. Livermore,<sup>5</sup> from Boston, called on me. Wrote late.

5. Wrote to Mr. Dyer, of Bedford. Cold. Rode to Bridgewater. Had company. Had company to Middleborough. Called on Mr. Putnam; he

<sup>1</sup> Some division of feeling, perhaps, respecting Dr. Robbins himself.

<sup>2</sup> Being an unmarried man, Dr. Robbins was usually invited out to dinner on Thanksgiving Day.

<sup>3</sup> Expressions like this occurring from time to time make it plain that something

was passing among the people personal to himself.

<sup>4</sup> Chandler Robbins, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Probably George Livermore, whose residence was in Cambridge, and who made the finest collection of Bibles in the country. He was born in 1809, and died in 1865.

and his wife are sick. Good traveling. Called on Mr. Gay. Tarried at the tavern.

6. We examined twenty-five young men and women for admission to the Normal School; two of them are to be examined further tomorrow. Was at the funeral (Episcopal) of a young woman, an early pupil of this school. Rode to Mr. Wood's, hither part of Middleborough. Quite cold. The ground is frozen. Hospitably entertained. Paid the tavern, \$1.62.

7. It snowed through the forenoon. Not cold. Rode home. Visited a woman quite sick. It rained after the snow. Received a letter from Mr. Shepard,<sup>1</sup> of Bristol, and a church letter from Mr. Nott, of Wareham. Am depressed in mind. Read Scott's *Napoleon*.

8. Cold. The ground is icy. Read the President's Message.<sup>2</sup> Pretty slim. Visited a large school, doing well. Wrote.

9. An aged woman died on the Neck last night. Rode in the stage to Bedford to exchange. We have some snow and rain. Put up at Mr. Dyer's. Had a pleasant call at Mr. Arnold's.<sup>3</sup> Read. Mr. and Mrs. Dyer are very pleasant English people.<sup>4</sup>

10. Mr. Dyer<sup>5</sup> went to Mattapoisett, and returned after meeting. Preached on Gal. iii: 8, and Isa. xxviii: 16. This congregation is respectable in character, but not large. Went after meeting to Mr. Daniel Smith's. Attended the evening meeting with Mr. Dyer. The roads are icy. Mr. Dyer has much useful information.

11. Found some missing books. Rode home. Visited a school. High winds and muddy roads. Visited. Walked a distance in a very dark evening.

12. Walked and rode to the Neck, and attended the funeral of the good Mrs. Hammond. Visited a school. Visited the sick. Had some snow. Read late.

13. Very cold. Mercury at 10°. Brought up wood. Read. Visited the East Village school; not in good order; yesterday Dea. Hammond's, and on Monday the Pine Islands. Attended our evening meeting. My people are in an unpleasant state. Read late.

14. Last evening the mercury was at 8°, and this morning at 20°. Rode to the poor-house and met with the school committee. We prescribed a new

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas Shepard, D. D., a venerable-looking man in his old age, was graduated at Brown University, 1813, and settled in Bristol, R. I., 1835-1879. After 1865 he had a colleague. He was born in Norton, Mass., 1792, and finished his studies at Andover, 1816. He was for two years afterwards a missionary in Georgia. He was first settled in Ashfield, Mass., 1819-1833. His whole ministerial life after leaving Andover covered sixty-three years. His presence at public gatherings was a kind of benediction.

<sup>2</sup> This was the third regular Message of President John Tyler.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. James Arnold.

<sup>4</sup> The fact that Rev. James A. Roberts, of New Bedford, and Rev. Jacob Roberts, of Fairhaven, were natives of England might naturally draw some English people to that neighborhood.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. David Dyer was born in England in the year 1811. He was afterwards settled in the Village Church, Dorchester, 1845-1852. He died in 1870.

set of class-books. Visited the center district school; in good order. The cold abates.

15. Very pleasant. Read. Walked and visited. Visited the sick. Received a very kind letter from Mr. George Livermore, of Boston.

16. A wet and rainy day. Several of my people called on me and presented a petition relative to my removal.<sup>1</sup> The Lord be my guide and support. Received a box of books, works of Comines,<sup>2</sup> seven folios, a present from Wilmington, N. C., through the suggestion of Mr. W. J. Russell, formerly of New Bedford. News came today of the death of my excellent friend and cousin, Dr. Le Baron,<sup>3</sup> in Western New York. Paid a bill for repairs of my stove, \$4.43. Visited my afflicted kinsfolk in a very dark and wet evening. Wrote.

17. Wet and rainy. Preached a sermon both parts of the day on Matt. xix: 17. Meeting thin. Attended the evening meeting. Visited. Read late. My mind is burdened.<sup>4</sup> The Lord give me grace and wisdom.

18. The ground is covered with snow. Read. Had company. Worked at my wood. Wrote to Mr. George Livermore, Boston.

19. Not cold. Wrote. Walked and visited the sick. Our ship-yards are more active than they have been. I have kind friends here.

20. Rode early, with my cousin Lazarus Le Baron<sup>5</sup> as my delegate, to Wareham. Good wheeling. Met with the council. I was in the chair. After much examination we dissolved the modern Trinity Church,<sup>6</sup> and incorporated its members, by mutual consent, with the old Congregational Church. Closed the business in the evening. There is a prospect, with the divine blessing, that they may have peace. Kept at Esq. Bates's. Had a turn of toothache.

21. Rode home. Mild and pleasant. Wrote. Read. Wrote to Rev. Thomas Shepard, Bristol. Visited a sick woman.

22. Walked to the Neck and visited the sick. Returned in a moderate, steady rain. Read. Wrote to Mr. W. J. Russell, Wilmington, N. C.

23. Wrote a sermon on John ix: 4. More than half by candle-light. Have various interruptions. A dark and wet day. Quite weary.

24. Preached with notes on Heb. ii: 3, and the sermon written yesterday. The surface of the ground very wet. Spoke at the evening meeting on

<sup>1</sup> This was a kind of consummation of the discontent which had been stirring among his people.

<sup>2</sup> Phillipe de Comines (or Comynes), 1445-1509, a French statesman in the court of Louis XI, wrote the *Memoirs* of his time. They "are admirably written, and afford abundant proof that he possessed a clear, acute, and vigorous mind. He seems to have looked keenly into the heart of every man who crossed him in life, and with cool, severe anatomy dissects him for the benefit of posterity."—*Chambers's Encyclopædia*.

<sup>3</sup> Lemuel Le Baron, M. D., who had recently visited Mattapoisett.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins was probably suffering acutely in consequence of gossip and idle rumors, such as are apt to circulate about a minister who lives all his life unmarried.

<sup>5</sup> Lazarus Le Baron, son of Rev. Lemuel, was born in 1789, and was then fifty-four years old.

<sup>6</sup> This church, organized out of strife, had a short-lived existence. We are not certain that it was ever reported in the Massachusetts Congregational minutes.

2 Tim. iv: 8. Read late. Received a good letter from G. Livermore, Boston.

25. A very pleasant and mild day. Mercury near 50°. Read. The streets muddy. Wrote to Mr. Poor,<sup>1</sup> Fairhaven. Brought up wood. Was invited to a Christmas supper. Attended a temperance meeting. Was up very late.

26. Worked at my stove, etc. Much occupied with company. Wrote Mr. Mann, of Boston. Received a letter from Mr. Poor. Paid for apples, sixty-three cents.

27. We have snow and rain. The ground is covered with water. Dined out. Read. Have to move many of my books and other things.

28. Mr. Baker and his family came here to live with Mr. Crosby. Last evening had company, and a long talk with Dea. Crosby. He does poorly. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott.<sup>2</sup> Am much employed in moving and packing pamphlets, papers, etc. Took advice and wrote an answer to the request lately made to me by my people.<sup>3</sup> I hope God will approve of my proceeding, and make it the means of good. I desire to be at his disposal; he has never forsaken me. Paid Mr. Crosby, \$10.

29. Still warm and wet. Read Scott's *Napoleon*. Some of my books are evidently lost. Walked a distance in a high wind and visited. I fear there may be a division among my people. Read late.

30. Cold and tedious. Read. Hindered by company. The mercury at 18°. Wrote a large addition to a sermon on 1 Cor. iv: 2. Am pretty feeble for mental or muscular labor.

31. Quite cold. Mercury at about 17°. Preached my sermon on 1 Cor. iv: 2, with the addition. Spoke on the trying circumstances of this people. At evening performed a marriage.<sup>4</sup> Deaths this year, thirty-five;<sup>5</sup> three in the church.

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D.D., now Secretary of Presbyterian Board of Education.

<sup>2</sup> Then forty-seven years old, and living unmarried at her old home in East Windsor, Ct.

<sup>3</sup> He did not then, probably, ask for a formal dismissal, but very likely intimated his readiness to go, if, on fuller consideration, it were deemed desirable.

<sup>4</sup> The parties married were Zenas Cushman and Abby Morse, and this seems to have been the last marriage ceremony in which Dr. Robbins officiated at Mattapoisett.

<sup>5</sup> The year 1843 had been sickly, but not like the one preceding at Mattapoisett, or like the early part of the year 1816, when he was settled at East Windsor.



## 1844.

### JANUARY.

1. At seven o'clock met with a few brethren, and spent an hour in serious prayer. Was awake a considerable part of the night. The children called on me to the number of about one hundred and fifty.<sup>1</sup> Gave to each one a cake and an apple. May God give them his blessing. Dined at Capt. Dexter's. Read. Much occupied with company. Quite fatigued.

2. Wrote to Mr. Hitchcock,<sup>2</sup> Bedford. Read. Very pleasant. Brought up wood. Walked and visited. There is less sickness among us than there has been.

3. A very dark day, with a hard, cold rain. Read the *Life of Napoleon*. Had no evening meeting. Was invited, very kindly, to take a new boarding-place. I think it not expedient at present.<sup>3</sup> My friends show me much kindness. The Lord reward them. Paid for cakes, \$1.00; for apples, .25. Paid for a good pair of shoes, made here, \$2.00; post office, etc., .30. Wrote a notice for the newspaper for school-books. Received a letter from my cousin Philip Battell. Read the Bible.

4. Visited the sick. Read. Rode in the stage to the church district, and visited a school in good order. Walked home in the evening; a long walk. Read very late.

5. Cold and very tedious. The mercury about 20° through the day. Walked and did errands. Made this almanack. Through God's great mercy, my forty-ninth. Wrote. May God enable me to record in this diary great spiritual blessings. Received a letter from Mr. Mann, of Boston.

6. Mercury this morning at 15°. Last evening at 13°. Walked and visited. The ground hard frozen. Preparing for my journey. Wrote. Preparing for the Sabbath.

7. Thermometer about 10°. Last evening 15°. Preached a sermon, divided, on Ps. cxix: 6. Some snow and wet. At evening had the monthly concert; thin, and had no contribution. Visited. Wrote.

8. Colder. Received of Mr. Hammond, \$30.00. Paid a highway tax of \$5.00. Took the stage and rode to Bedford, and in the cars to Boston. Found towards Boston the ground covered with snow, and good sleighing. Quite fatigued. Well accommodated.

9. Called on Mr. George Livermore. He has in his store an immense quantity of wool. Very cold. The mercury was from 3° to 7° below zero.

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<sup>1</sup> This custom of a call from the children, to wish the pastor a happy new year, seems to have grown up here at Mattapoisett only a short time before. But it was a pleasant and useful custom.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Robert S. Hitchcock.

<sup>3</sup> He begins to forecast a removal from the town. His correspondence with Hon. Henry Barnard, on this subject, had been going on for some time.

Met with the Board of Education. Find it difficult to get a quorum. Went into the House of Representatives. Saw the new Gov. Briggs<sup>1</sup> take his oath. The Board did some business as a minority. I had to preside. Towards evening took the omnibus, and rode to Lexington on runners. Kindly entertained at my cousin's,<sup>2</sup> Eli Robbins's. Carried them my family genealogy.

10. Last night there was considerable addition to the snow. I think it is a foot deep. Rode in a sleigh to the Normal School. The first day of the new term. The former pupils were addressed and dismissed. Assisted Mr. May in examining nine new ones, who were received. They performed well. Mrs. Robbins gave me a fine pair of fur gloves. Purchased of her a good muff for \$3.00. Visited my kindred. Cold, and good sleighing. My cousins copied off the family piece. Have a pleasant visit.

11. Rode early in a cold morning into the city. Very fine sleighing, and abundantly used. The ice business in this quarter is great. Met with the Board; two sessions. The Governor with us a part of the time. The General Court proceed quietly and prosperously. Very different from last year. Rode with Mr. Livermore to his fine house in Cambridge,<sup>3</sup> and spent the night. He has a very valuable collection of ancient Bibles, and other works. Was treated with great politeness.

12. Returned to the city in a very cold and freezing morning. The mercury considerably below zero. It is said to have been at Lowell, 09°. The Board finished their business at a second session. The last time I shall sit with them. I shall go out in May by rotation. Mr. Livermore gave me Salian's<sup>4</sup> *Ecclesiastical Annals*, three fine folios; and I purchased a Dutch Bible folio, and eight other volumes, all from the library of the late Dr. Homer. Did errands. Paid to Dr. Dean,<sup>5</sup> for our Sabbath-school, contributed, \$7.42; leaving \$1.20 credit. Called on my cousin Chandler, and took tea. Paid for my *Recorder* the past year, \$2.00.

13. The weather moderated yesterday, and last night it rained. Took the cars and rode to Bedford, and in the stage home. Last night it rained very hard here, and carried out most of the ice in the harbor, which had become this week solid. Paid today, \$6.44; charge to the Board, attending the meeting of Board, \$8.50; visiting the school at Lexington, \$1.34. Gave Mrs. Baker, my hostess, the new handsome muff, for which I paid \$3.00. Looked at my new acquired books; a good addition. Much fatigued. Preparing for the Sabbath. Not able to write.

14. Cold again. Preached with notes on Ex. xvii: 11, and a sermon on

<sup>1</sup> Hon. George N. Briggs, a plain, practical, sturdy man, and a loved and honored Governor for seven successive years.

<sup>2</sup> He was a cousin, at a large remove, but it was all in the family.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Livermore's large store was in Boston, but his house, where his collection of Bibles was kept, was on Main Street, Cam-

bridge. Mr. Livermore was exceedingly kind and generous in allowing people to visit his house, he himself, when at home, politely assisting them as to the history and value of the books.

<sup>4</sup> J. Salian, author of the *Ecclesiastical Annals*, was a French Jesuit living 1557-1640.

<sup>5</sup> Treasurer of the Sabbath-School Society.

Rom. viii: 8. Full meeting. At the evening meeting spoke on John xiv: 16. Visited Mr. Buell's sick child; very sick. Read.

15. Thermometer this morning at 13°. Read. Wrote on the catalogue of my library. At evening had company. I am up too late nights. I do not sleep well. Some ice in our harbor, but not permanent.

16. Thermometer near freezing. Wrote diary. Yesterday morning visited my afflicted neighbor, Mr. Buell. He has again lost his only son. Wrote to Mr. Hall,<sup>1</sup> of Plymouth. Visited. Paid for a piece of beef had at Association, \$2.22. At evening very dark and rainy.

17. Wrote. Rainy through the day; some of the time very hard. No evening meeting. Walked out at evening. Wrote on my library catalogue; brought it to the close of 1843; thirty-five hundred volumes. Read. The funeral prevented by the rain.

18. The ground again frozen, but no snow. Read the Bible. Dined out. Attended the funeral of Mr. Buell's child. At evening a number of brethren called on me, and I read my sermon of last Sabbath afternoon. I think the meeting will be for good. Am much troubled with a toothache. A political election took place in some parts of this State January 1, with a very favorable issue.<sup>2</sup> May God make it a true index for this important year.

19. Read the Bible. Visited. Have some cold. Thermometer about 26°. Went into a school. Read. Cold and windy. At evening had good company.

20. A very cold day. Thermometer in the morning at 3°, and did not rise above 17°, with clear sun. Wrote a sermon on Rev. v: 9. Much favored in my writing. Thermometer at evening at 4°.

21. Thermometer 01°. The meeting-house very cold. Preached with notes on Job xlii: 5, 6, and the sermon written yesterday. Thermometer rose to 20°. The harbor is frozen over. Our sacred music is much improved.

22. Thermometer at 13°. Last night at 10°. Visited. Worked at my books. Read.

23. Thermometer about 20°. Last night was at 7°. Brought up wood. Occupied with company. We have various accounts of the severe weather. Wrote on record matters of past years. Rainy. Paid for a barrel of hard coal, \$1.13.

24. Pleasant. Walked to Pine Islands and visited a school. Wrote on records. At evening had a good meeting at Capt. Mayhew's.

25. Cold. Thermometer about 14°. Walked to the Neck. The ground very rough and hard. Dined out. Am a little rheumatic. Our harbor is firmly closed, apparently without an opening. Afternoon visited the lower ship-yard. Very cold and tedious. At evening visited. Read. At 11 P. M. thermometer at 3°.

26. Thermometer at 7 A. M., 03°. The cold is very severe. Read in

<sup>1</sup> Robert B. Hall.

<sup>2</sup> These elections were in towns where, under the *majority* rule, which then existed,

there had been no choice of representatives in November. Every year instances of this kind were almost certain to occur.



Bancroft's *History*.<sup>1</sup> A good writer. Wrote. The mercury did not rise above 11°, with a clear sun. Received a letter from Mrs. Campbell, of Augusta, Ga., and for her set about copying from the Connecticut *Courant* a long letter written by her father, Maj. Hull, of the Northern army, dated July 17th, 1777, afterwards Gen. Hull.<sup>2</sup> Thermometer at 11 P. M., 02°.

27. Thermometer at zero. Liquid frozen in my room. Thermometer rose to 15°. Wrote and finished my long letter to Mrs. Campbell. Preparing for the Sabbath. There is much movement on our harbor. Thermometer in the evening 2°.

28. Thermometer at 04°. Ice in my chamber. Preached a sermon, divided, on Acts xiii: 38. Meeting-house in the forenoon very cold. Afternoon meeting well attended. Mercury rose to 20°. At the evening meeting spoke on Ps. xcvi: 1. Visited. Thermometer late at evening 11°.

29. Thermometer at 6°, and rose with clear sun to 13°. Last night some snow. Very tedious. Read. Wrote on records. Received from President Adams a valuable folio, unbound, containing the last census; very full, with an abstract of the five preceding. Thermometer at 11 P. M., 01½°. Visited.

30. Thermometer this morning 04°. The last night was much the most freezing one that we have had. My ink was frozen. Am much oppressed with the cold. Walked out. Attended the funeral of my cousin Le Baron's grandson. Visited. Read. Wrote to Mr. Loring Meigs at the General Court, Boston. Thermometer rose to 23°, and in the evening was at 8°. The ground in the burying-place was frozen to the depth of two feet.

31. Thermometer at zero, and rose no higher than 11°, with a clear sun. A very tedious day. There is very little done abroad. Read. Had company. Wrote on Slavery. We had a good evening meeting. Thermometer at bed-time 1°.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Thermometer at 7°. Rode to Fairhaven and Bedford. Crossed on the ice; very thick and firm. Was taken into an ice-boat and carried in a complete manner the most of the way. Many accounts of the cold. Boston harbor is entirely closed. It is said that our bay is frozen over. There was a destructive fire in Bedford yesterday morning. A pleasant day. The mercury rose to freezing. Wrote for an album. Read.

2. The mercury near freezing the most of the day. It snowed through the day. Visited. Read. Wrote for another album. Wrote on Slavery.

3. We have three or four inches of snow. Copied into an album a piece I had written. A good woman died yesterday. Wrote a part of a letter to brother Francis. Preparing for the Sabbath. The mercury at about freezing. Walked out.

<sup>1</sup> New volumes of this large work were appearing from time to time. The first came out in 1834, and the ninth in 1865. It was, in its nature, a slow work. Mr. Bancroft is

at this writing a vigorous octogenarian at Washington, D. C.

<sup>2</sup> Gen. William Hull, a native of Derby, Ct., born 1753, died at Newton, Mass., 1825.

4. The mercury about 23°. Preached with notes on 1 John v: 9, and a sermon on Matt. xxv: 6. At noon attended the funeral of Mrs. Sanders. Preached in reference to her death in the afternoon. The fourth female member of the church in three or four months. Full meeting. At evening had the monthly concert. Sleighs move some.

5. Thermometer about 27°, and above freezing. The snow thaws. Am quite troubled with rheumatism. Read. A Mr. Eaton, an agent for the *Puritan*, called on me. Wrote in an album. It rained some. Wrote.

6. My rheumatism is oppressive and painful. Did not go into the street. Can do but little. Wrote and finished my letter to my brother. Wrote on Slavery. Read.

7. I am hardly able to keep about. Walked out. Warm and pleasant; the snow wastes, and the ground is extremely wet. Received a letter from Henry Stevens, Jr.,<sup>1</sup> of Cambridge, inquiring for historical facts. Walked out, and attended the evening meeting. Put a large plaster on my back.

8. The most of the snow is gone. My malady, through mercy, abates slowly. Wrote on a piece for publication. Looked over historical facts. I cannot write long for rheumatic pains. Visited.

9. Wrote. Walked and visited. Read. Find exercise necessary for my complaint. Read. Had company. It is growing cold again. In great mercy I have no fever with my rheumatism.

10. Employed arranging papers, and preparing for the Sabbath. Occupied with company. It is cold again. The mercury this morning at 4°, and rose to about 23°. Wrote.

11. Thermometer at 9°. Pleasant, though cold. Preached a double sermon on John xv: 25. Meeting-house very cold in the forenoon. Our Baptists are divided, and have two meetings. My rheumatism, through mercy, is much better. Spoke at the evening meeting on 2 Pet. ii: 21.

12. Thermometer at 13°. The atmosphere seems more mild, though yet cold. Walked and visited. Read. Was out late.

13. Thermometer at 10°. Very frosty. It is said that at Montpelier, Vt., the mercury has been 40° below zero. Paid for work, \$3.00. Wrote. Rode to Rochester to visit schools. There was a funeral, and the schools were dismissed. Attended with Mr. Bigelow. At evening went into their lyceum. Staid at Mr. Lot Haskell's.

14. Much more mild. The swamps are said to be more frozen than at any time within memory. Visited the academic and district schools. They appear well. Came home; walked the most of the way. At evening had a good meeting at Mr. Barstow's. Read late.

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<sup>1</sup> Henry Stevens, Jr., born in Stevensville, Vt., 1819, was graduated at Yale College (where the writer knew him) in 1843. He early displayed his taste and talent as a bibliographer, while librarian of the Brothers' Library at Yale. His life since graduation

has been almost wholly spent in England, where he has made for himself a great reputation. His death was reported only a few weeks ago. His father, Henry Stevens, was the first President of the Vermont Historical Society.

15. Thermometer at 10°. Yesterday at 25°. Finished my piece on Slavery<sup>1</sup> for the *Recorder*, and sent it off for Boston. Visited. Was out late. Read late. Paid the post office, .84.

16. Last night we had snow, but it thaws and is mostly gone. Worked at my papers. Visited our west village school. In a better state than for some years. Read. Visited.

17. Am still something rheumatic. Walked out and visited. The ground thaws some. Wrote. Preparing for the Sabbath. Read the Bible. Wrote.

18. Thermometer at 15°. Cold and windy. Rode to Rochester and exchanged with Mr. Bigelow. Preached on Gal. iii: 8, and Isa. xxviii: 16. The house well warmed. Mr. Bigelow was taken quite unwell at noon, and rode home. The deacons conducted our afternoon meeting. Rode home. The ground very hard and rough. At our evening meeting spoke on Ps. cii: 16.<sup>2</sup> Read. Thermometer at bed-time, 13°.

19. Thermometer 13°. It became quite mild. Rode and walked to the Neck, and visited. My rheumatism not wholly gone. Read. Important and favorable election news from Maryland. Received a long and acceptable letter from Mrs. Maria Campbell, Augusta, Ga.

20. Looked over old documents respecting the French War, etc. Warm and pleasant. Walked a distance and visited. The roads are becoming wet. At evening went into a spelling-school. Was out late.

21. The mercury above freezing the most of the day. Pleasant, and the ground thaws. Thermometer above 50°. Had a good deal of company; Second Advent folks. Mr. Hitchcock, of Bedford, called on me. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. L. Cobb.<sup>3</sup> Read. Received from Mr. Hammond, \$18.25, the payment of a note. Had a good evening meeting. Wrote.

22. Thermometer about freezing. Walked out. Mr. Lindsey, of Bedford, and Pres. Hopkins, of Williams College, made me a pleasant visit. Received of my collector, \$20.00. Looked for the historical facts. Wrote. Have many hindrances.

23. The weather is mild. Looked over old almanacks. Visited a large school. Read late. Visited. The surface of the ground very wet.

24. Wrote to Mr. Cobb. Had company. Took the stage and rode to Bedford to exchange. Cold, and the ground all frozen. Did errands. Paid for printing for our town school, \$2.25. Visited at Mr. Lindsey's. Saw Mr. Eben Watson and two of his daughters. Staid at Mr. Alden's with Mr. Hitchcock.

25. Mr. Hitchcock rode to Mattapoisett. Called on Mr. Dyer.<sup>4</sup> He and his congregation were with us in the forenoon, and he preached. I preached

<sup>1</sup> It is quite certain that this piece was not violently anti-slavery.

<sup>2</sup> We have not often stopped to comment on the large amount of Sunday labor required of ministers in those years, by the customs of the times. Year after year, with

occasional exceptions, Dr. Robbins, amid all his infirmities, real or imagined, is found preaching three times on each Sabbath day.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Leander Cobb.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. David Dyer, noticed in a previous paragraph.

in the afternoon on Isa. xxviii: 16. This congregation increases. After meeting rode home. Spoke at our evening meeting on Matt. xxii: 12. Read late. My rheumatism has mostly left me, but I have a bad itching. Thermometer 15°.

26. Brought up heavy, green wood. Read. Am quite languid. They have had a famous political convention at Hartford. Wrote. Visited. I sleep poorly nights.

27. The ice has mostly gone from our harbor, after a firm possession of more than a month. Walked to the Neck and visited. Families are changing. Was brought home in a cold rain. At evening had company. Paid for woolen yarn spun for me, \$1.00. Wrote.

28. We had a pretty large quantity of snow. Not cold. Mr. Thomas Williams came here. Finished my elaborate letter to Henry Stevens, Jr., on the *Life of Putnam*.<sup>1</sup> Attended the evening meeting.

29. Had company. Sleighing is poor. Dined out with Mr. Williams. He went away. Visited the Pine Islands school; doing well. Visited.

#### MARCH.

1. Walked to the West Neck, and visited their school. It has done very well. Visited families. Walked the whole distance, the most of the way in the snow and water. The most of the snow goes off, and I think I never saw the ground so wet at the surface. Less fatigued than I feared.

2. There has been a great catastrophe at Washington in the bursting of a great gun. I am glad the gun has gone. Walked out. The streets very muddy. Received a letter from Brother L. Cobb, and one from Mr. Thomas Williams. Received from my collector, \$22.09. Paid for drawing wood, \$8.25. Paid a merchant's bill, \$2.27. My people have got much in arrear. Read. My mind is greatly burdened with anxieties. In God is my hope. Wrote. Preparing for the Sabbath.

3. Warm, and the ground thaws. Thermometer about 50°. Preached with notes on Deut. xii: 9, and a sermon on John xxi: 15. At evening attended the monthly concert of prayer. Read. Am pretty feeble.

4. It snowed the most of the day. Mr. T. Williams called on me. Walked out and visited. Received a letter from sister Battell. Brother James has been severely sick. The Lord be my helper. Previous to receiving this letter I finished and sent off one to brother Francis. Read. Received of Capt. Freeman, towards a donation for the present year, \$12.00. Was out late.

5. A cold day. Thermometer in the morning at 10°. A committee from some of my people called upon me. I am greatly tried. My help is in God.

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<sup>1</sup> We here learn that the object of Mr. Stevens's inquiry was to obtain the historical truth with regard to Gen. Israel Putnam. He appealed to Dr. Robbins, as a man of historical tastes and knowledge, coming from

the State of Connecticut, where Putnam had lived through all his warlike days. We should be greatly interested to know the contents of that "elaborate letter" which Dr. Robbins sent to Mr. Stevens.

Received of my collector, \$35.77. Paid a merchant's bill, \$6.00; another, \$4.52; for horse hire, \$11.25. Am very feeble. Pretty good sleighing.

6. Thermometer about 12°. Our Baptists have a series of meetings. Wrote. The snow wastes away. My people had their annual precinct meeting. They had an article in the warning to see if I wished to continue with them; but the minority were not willing to have the vote taken.<sup>1</sup> Attended the evening meeting. Was out late. My trials wear upon me.

7. Went about taking the number of the children for the schools. Visited the sick. A good woman, Mrs. Freeman, had an operation, favorably, for a cancer. Visited.

8. Collecting the number of the children. Wet. The ground is very wet and soft. Warm. Visited. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Durfee, of Dedham.

9. Last night we had a good deal of rain. Wrote. Made calls. Rode in the stage to Sippican to exchange. Mr. Cobb came here before I left. The roads have become soft, and very muddy. Am much fatigued. Visited a sick woman.

10. Preached on Acts iv: 12, and John xxi: 15. At the evening meeting spoke on 2 Cor. viii: 9. Full meeting. This society<sup>2</sup> is evidently increasing and improving. Made a call. They have good singing here.

11. Cold, and the ground is considerably frozen. Rode home. Visited Mrs. Cannon; I hope a little better. Rode in a chaise to Middleborough. Much of the way the traveling is deep, and very bad. Tarried at Mr. Putnam's. Had a pleasant visit.

12. Rode to Bridgewater; about half of the way wading in mud. Attended to the examination of the Normal School. The performance was very good. I think I have not before seen it do as well. Mr. Mann and Mr. Sears were present. There have been in the term forty-three pupils, mostly females. At evening we had a public meeting about schools. Very muddy here. Staid at a tavern.

13. Rode to Middleborough. Called at Mr. Putnam's. Rode to Mr. Wood's. About noon it began to rain moderately, and continued through the afternoon and evening. I remained at a good place. Read. Wrote in a lady's album. The surface of this town is over 50,000 acres, one tenth in ponds.<sup>3</sup>

14. Rode home. The rain of yesterday and last night has much improved some parts of the road. Visited the school in the church district. At evening we had a church meeting. Fully attended. A committee were appointed to investigate our difficulties. Through the great mercy, the course

<sup>1</sup> By this it would appear that the majority of the voters present wished him to remain, but would not press a vote out of regard to the minority.

<sup>2</sup> The Congregational society at Sippican was then under the double pastorate of

Oliver Cobb, D.D., and his son, Rev. Leander Cobb. Dr. Cobb, the senior pastor, died in 1849, in the fiftieth year of his ministry.

<sup>3</sup> This fact in itself, for many reasons, would add to the interest and importance of the township.

of proceedings appeared favorable.<sup>1</sup> May God, in his mercy, be our helper. Received a letter from Mr. Nott, of Wareham, one from Esq. King, of this town, and one from Thomas Williams, of Rhode Island. Wrote.

15. Wrote diary. Received a letter from my brother Francis. Read newspapers. Wrote to Gov. Briggs.<sup>2</sup> Walked a distance, taking the number of the children. Tarried at Dea. Hammond's.

16. It rained steadily the most of the day. Walked in the rain more than three miles, taking my census. The streams are very high. God sustains my health. Wrote. Preparing for the Sabbath. Read the Bible.

17. Morning and forenoon a hard rain. Preached a double sermon on 2 Cor. v: 17. Afternoon a good number of hearers. Spoke at the evening meeting on Ps. li: 15. Visited the sick. In the forenoon we had a good deal of snow.

18. Walked to Pine Islands, collecting the number of children. Visited a school. Wrote to Dr. E. W. Bull, Hartford. Read. Had company.

19. Quite cold. Rode to the poor-house and met with the school committee. We were busily employed in collecting and arranging the school registers. Not all in. The ground is mostly settled. An aged woman was buried from the poor-house. The aged Mr. Lot Haskell is dead. Rode home in the evening. Am fatigued with constant labors.

20. Read. Worked at my library. Dined out. Visited the Dea. Hammond school. They have done well. At evening a storm of rain and thunder prevented our meeting, and my getting home. Read the *Tribune* newspaper.<sup>3</sup>

21. We have considerable snow. Had company. Wrote minutes of facts for Capt. Le Baron. My mind is perplexed. God has never forsaken me. Received of Little & Brown a receipt for \$37.00, which Mr. Meigs procured for me from the State Treasury, and paid them. This last belongs to the 22d.

22. We have a heavy snow on the ground. Had Advent company. Was out very little. The country is getting alarmed about the annexation of Texas.<sup>4</sup> The God of our fathers be our protector. Wrote.

23. Visited the sick. Had company. Mrs. Lazarus Le Baron is very low. My time is much taken up. Preparing for the Sabbath. Have to lend many books. Saw my cousin Eliza Hubbard, from Brimfield. On the 20th wrote to Mr. Secretary Palfrey.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Whatever was the germ of these difficulties, there is little doubt that they were chiefly the growth of town talk and evil surmisings.

<sup>2</sup> George Nixon Briggs, then made Governor of the State, was born in Adams, Mass., 1796. Without a college education, he established a reputation as an able lawyer, and held the office of Governor seven years. He died in Pittsfield in 1861, from the accidental discharge of a gun. As a public man he was greatly honored and trusted.

<sup>3</sup> The New York *Tribune* was founded by Horace Greeley in 1841 (the first number being issued April 10 of that year). It at once took its place as a new and independent power in journalism. Its influence in its early years was very great.

<sup>4</sup> Texas was admitted into the Union 1846, and out of this business grew our war with Mexico, 1847 and 1848.

<sup>5</sup> John G. Palfrey, the historian, was Secretary of State in Massachusetts, 1844-1848.

24. Preached with notes on Rom. v: 6, and a sermon on John vii: 45, 46. Visited a sick man quite low. Meetings pretty full.

25. Wrote on my school papers. Had company. At evening attended a temperance meeting. It is feared the cause here is declining. Read.

26. Rode to the poor-house and met with the school committee. We were very busy in making out the returns of the school. Rode home in the evening.

27. Much occupied with company. Assisted in preparing a plan for a new temperance society. Walked and visited. Our snow is gone. Some of my people do badly. I am greatly afflicted. In God I hope. My good cousin, wife of Mr. L. Le Baron, died of consumption. Attended the evening meeting. Paid for knitting, etc., .75. Read late.

28. Very dark and unpleasant weather. Wrote. Had company. Received a letter from Dr. E. W. Bull, of Hartford, with a draft of \$40.05; less than usual. Walked a distance and visited. The movements here give me much anxiety. Saw a strange deformed person.

29. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Nott, and to Dr. Bull. Paid at the post office, \$1.30. Am quite feeble. Spent a long evening with the committee of the church. Visited. A young man in the village died this morning.

30. We have a cold, easterly storm. Wrote on a school report for the town meeting. Mrs. Le Baron's funeral was put off on account of the storm. Wrote. Walked out. Wrote an addition to a sermon for the funeral occasion.

31. Very cold and tedious, but without rain. Preached in the morning with notes on Mark xiii: 37. At one and one half o'clock attended the funeral of Mrs. Le Baron at his house. A large funeral, but a most uncomfortable time. There have been severe breaches of late in the family of Uncle Le Baron. At four o'clock attended the funeral of a young man; died of consumption. Went twice to the grave. Had a thin evening meeting, and spoke on Matt. v: 17. Much fatigued.

#### APRIL

1. Still cold, but less windy. Wrote on my school report, and finished it. Carried it to the town meeting, but could not get a hearing. Have to wait for the adjourned meeting. Mr. Bourne and Mr. Smith, of Wareham, called on me. They are in much trouble. I declined going to an *ex-parte* council, which they requested. Mr. Cowles,<sup>1</sup> an agent, called on me. Attended a temperance meeting. I fear the cause labors here.

2. Walked out. The ground quite frozen. Read. Brought up wood. At evening went to a meeting of the committee of the church. We had a serious interview. May God help us, and give his blessing. Am feeble and oppressed. Read late.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Orson Cowles, born in East Hartland, Ct., 1801, graduated at Yale, 1828, and at Yale Theological Seminary, 1832. He was first settled at North Woodstock, Ct.,

1832. For twenty years, from 1840 to his death, 1860, he was District Secretary of the American Board, where he performed important service.

3. Walked a distance and visited. We have a good account of the Connecticut election.<sup>1</sup> The Lord be praised. Looked in the woods for trees to transplant. Wrote. Preparing for the Fast.

4. Fast. Warm and pleasant. The mercury was above 70°. Preached a sermon on Deut. vii: 7, 8; a double sermon. The people here mostly consider the day as secular. Attended the evening meeting, and spoke on John xi: 25, 26.<sup>2</sup> Received a letter from Mr. Cowles, the agent. Very much fatigued. Our first spring day. A whale brig came in. Read the Bible.

5. Read. Walked a distance and visited. People are ploughing and gardening. At evening Mr. Barstow came in and read to me the report of the church committee. Wrote.

6. Walked out and visited. Wrote on the school returns. Several seamen called, and took tracts for their voyage. Mr. Greene<sup>3</sup> and Mr. Cowles, from Boston, called on me. Wrote an addition to a sermon for tomorrow.

7. Preached with notes on Ps. lv: 22. Administered the sacrament. We had a good season. Afternoon preached a sermon on 1 Cor. vii: 31. Spoke particularly on the subject of the late deaths. A pleasant day. Walked out and performed a marriage.<sup>4</sup> Rev. Mr. Cowles came in the evening; preached on the subject of Foreign Missions. We took measures to produce a collection for that object.

8. Mr. Cowles, a pleasant man, went away after dinner. Wrote. At evening we had an adjourned church meeting. The committee made their report, which was accepted by a full vote, and the meeting was adjourned without day.<sup>5</sup> The Lord is just and merciful. Read.

9. Wet. Am very feeble. Walked and visited the sick. Received a letter from Dr. Bull, Hartford, and one from Mr. Bourne, of Wareham, and wrote to him an ecclesiastical letter in reply.

10. Quite warm and pleasant. Read. Visited a sick man. A whale brig sailed this morning. Have completed my school returns, and sent them to Boston. Attended the evening meeting; thin. Spoke on John x: 30.

11. Had company from Fairhaven. Wrote to Mr. Durfee, of South Dedham. Walked and visited. Rev. Mr. King, of Carver, came with a letter from a majority of the members of the church of Wareham to this church, earnestly requesting me to attend a council there next Monday. I think from the state of the case, and other calls, it is not my duty to go.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A good Whig and a very able man was that spring elected Governor—Hon. Roger S. Baldwin, of New Haven, who was continued in office two years.

<sup>2</sup> Three sermons on that Fast day.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. David Greene, born in Stoneham, Mass., 1797, was graduated at Yale College, 1821; from 1828 to 1832, Assistant Secretary of the Board, from 1832 to 1848 Secretary. A clear thinker and able organizer. He died in Westborough, Mass., 1866.

<sup>4</sup> In a previous note we thought we had reported Dr. Robbins's last marriage. But here is one of which we have no other record.

<sup>5</sup> This seems to have been a kind of peaceable conclusion of the late troubles, so far as the church was concerned.

<sup>6</sup> It was supposed the old quarrel was settled, but it seems to have broken out afresh. Some church troubles are never settled by councils, but have to wear themselves out by process of time.



12. Read the Bible. We have spring weather. Read. My people had a precinct meeting, and did poorly. I am greatly afflicted.<sup>1</sup> I have no help but my God, and my father's God. Had company.

13. Had a poor night. Wrote to Mr. Lindsey, of Bedford. Occupied with company. Received a letter from sister Battell and brother James. *He* is sick at *her* house. Read the Bible. Brother James is convalescing. Saw four white negro boys.<sup>2</sup> Preparing for the Sabbath.

14. Preached a double sermon on Eph. ii: 12. Very pleasant and warm. Mercury in the afternoon at 77°. Wore in the afternoon no out-coat. Full meeting. Spoke at evening meeting on Ps. lxxix: 9. Read a letter to the church, requesting our attendance at an *ex-parte* council at Wareham. They voted not to send any delegate. Preparing for my journey.

15. Rose very early. Had a poor night. Rode early to Bedford and took the cars at seven o'clock, and rode to Boston. Very tired and feeble. Tried to rest some. Walked out. The streets indicate a busy season. Took the stage and rode to Lexington. Kindly received by my Robbins connections. Found some new ones, lately from Vermont.

16. The roads are quite dry. Was carried to the Normal School. We had a very fine examination of sixty females. Mr. Phillips and Mr. James,<sup>3</sup> of the Board, and Mr. George B. Emerson, of Boston, with much good company, were with us. The pupils sing finely. Returned to the Lower Village. I have never seen a Normal School appear better, if as well. Had a small meeting in the meeting-house in the evening, and I preached on John x: 30. Religion in this town is in a very low state. Very pleasant weather. We are near the anniversary of the Lexington battle.<sup>4</sup>

17. This town is old and pleasant, but inactive. Read. Visited among my connections. Saw Mrs. Locke; quite sick, an aged woman, granddaughter of the first Thomas. Afternoon rode in the stage to Boston. The ground is very dry, and the roads very dusty. Did some errands. At evening heard a fine address from Dr. Nott,<sup>5</sup> of Schenectady, on the observance of the Sabbath, in Mr. Rogers's<sup>6</sup> church. I sat in the pulpit and performed a small part. Tarried at a tavern.

18. The most of the streets of the city are very dusty. Was called early, and took the stage about four o'clock and rode to Plymouth. Quite cool. The first half of the way suffered much with cold. Stopped at Mr. Russell's.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This was the parish meeting, and it did not coincide with the church.

<sup>2</sup> With negro blood, but hardly discernible.

<sup>3</sup> John W. James, whose name has been before mentioned as a correspondent of Dr. Robbins, was a graduate of Columbian College, D. C., in 1826. He was a lawyer in Boston, and in this year, 1844, was chosen a member of the State Board of Education.

<sup>4</sup> April 19, 1775, when, our fathers tell us, it was warm, and apple-trees were in blossom.

One hundred years later, April 19, 1875, the day was more remarkable for its piercing cold than its predecessor was for its spring-like mildness.

<sup>5</sup> Eliphalet Nott, D. D., born in Ashford, Ct., 1773, for more than fifty years President of Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., where he died 1866, in his ninety-third year.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. William M. Rogers, pastor of Central Church, then in Winter Street.

<sup>7</sup> Nathaniel Russell.

Much fatigued. Called on Dr. Kendall,<sup>1</sup> and on Mr. Hall,<sup>2</sup> who has concluded to be an Episcopalian, and to leave his people. Saw relatives and friends. Called on Esq. Robbins.<sup>3</sup>

19. Rode home in the stage. There was a good deal of frost this morning. The roads are very dry and dusty. Wareham sand is deep. Received a letter from Mr. Ira Webster, of Boston. Found a variety of articles at the post office. The President has signed a treaty for the annexation of Texas. Most abominable.<sup>4</sup> Read. Much fatigued. Charge Board of Education, \$8.30.

20. Wrote a good deal of diary. Read. Had company. Yesterday received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Boston. Preparing for the Sabbath.

21. A steady, moderate rain through most of the day and evening. Preached with notes on Zech. xii: 20, and a sermon on Ex. ix: 20. Had no evening meeting. Read. The rain is greatly refreshing to the dry ground.

22. Warm and pleasant after the rain. Wrote to Mr. Mann, of Boston. Read. The late Connecticut election has a great influence on the political state of the country. Wrote to sister Battell. Have to lend a good many books.

23. The spring advances favorably. Read. Searched for facts, and wrote to Ira Webster, of Boston, about the *New England Primer*.<sup>5</sup> There is a good deal of alarm in the country about the annexation of Texas. At evening heard a temperance lecture from my neighbor Burnham.

24. Worked at my library. Wrote to Dr. Webb, Boston. Attended the evening meeting. We had quite a shower. Very grateful for vegetation.

25. Visited a town school. Dined at Capt. Le Baron's. Had asparagus.<sup>6</sup>

26. Visited our grammar school; in a very good state. At evening visited. Had some conversation with Mr. Crosby.

27. Wrote on records. Making collections for foreign missions. I am in great need of divine support under my severe trials. Read the Bible. Gave for foreign missions, an extra effort, \$2.00.

28. Cool, but pleasant. Preached with notes on Luke ii: 32, and a sermon on Isa. xxxiii: 14. Attended the evening meeting; mostly a season of prayer. Wrote. Read the Bible.

29. Rode in the stage to Bedford. Paid my merchant tailor, \$20.00; Mr. Taber, \$10.00; Mr. Howe, \$10.00. Crossed to Fairhaven. Looked at the work for the proposed elegant new meeting-house. Made calls. Read. We have a favorable beginning of the news of the important Virginia election. Returned to Bedford. Paid to Mr. Seabury for Domestic Missionary Society, \$24.37. Went to Mr. Parker's. Kindly entertained.

<sup>1</sup> James Kendall, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Robert B. Hall.

<sup>3</sup> Josiah Robbins, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> There was great opposition to this measure through the northern parts of the country.

<sup>5</sup> Ira Webster, who interested himself in

the literature and history of the old *New England Primer*, belonged in or near Hartford, Ct., and in the year 1844, brought out a new edition of the *Primer*, which had been passing out of use.

<sup>6</sup> The asparagus that year was somewhat earlier than usual.

30. Some fruit-trees are in blossom. Saw the first blossoms on a peach-tree on the 27th. Mr. Parker's house is splendid. Called on Mr. Holmes. Met with the Association at Mr. Dyer's.<sup>1</sup> Some members absent. Mr. Bigelow preached. At evening we had a very interesting meeting on Foreign Missions. Mr. Hoisington,<sup>2</sup> from Ceylon, missionary, spoke. Paid the Treasurer of our Auxiliary, \$32.00; of which I had just added \$2.00. Was carried to Mr. Parker's.

#### MAY.

1. Had a long walk to Mr. Dyer's. The ground is dry and very dusty. Made a statement of the Mattapoissett difficulties to the Association. Mr. Nott spoke of the affairs at Wareham. Closed our session. We have very favorable accounts from Virginia. All from the rich mercy of God. Had a number of books well bound. Rode home in the stage. Received a good letter from sister Battell. Attended the evening meeting. Quite thin. Read late.

2. Wrote to Gov. Davis, of Worcester, and to A. N. Seabury, New Bedford. Dry, tedious winds. Have given a Bible and a good supply of tracts to seamen. Visited. Wrote late.

3. Had company. Wrote to my brother James. Received a letter from Dr. C. R. Gilman,<sup>3</sup> of New York, inviting me to attend the anniversaries there next week. Wrote. Read. Walked a distance and visited. At evening we had a grateful thunder-shower. Tarried out.

4. Visited a sick woman, and other families. We have the nomination of the Presidential candidates<sup>4</sup> from Baltimore. I think there have not been two men equal to them since the time of Washington.<sup>5</sup> The popular gathering at Baltimore is very great. Occupied with company. Wrote. May God in his mercy give success to the national nomination. Preparing for the Sabbath.

5. Preached a double sermon on 1 Cor. vi: 20. Attended the monthly concert. Had a good number at six o'clock. At evening attended a marriage.

6. Wrote to Dr. Cobb. Preparing for my journey. Took the stage and rode to Bedford; in cars to Mansfield and Providence and Stonington. The railroad very good. Much fatigued. Fare from Bedford to Providence, \$1.75, and from Providence to New York, \$3.75 = \$5.50.

7. We took the great splendid steamboat, Rhode Island, at Stonington

<sup>1</sup> Rev. David Dyer.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Richard Henry Hoisington, a graduate of Williams College, 1828, afterwards President of Batticotta College, Ceylon. He died in 1858, aged fifty-seven. A son of his, of the same name, was graduated at Williams College, 1857.

<sup>3</sup> Chandler Robbins Gilman, M. D., who studied at Phillips Academy and Harvard College, but was graduated at the University

of Pennsylvania, was Professor of Obstetrics in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City. He died in 1865.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. Henry Clay and Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen.

<sup>5</sup> They were two noble and very able men, but unfortunately they were not elected. Mr. Frelinghuysen from 1850 to his death in 1862 was President of Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J.

about dark last evening, and arrived at New York at eight o'clock this morning. Had a poor night; a good deal of dizziness.<sup>1</sup> The boat very full. Find many acquaintances, ministers, and others. Kindly received at Dr. Gilman's. Attended the meeting of the Jews' Society,<sup>2</sup> and of the Sabbath-School Society. The Tabernacle<sup>3</sup> is very large and convenient for such occasions. Meeting held late. Called at Mr. Hoffman's.<sup>4</sup>

8. Walked with Dr. Gilman, and saw something of the improvements and great increase of the city. Called at the Bible Society. Attended the meeting of the Tract Society. Dined at Mr. Hoffman's. He rode with me, and saw the reservoirs of the magnificent water works.<sup>5</sup> Friends called on me. Was at Eggleston & Battell's store.<sup>6</sup> They have a great weight of iron.

9. Attended the meeting of the Bible Society. Spoke at the meeting, and presented for inspection my Aitken's Bible of 1781.<sup>7</sup> No one appeared to have ever seen it. The audience very great. There was good speaking. Dr. Gilman had Mr. Andrews,<sup>8</sup> Congregational minister, at the Tabernacle, and others to dine. Rode down town with Mr. Hoffman. Visited two magnificent Liverpool packets; one 1,150 tons. Tarried at Mr. Hoffman's.

10. Saw brother James, lately from home, with his daughter. His health is much better than it has been. Rode in the omnibus. Looked at the public buildings, Custom House, Exchange, etc. They are great and splendid. Kindly treated by strangers. Dined at Mr. Eggleston's,<sup>9</sup> with his son Thomas, living there. The streets are very full, dry, and dusty. Crossed with Joseph Battell to Brooklyn, and tarried at Mr. Humphrey's.<sup>10</sup> Find several cousins.

11. Called on Dr. Cox.<sup>11</sup> Rainy. Read. Wrote. Brooklyn is becoming a large city of itself. Crossed to New York. Visited. Called on the Messrs. Barstow, and at Mr. Bunker's. Went to Dr. Gilman's. I get very little time to write. The people here seem to be very active and busy.

12. Preached for Mr. Andrews at the Tabernacle on Heb. iv: 9. Said to

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins on the salt water was, as a rule, the victim of sea-sickness.

<sup>2</sup> Society for Ameliorating the Condition of the Jews.

<sup>3</sup> This was the old original Tabernacle building, far down Broadway, purchased by David Hale in 1840, in order that there might be one church in New York of the New England pattern.

<sup>4</sup> The Hoffman family Dr. Robbins had known familiarly when he was settled in Stratford, Ct. Dr. Gilman, his kinsman, with whom he was staying, married Serena, daughter of Mr. Martin Hoffman.

<sup>5</sup> They were then a long distance above the city; now it reaches far above that place.

<sup>6</sup> This was the firm where his nephew, Joseph Battell, accumulated his large property.

<sup>7</sup> Robert Aitken, of Philadelphia, published the first American edition of the English Bible.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Edward W. Andrews, one of four or five sons of Rev. William Andrews, of Danbury, Ct., who entered the ministry. Mr. Andrews had been settled at West Hartford, Ct., 1837-1840, and was thence called to New York.

<sup>9</sup> Partner of Joseph Battell, Jr.

<sup>10</sup> Hon. James Humphrey, son of Dr. Heman Humphrey. James Humphrey married Urania Battell, Oct. 11, 1836. He was a graduate of Amherst College, 1831, was a Member of Congress, and died in 1866.

<sup>11</sup> Samuel Hanson Cox, D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, 1837-1854.

be 2,500 people in the congregation; the most I ever preached to. Afternoon heard Dr. Stowe,<sup>1</sup> of Cincinnati, at the same place. Crossed to Brooklyn. Dr. Cox inquired for me to preach in the afternoon; they knew not where I was. Dined at Mr. Bunker's. My cousins make fine music. A high wind.

13. Very pleasant. Called on my cousin Chandler Starr. Looked at the great Trinity Church in the process of erection. The first work of the kind in this country. Visited the city prison with Mr. Gilman; a great establishment. Visited the New York library. Got acquainted with Mr. Fowler, long the librarian. Called on Mr. Bartlett, bookseller. Dined at Mr. Hoffman's.

14. Wet and rainy. Called at Dr. Mallison's. Heard of the illness of Dr. Jones, my neighbor at home. Looked at the steamboats. Some great ships of war are near by. Went into the chamber of the new organized Board of Aldermen, and into the Superior Court of the city. Called at Abbey & Freeman's. Was disappointed of a visit at the University. Rode and called on Mr. Wilson Barstow. Saw the Bethel chapel.

15. Called on Mr. Wolcott.<sup>2</sup> The west side of the city is much the most pleasant. Wall Street is a great curiosity. Dined at Mr. Eggleston's with brother James. His son Thomas<sup>3</sup> is sick. Crossed to Brooklyn and tarried. My cousin Joseph gave me a very fine copy of Bagster's *Hexapla*,<sup>4</sup> new and very valuable; cost \$17.00. There is a great blowth on the fruit-trees.

16. Called on brother James. I hope Thomas will not be much sick. Put up my things. Took leave of Dr. Gilman, who has shown me great kindness, and other friends. Mr. Hoffman carried me to the steamboat. We left New York at five o'clock, and came to Stonington. Had an uncomfortable night. Wet and stormy. Took a cold. We got to Stonington, quite dark, about two o'clock. Not as many passengers as when I went down, yet a great number.

17. Took breakfast in the ferry-boat at Providence about sunrise. Took the cars to Mansfield, thence to New Bedford. Rainy. Detained at Bedford. Got home in the stage about noon. Have had a prosperous journey. All of God. Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow. Much fatigued. Read. Received pamphlets from the post office. My fine thermometer has been broken by the wind in my absence. The apple-trees are in full blossom. Did not go out. I could not keep my expenses very accurate, and find a small deficiency of .62. Find some unpleasant things on my return, but not great. The expenses of my journey are \$16.18. My trees are coming out finely. Mr. George Goodwin,<sup>5</sup> of Hartford, is dead, aged eighty-seven.

<sup>1</sup> Calvin Ellis Stowe, D. D., born in Natick, Mass., 1802. His wife was Harriet Beecher. He was Professor in Lane Theological Seminary, 1833-1850.

<sup>2</sup> Frederick Wolcott, before noticed.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Robbins, M. D., who was graduated at Williams College, 1840. His life was short. He died in 1846.

<sup>4</sup> Bagster's Bibles have had a long and

wide reputation. His *Hexapla*, the Bible in six languages, was not an original idea. It was as old, at least, as the third century.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Goodwin, a kind of father of the Connecticut *Courant*, has been several times mentioned. His son, George Goodwin, who was graduated at Yale College in 1806, died in 1878, at the age of ninety. The family was noted for longevity.

18. I have a severe cold; taken in the steamboat on Thursday night. Wrote the preceding twelve days of diary. Am quite feeble. Had company. Kept mostly in my chamber. Preparing for the Sabbath. Read.

19. Preached with notes on Esther iv: 13, 14, and a sermon on John iii: 36. Attended the Sabbath-school; organized last Sabbath. It is doing well. At the third meeting spoke on Luke xv: 7. Am very hoarse, and spoke with much difficulty. At evening visited. Our Baptists have got divided into two places of worship.

20. Last night my cough was very bad. Am able to do but little. Read. Wet and cold rain. Wrote. Had company. Mr. Crosby tells me he must occupy one of my rooms. My trials come. Righteous is the Lord. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow, and to Rev. Mr. Blagden, of Boston.

21. Read. Wrote. Took the stage and rode to Plymouth. Stopped at Mr. Russell's. Find kind friends. Quite cool. Saw in a newspaper this morning a good account of my speaking at New York before the Bible Society. My hoarseness continues.

22. Attended to my business trying to procure a piece of Forefathers' Rock for the projected church at Brooklyn, New York.<sup>1</sup> The Supreme Court is in session here; was in for some time. Judge Hubbard<sup>2</sup> appears very well. Saw Mr. Thomas Williams. He is supplying the Robinson Society here. At evening attended a small meeting with him. Called on Dr. Kendall. He looked over his early church records with me. A cold, raw air. President Tyler is doing very badly. Read.

23. Spent some time in the court with Mr. Williams. Conversed with him considerably about Rhode Island. The owner of the wharf, containing the Rock, resides in New York. I think I have got the business in a good prospect of success.<sup>3</sup> The owner is Mr. John Thomas, firm of Thomas & Blackwell. Wrote off the church covenant from the early records. Visited friends. It is said there was a little frost this morning. Dr. Thacher<sup>4</sup> died here today, aged ninety.

24. Rode home. Warm. Received a letter from my brother James, one from Mr. Horace Mann, one from J. C. Brigham,<sup>5</sup> New York, and one from Miss Ellen A. Robbins, Lexington. Am quite fatigued. Read. Visited.

25. Wrote. Had company. Wrote to Mr. James Humphrey,<sup>6</sup> of New York. Have much to do.

26. Preached a double sermon on Gen. iii: 1. Spoke at the third meeting on John xiv: 2. Had help from young Mr. Delamater, of Williams

<sup>1</sup> The Church of the Pilgrims in Brooklyn, N. Y., of which Richard S. Storrs, D. D., is now pastor, was founded in 1844. This was the first Congregational church in Brooklyn, and now, large and small, there are eighteen.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Hubbard, LL. D., born in Boston, 1785, graduated at Yale, 1802, Judge of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, 1842-1847. He died in this last-named year.

<sup>3</sup> That is, for securing a piece of Plymouth Rock for the Brooklyn people.

<sup>4</sup> James Thacher, M. D., author of the *History of Plymouth*, born in Barnstable, Mass., 1754, died in Plymouth, 1844.

<sup>5</sup> John C. Brigham, D. D., Secretary of American Bible Society.

<sup>6</sup> Hon. James Humphrey, who married Miss Urania Battell.

College.<sup>1</sup> At noon visited Mr. Leonard Cannon; very sick with lockjaw. He is one of our most valuable men. At evening went again, and remained till he died, at nine and one half o'clock. It was from a bad bruise on a finger a fortnight since. My hoarseness continues.

27. Am quite feeble. Wrote to Miss Ellen A. Robbins, Lexington, a long letter. I hope she has found the grace of God, though under poor advantages. Visited our afflicted family. Quite warm. Vegetation advances rapidly.

28. Wrote notes, and preached in the afternoon at the funeral of Mr. Leonard Cannon. A most afflicted occasion. We had a hard shower going to the burying-ground. Read. My cold and cough are tedious.

29. Wrote on my address at the Bible Society, New York. Dined out. Capt. Le Baron consents to have me use the old vestry for my library. Quite warm. I am very feeble.

30. Wrote what I could, and finished the first draft of my address. Visited a school. Read. There is much excitement about a loco<sup>2</sup> candidate for President. Last evening attended our prayer-meeting. A whale brig came in; done poorly.

31. Wet and rainy through the day. The Democratic convention at Baltimore have left all their candidates, and nominated a new man; Polk,<sup>3</sup> of Tennessee. Wrote and copied the most of my address. Two large ships were launched at our yards within a few minutes of each other. Read.

#### JUNE.

1. Finished the copy of my Bible Society address, and sent it on to Mr. Brigham, Corresponding Secretary of American Bible Society, New York. Brother Francis came here. His wife is with him, and he returned to Fairhaven. He has been at the anniversaries at Boston. Preached a preparatory lecture with notes on 2 Chron. xxix: 5. Visited our afflicted family. Wrote.

2. Preached with notes on John x: 27, and a sermon on Isa. v: 4. Administered the sacrament. The church not full. Visited a sick child. At the monthly concert had some interesting missionary intelligence from Southern Africa. Visited. In the evening we had a hard shower. Read late. The meetings at Baltimore have come out very slim; a great mercy of God.<sup>4</sup>

3. Rode to Fairhaven and Bedford and returned. Dined with my brother and his wife at Mr. Jenney's. He thinks it best for me to leave this place.<sup>5</sup> Moved a number of my books and pamphlets to my new room, the old vestry. Much fatigued. Was up late.

4. Labored hard on my moving. Much fatigued. Yesterday received a letter from Ebenezer Clapp, Jr.,<sup>6</sup> old Dorchester, Mr. George King, of this

<sup>1</sup> On the Williams catalogue this name is printed De La Mater. This was Rev. Isaac De La Mater, who was then in the senior class at Williams College.

<sup>2</sup> Loco is short and pungent for Democratic.

<sup>3</sup> James K. Polk.

<sup>4</sup> Was it through the mercy or the frown of God, that they elected their men to office?

<sup>5</sup> His advice seems to have been judicious.

<sup>6</sup> Ebenezer Clapp, Jr., was a local anti-

town, and Mr. L. Cobb, of Sippican. Have kind assistance in moving. Visited. Our national Democracy have given up Mr. Van Buren, their strongest man. Wrote to Mr. Lindsey, Bedford.

5. Worked at moving my books. Have the assistance of smart boys with wheelbarrows. Asked help for tomorrow. Attended the evening meeting. Get very tired.

6. Had fifteen book-cases, with a number of very valuable books and pamphlets, moved to my new room. The task was a very difficult one. Had sufficient help from kind neighbors. Set up books. Read Mr. Ellsworth's<sup>1</sup> interesting *National Statistics*.

7. Received yesterday a donation of \$3.00 from Messrs. Harlow & Le Baron, and have now paid the same to Mr. Baker. Wrote to Pres. Hopkins, of Williams College. Quite warm. My removal is very laborious. Had a number of girls to brush and wipe my books. Get very tired.

8. Had help in setting up my book-cases; a difficult matter. Many persons came in to look at my room. Toward evening my brother and wife came here. They stay at Capt. Le Baron's.

9. My brother preached for me very well. Quite cool. Attended the Sabbath-school. After meeting we had a shower. Not much rain. The ground is getting quite dry. My brother spoke very well at the third meeting.

10. Commenced taking the number of the children for the schools, and the births of the past year, by a late law of the State. Walked a distance in a warm day. Visited with my brother. Worked some at my books. Read.

11. Took an account of the children in a number of families. Have much assistance from some genealogical females.\* Quite cool. Worked some at the library. My brother's wife and Mrs. Le Baron went to Plymouth. He spent the most of the day with me. Visited with brother Francis.

12. Walked, taking my statistics. Worked at the library. I fear some valuable books are lost. Received a letter from Mr. Putnam, of Middleborough. I do not find that there was frost this morning, though it was feared. Am much afflicted with my trials. Oh! for divine teaching. Attended our evening meeting.

13. Wrote. Still quite cool for the season. I have a fire. Walked and collected my statistics. The ground is getting quite dry. Worked assorting and putting up my books. Read. Mr. Crosby is making another alteration in his house. Rev. Mr. Sherman,<sup>3</sup> an agent, called on me.

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quarian and historian, whose store was in Boston, but his home in Dorchester. He was thoroughly acquainted with the early history and genealogy of the old town. He passed away only a few years ago.

<sup>1</sup> Henry L. Ellsworth, born in Windsor, Ct., son of Chief Justice Oliver, and brother of Gov. William W. He was United States Indian Commissioner, and afterwards Commissioner of Patents.

\* Genealogical females: taken out of the large, and reduced to the plain and practical, mean simply the women and girls who were helping to make a list of births for the year before.

<sup>3</sup> Probably Rev. Charles S. Sherman, who was graduated at Yale, 1835, and at Andover in 1838. He had been to Syria as a missionary, but was unable to carry on mission work because of the warlike disturbances then



14. Wrote early. Was favored with a horse and wagon, and rode to the Neck and north district, collecting my statistics. The roads very dusty. Read.

15. Wrote the most of the day drawing off the members of the school districts. In the six districts in our quarter of the town there are three hundred and eighty-three children, between four and sixteen years, and three hundred and thirty families. Did a little at my library. Washed, etc. At evening my brother called on me.

16. My brother preached in the forenoon, and then went to Fairhaven to go tomorrow on his journey. Mr. Sherman came and preached as agent of the American Protestant Society. We collected for him \$13.00. I preached at our third meeting without notes on Heb. iv: 11. Wrote. Read the Bible.

17. Was up early, and walked slowly in the heat and dust to Rochester. Much fatigued. Took the number of the children in two districts. Visited a school. Returned the number of births in eight districts for the past year to the town clerk, forty-five. The number of children between four and sixteen is less than last year. Visited. Tarried at Dr. Haskell's.

18. Called at Mr. Bigelow's. He is on a journey; unwell. Spent the forenoon in the academic school; doing well. Walked home. We have a little wet, but the ground is very dry. Have to walk slow, and make stops. Mr. Stevens,<sup>1</sup> a young antiquarian collector, came here before my return.

19. Mr. Stevens spent the day with me, greatly interested in my collection. A part of the time in the library. Gave him some duplicates. Quite warm. Visited an afflicted family. Received a good letter from Mr. Humphrey, of New York, and one from Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridgewater. Attended a thin evening meeting. Read.

20. Mr. Stevens left us, expressing much gratitude. Very warm. I think the warmest of the season. Worked at my pamphlets. Wrote. Am very languid.

21. Wrote a paper for General Association in behalf of the Old Colony Association. Wrote to Mr. Nott, of Wareham. Still very warm. Left off my flannels. Worked at my library. Read. Vegetation begins to suffer.

22. We have a little wet, but small. Worked what I could at my pamphlets. Read. Received of Dea. Crosby on his note, \$25.00, and paid the same to Mr. Baker. Yesterday paid Mr. Baker \$15.00. Wrote.

23. Preached a double sermon on Matt. vi: 13. The divine glory is a very interesting subject. Spoke at the third meeting on John xvii: 17. Attended the Sabbath-school. Visited. Was up late.

24. Had a poor night. Worked some at my library. I gain some upon it, but slowly. Read. Warm. At evening attended a temperance meeting.

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prevailing. Once or twice he acted as agent for the benevolent societies. His last settlement was at Naugatuck, Ct., but he is yet living in Manchester, Ct.

<sup>1</sup> Doubtless the Henry Stevens described

in a previous note. His life had been passed in England, where he had acquired great reputation as an antiquarian and genealogical scholar. His death was reported only a short time since.

25. Rode to Bedford. Did errands. Procured a drum of figs for Independence.<sup>1</sup> Quite warm, and very dry and dusty. Cherries are plenty in the market. Did considerable at my pamphlets. Paid Mr. Baker \$15.00. Have let him have in a few days, \$55.00. Read. Am quite feeble.

26. Very hot. Am able to do but little. Wrote. A poor immigrant from Scotland, Highlander, called on me. Worked what I could at my library. At evening attended our prayer-meeting; thin. Read the Bible.

27. Walked and visited. The heat not as severe as yesterday. Employed in arranging and putting up books and pamphlets. Easily get fatigued. Read. People are mowing; the grass very light. Very dry and dusty.

28. Rose early. Worked at my books. Dined at Capt. Mayhew's. Had green peas. Still very warm. Received a letter from Mr. Henry Barnard, of Hartford, informing me that the Connecticut Historical Society have chosen me to be their librarian.<sup>2</sup> It is all of the great mercy of God. I pray for his direction in my duties. Received a donation of \$3.00 from Mr. Prentiss Crosby. Received a letter from Prof. Larned,<sup>3</sup> of Yale College, and one from Mr. Holmes,<sup>4</sup> tract agent. Rev. Mr. Simmons<sup>5</sup> came here and tarried.

29. Mr. Simmons sold some of his books, and left here. Walked out. Did something at my books. Wrote notes for preaching. Read the Bible, and my *Hexapla* Testament.<sup>6</sup> Retired early.

30. Rose early. Wrote. Cool. Preached with notes on Rom. iii: 9, and a sermon on 2 Pet. i: 4. Attended the Sabbath-school, and gave tract magazines and tracts to all. At the third meeting we had a season of prayer for rain. Well attended. Quite fatigued. Baptized three children,<sup>7</sup> belonging to three families.

#### JULY.

1. Wrote to Messrs. Little & Brown, Boston, and sent them a bill against the State Treasury of \$28.00, for expenses for the Board of Education. Worked at my library. Read. Quite warm. The hay crop is said to be very light.

2. A very hot day, with scorching sun. Nearly completed assorting and arranging my library. Had some assistance, but have to do the most myself. Wrote to Mr. Charles Hosmer,<sup>8</sup> of Hartford, relative to my appointment as librarian. Read. At evening walked to Capt. Le Baron's, and requested him to speak to the other members of the precinct committee, and have a meeting

<sup>1</sup> In that purchase he probably had the children in mind.

<sup>2</sup> This business had been slowly shaping itself, but at length it had come to a practical result.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. William A. Larned, married the year before (June 1, 1843) Miss Irene Battell.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Henry B. Holmes.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Charles Simmons.

<sup>6</sup> His New Testament in six languages.

<sup>7</sup> These children were Helen Maria, daughter of Nathaniel Clarke; David Howland, son of James Cannon; and Sophia Wing, daughter of Isaac Bowles, Jr.

<sup>8</sup> A man of large wealth and large generosity, who passed away in his old age, several years since, but his gifts and endowments still live to do their work in coming generations.

warned to receive a communication from me. Made a draft of a paper for that purpose.

3. We had a light rain this morning; a great mercy, but we want much. Finished putting up my library, and put in order my new and large room. I think the library never appeared as well. It has been a matter of great labor. Received a letter from Mr. Bigelow,<sup>1</sup> of Dartmouth. Attended an evening meeting. A good one.

4. The children called on me, with some youths and a few older persons. In all about one hundred and sixty. Gave to each one a cake and a fig.<sup>2</sup> The day is cool and pleasant, but the ground is very dry. Two vessels went out with sailing parties. Mr. Ira Webster,<sup>3</sup> from Hartford, called on me; looking for old primers. Read. Wrote to Mr. Bigelow, of Dartmouth. Am much fatigued.

5. Received of the town for duties on the school committee, \$24.00. Paid a tax of \$8.85, and paid Mr. Crosby, \$15.15. Looked over records. Read. Visited a school. Quite cool. Have a fire. Visited.

6. Wrote on church records. Read. Preparing for the Sabbath.

7. Preached a double sermon on Matt. xi: 5. Attended the Sabbath-school. At the third meeting had the monthly concert with special prayer for the blessing of rain. We had a small shower last night, but the effect is soon gone. We had no monthly concert contribution. Visited a sick man and others.

8. Am quite feeble. Wrote. Received a good letter from Pres. Hopkins, of Williams College. Walked a distance and visited. At evening had a temperance meeting at my library room. Mr. Thomas Williams called on me.

9. Wrote on church records. Read. Visited a school. It would seem our schools cannot be kept still.

10. Walked out and visited the sick and others. People at haying. The crop is said to be very light. Attended the evening meeting. Wrote on the church records.

11. Last night we had some light showers. Wrote. Read *Life of Michael Angelo*.<sup>4</sup> Perhaps the greatest of the moderns in the fine arts. Very warm and sultry. Great prospects of rain, but they disappear. Received a letter from Mr. Nott, of Wareham. Visited.

12. Read the Bible. Cooler. Wrote on the church records. There has been another bad mob at Philadelphia. Joseph Smith,<sup>5</sup> the head of the Mormons, and his brother, have been killed. A wonderful imposture. Received of Mr. Hammond, my collector, \$54.00. Read. Visited.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Andrew Bigelow.

<sup>2</sup> This shows that our conjecture was not amiss.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Webster was before spoken of as at Boston, but his home, if we mistake not, was at Hartford.

<sup>4</sup> Who was the author of the biography

he was reading does not appear. Michael Angelo lived 1475-1564, dying in his eighty-ninth year.

<sup>5</sup> Joseph Smith was arrested and lodged in jail at Carthage, Ill., when a mob broke into the jail and killed him. This took place June 27, 1844.

13. Wrote. Walked out. Our precinct,<sup>1</sup> had a meeting at my request. I sent them a conditional proposal for my dismissal. There was a mistake about the time, and little was done. There will be another soon. Received a letter from Mr. Henry Barnard, of Hartford. Still painfully dry.

14. Preached with notes on Ex. v: 2, and a sermon on Rom. xii: 2. Attended the Sabbath-school. Spoke at the third meeting on Ps. li: 12. Visited. We had appearances of rain, and a rainbow, but no shower.

15. Walked out in the hot sun. Very warm. Read. Wrote to Mr. Henry Barnard,<sup>2</sup> now at Newport, and to Mr. Charles Hosmer, Hartford. Received a donation of \$3.00 from Hallet Cannon.

16. We had a most precious and grateful rain. It began very moderately early in the morning, and continued without wind till after noon. The latter part of the time pretty hard. It ought to call forth all praise. Wrote on the church records.<sup>3</sup> Worked at my books. Read.

17. Very pleasant. A whale brig sailed from here. Wrote on the records. Read *American History*. We have very pleasing and important news from Louisiana. All from God. Attended the evening meeting; thin. Have some nervous affections.

18. Wrote. Vegetation seems restored, and advances rapidly. Wrote in my library. Mr. Parker,<sup>4</sup> a missionary who has been over the Rocky Mountains, came here. Walked out with him. At evening he gave us an interesting lecture. Paid a shoemaker, \$1.00.

19. Mr. Parker sold ten copies of his book. Read. Finished my work on the church records. It has been quite a task. There is much talk about our coming precinct meeting. Visited. In the evening had a gentle, precious shower, and I tarried out. Paid for Parker's book, \$1.25.

20. Am very languid, and ill fitted for business. Read the Bible. My strength is in him who has never forsaken me. My society had their meeting. They were unwilling to refer the terms of my dismissal to a council, and having voted that I was entitled to some consideration, at their request I gave them terms that they would give me two hundred dollars, and remove my effects to Connecticut. This was accepted cheerfully, and voted unanimously. My mind is much relieved. A little wet, and we had no evening meeting.

21. Preached with notes on Luke v: 17, and a sermon on Ex. xxxii: 26. Very warm. Had a good congregation. Spoke at the third meeting on Matt. xi: 28. My nervous system is a good deal affected. At evening walked out. Yesterday was the anniversary of my ordination; 1806.

<sup>1</sup> Precinct, as before explained, stands for the society or parish, in distinction from the church, and usually contained a good number of voters who were not church members.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Henry Barnard was now actively at work in behalf of the Connecticut Historical Society, and Charles Hosmer, Esq., rich and generous, was coöperating with him.

<sup>3</sup> He was bringing the church records

into perfect condition in anticipation of the close of his ministry in Mattapoisett. Dr. Robbins had this clerical taste and habit, and meant to do all such work carefully and accurately.

<sup>4</sup> Probably Rev. Lucius Parker, born in Southborough, Mass., 1807, graduated at Harvard, 1834, and at Oberlin, O., 1838; ordained as a Home Missionary, 1838.

22. A very hot day. Am very languid. My good friend, Capt. Freeman, gave me \$13.00. Walked out. Wrote. Worked some at newspapers. Had a good deal of company at my library. At evening had a temperance meeting at the same place. Was up late.

23. Wrote. Looked over Bible documents. Read. Am feeble, and do but little. Received a letter from brother Francis. Visited. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston.

24. Wrote an important paper; a request to the church that they would consent to my dismissal, and unite with me in calling a council for that purpose. At evening we had a church meeting. I communicated my request, the church acceded to it, and passed a vote respecting me highly satisfactory. Cooler. Mr. Pease, of Sandwich, and his wife, called on me. Am quite nervous.

25. A wet and rainy day; very grateful to the ground. Wrote to Mr. Putnam, of Middleborough. Have a fire. Had a good visit with Mr. Cobb at Mr. Cannon's. Made a draft of a letter for a council. Wrote to Miss Ursula Wolcott,<sup>1</sup> and to brother Francis.

26. Wrote on the church records. Had company. Have many calls at my library. Many people appear much tried at the prospect of my removal. Read. Received presents from whalemens. Met with the church and society's committees, and agreed to send to five neighboring churches for our council. Made a draft for a letter. Paid for shirting, etc., at one store, \$4.39; at another, \$2.09. Read late.

27. Wrote. Visited sick children. Took the stage and rode to Sippican to exchange. Tarried at Dr. Cobb's. Quite cool.

28. Rode down to Brother L. Cobb's. Preached on Ex. ix: 20, 21, and Acts xiii: 38. At noon found that Mr. Barnard, of Hartford, was at meeting. He came to Mattapoisett last evening to spend the Sabbath with me. He went with me to Mr. Cobb's. This congregation appears well, and is increasing. Toward evening rode home with Mr. Barnard. Have concluded to accept the appointment of librarian to the Atheneum at Hartford; the understanding is for five years. In my present circumstances, I think it my duty to do this. I hope God will approve of the measure, and increase my usefulness. I commit my ways again to him and his grace. The divine interposition as to times and circumstances is most wonderful. I am wholly the Lord's. When I am borne down I am holden up.<sup>2</sup>

29. Mr. Barnard went away early. Wrote. Have many interruptions. Mr. Hammond went with me to Bedford Bridge. Went to Mr. Parker's. Very kindly entertained.

<sup>1</sup> The idea of going to Hartford to live brought back vividly his old home at East Windsor, which was only about five miles distant from Hartford. No other place, except his father's house at Norfolk, was ever so much like home to him as Major Wolcott's, in his old East Windsor parish.

<sup>2</sup> It certainly was a most fitting and providential arrangement, that a way so honorable, and at the same time so inviting, should be opened out from all his perplexities and troubles. It was an appropriate close to his long life of public labor that he should go to this position of honor and trust at Hartford.

30. Called on Mr. Holmes. Rode with him to Mr. Burt's,<sup>1</sup> and met with the Association. I was in the chair. Mr. Emerson, an agent, preached.<sup>2</sup> Association very full. Mr. Thomas Williams<sup>3</sup> was with us. Attended to usual business. The roads very dusty. Very well accommodated.

31. I informed the Association that this was probably my last meeting with them, and asked a remembrance in our usual season of prayer. It was a solemn occasion, especially to me. Afternoon rode with Mr. Roberts to Bedford. Was present at a small council, which dismissed Mr. James A. Roberts, who is now in England, and about to be settled in London. Crossed with Mr. J. Roberts<sup>4</sup> to Fairhaven. Tarried at Mr. Gibbs's. Afternoon wet and rainy. Am very much fatigued.

#### AUGUST.

1. Last night we had a pretty hard rain. Looked at the new brick meeting-house, now in building, and Mr. Jenney's expensive Gothic cottage, also in building. Both will be expensive. Mr. Jenney gave me a conveyance home. Visited a sick child. Read. The ground is greatly benefited by the rains.

2. Very hot and sultry. Am very languid, and can do but little. Read. Paid a trader, .52, and a knitting woman, .67. Visited. Vegetation is greatly improved.

3. Still very hot. Wrote a piece for the New York *Observer*. Attended our preparatory lecture, and preached with notes on Eph. ii: 4, 5. There is a gloom on many of my people, a painful gloom. Received from Capt. Allen Dexter a donation of \$10.00; and of Dea. Crosby, on payment of a note, \$27.70.

4. Preached with notes on Matt. xxvi: 29. Administered the sacrament. Probably the last time to this church. May the Lord Jesus take care of them. Preached a sermon on 1 Pet. iv: 18. Wet and light showers. At the third meeting had the monthly concert. Visited.

5. Wrote. Prepared papers for the council. Had calls at my library. At evening had a temperance meeting at the same place. Read late. A very fine season for vegetation.

6. Our ecclesiastical council convened, four pastors and four delegates,<sup>5</sup> and I was *dismissed* on the ground of mutual agreement of the parties; to take effect when the pecuniary conditions are complied with. They give me a good recommendation.<sup>6</sup> Very much fatigued. Members of the council and others looked at my library.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Daniel C. Burt.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Joseph Emerson, agent for the American Education Society.

<sup>3</sup> He had been preaching, as will be remembered, at Plymouth.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Jacob Roberts.

<sup>5</sup> The arrangement was (see entry July 26) to invite "five neighboring churches," but four only seem to have responded, unless, as

might easily happen, one church appeared by its pastor only, and another church by its lay delegate only.

<sup>6</sup> If the rumors (of whatever nature they may have been) had been really believed by people generally in Mattapoisett and the neighboring parishes, the council would not have been likely to give clean papers, without any kind of qualification.

7. Preparing for my expected journey. Received a letter yesterday, and one today from Mr. Putnam, of Middleborough. Visited our grammar school; doing well. Visited. Attended the evening meeting. Had company.

8. Rode to Rochester. Called at various places, collecting the history of the Haskell family,<sup>1</sup> and taking the births of the children. Got home in the evening. Paid a baker, \$2.00.

9. Wrote. Took an account of births. Quite warm. Received a letter from Dr. Webb,<sup>2</sup> of Boston. Reckoned with Mr. Crosby. Read late.

10. Very warm. Am quite nervous. Mr. Chamberlain, of Berkley, called on me. He offered to purchase my library at its cost.<sup>3</sup> Exceeding warm and sultry. Walked out collecting births. Balanced accounts with Mr. Crosby. I paid him \$4.00 for work at my chamber years ago. He pays me \$11.00 for a carpet, and \$6.76 for wood. \$3.76 were paid me to balance. Wrote.

11. Am permitted in great mercy to see another birthday; sixty-seven years. I have the greatest reason for thanksgiving, humiliation, and mourning, for the mercies, chastenings, and iniquities of the past year. In severe trials God has remembered me with great, very great mercies. I do again commit myself, my all, to his service, and his great grace in a blessed Saviour. Preached a double sermon on 2 Sam. vii: 27. Spoke at the third meeting on Ps. lxxxiv: 11. Attended the Sabbath-school. Received a man to a Christian profession, and baptized him.<sup>4</sup> At evening had to go into my library with strangers. Prepared for my journey. Was up late, and very tired.

12. Had to rise very early. Was carried to Bedford. Took the cars and rode to Boston. (Fare \$2.00.) Received of the State Treasurer my last claim as a member of the Board of Education, \$25.00. Paid Little & Brown, on account, \$30.00. Paid Webb & Gray for eighty-one little volumes, lately purchased here at auction, \$18.93. Am pretty feeble. Called on Mr. Blagden.

13. Rode in the cars to Springfield. Very comfortable weather. (Fare \$3.40). Took the stage and rode to Enfield.<sup>5</sup> My brother is gone to Westfield. Find Mrs. Robbins quite ill, but not as sick as I feared. Am much fatigued. Read.

14. Had a poor night; very nervous. Wrote. We had a very hard shower. Rode in the stage to East Windsor.<sup>6</sup> Find the Wolcott family in prosperous circumstances.<sup>7</sup> Thus far have had a favorable journey.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins's special interest in the Haskell family of Rochester, Mass., was because of its relationship to the Haskell families in East Windsor with which he was so intimate.

<sup>2</sup> Thos. Hopkins Webb, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> It was somewhat remarkable, in that generation, that a man so near at hand should appear to make such an offer. The library was, however, virtually engaged to the Connecticut Historical Society. The per-

son offering to buy was Rev. Charles Chamberlain, a native of Holliston, graduate of Brown University, 1836. He had been preaching two years at Berkley, and had recently been dismissed.

<sup>4</sup> This was Wyatt Hammond.

<sup>5</sup> About eight miles.

<sup>6</sup> Not far from thirteen miles to that part of East Windsor (now South Windsor) where he was going to stop.

<sup>7</sup> When Major Abiel Wolcott died a few

15. Wrote. The crop of tobacco in this vicinity is very great.<sup>1</sup> Wrote to Mr. Tillinghast, of the Normal School, Bridgewater. Rode to Hartford. Kindly received by acquaintances and friends. Looked at the Atheneum. It is a magnificent building. The picture gallery is splendid. The Historical Society has been greatly prospered. Saw Mr. Barnard and others. Returned to East Windsor.

16. Went to Hartford by a poor conveyance. Left my good East Windsor home for the present. Conversed with individuals respecting my duties and accommodations here. Read. The Western and Southern elections excite great interest and solicitude.<sup>2</sup> Dined at Mr. Day's.<sup>3</sup> At evening was at a small, genteel party at Mr. Hosmer's.<sup>4</sup> Tarried at the City Hotel. Missed of seeing sister Battell.

17. Took the river steamboat and went to Enfield. A railroad is building from Hartford to Springfield. Had a kind conveyance from Thompsonville to brother's. Mrs. Robbins appears to be failing. Very warm and sultry. Wrote. Am quite feeble.

18. Preached for my brother on Ex. ix: 20, 21, and Acts xiii: 38. Spoke at an evening meeting on Ps. li: 12. This is a very good congregation. My brother propounded nine persons to be received to the church. Dr. Fuller,<sup>5</sup> of Hartford, visited Mrs. Robbins, and says her disease is an affection of the brain. Read.

19. Warm and sultry. Left my brother's. Took the steamboat<sup>6</sup> and went to Springfield; took the cars and came to Pittsfield; took a passenger carriage and came to Lenox to brother James's. It has been a wet season in this quarter. My brother has pretty good health.

20. Cannot stay here, as I could wish. Took my carriage and rode to Pittsfield; then in a stage to Williamstown. Kindly received at Pres. Hopkins's, Williamstown. Wrote. Find old acquaintance.

years before, his property was inventoried at about \$30,000, which was a large estate for those times.

<sup>1</sup> The tobacco crop kept on increasing all along the valley, and reached its greatest dimensions and was most profitable about the time of the War of the Rebellion. Of late years the crop, though still large, has not paid so well.

<sup>2</sup> James K. Polk was that year elected President, receiving the entire electoral vote of Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Indiana, Illinois, Alabama, Missouri, Arkansas, and Michigan — one hundred and seventy electoral votes. Henry Clay received the votes of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, and

Ohio — in all one hundred and five electoral votes.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Thomas Day, who had been Secretary of State in Connecticut, 1810-1835, and was then President of the Connecticut Historical Society, an office which he held from 1839 to his death in 1855. He was brother of Jeremiah Day, D. D., President of Yale College, 1817-1846.

<sup>4</sup> Charles Hosmer, Esq.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Silas Fuller was one of the leading physicians of Connecticut, and for many years in the medical charge of the Retreat for the Insane at Hartford. He had before been the physician in Columbia, Ct. He was President of the Connecticut Medical Society, and died in 1847.

<sup>6</sup> This was the steamboat that Dickens described as so many feet short and so many feet narrow. It passed up through the canal



21. Met with the Corporation, as I did yesterday afternoon. Not a great deal of business. Attended the Commencement exercises. Had two sessions. The performances very good. Rev. Mr. Todd,<sup>1</sup> of Pittsfield, delivered a very good oration. At evening was at the Observatory. Saw Saturn and his ring, Jupiter and four satellites, and the varied surface of the moon very distinctly. Treated with much attention. Was up late.

22. Cool. I have left my surtout somewhere; I believe in a Connecticut River steamboat. Rode in a stage to Pittsfield. A very great gathering here at the county jubilee. The first thing of the kind in the country. Dr. Hopkins<sup>2</sup> delivered an excellent sermon, and Dr. Allen<sup>3</sup> a good poem. Considerably incommoded by the rain. Brother James and his son Thomas here. Gov. Briggs presided. Was very kindly entertained, with many others, by Dr. Childs.<sup>4</sup> Am congratulated by many friends on the prospect of my removal to Hartford. It is mentioned in the newspapers.

23. We have had a pretty hard rain, which has subsided this morning. There is to be a great dinner here today. Took the cars about ten o'clock and rode to Boston. Fare \$5.25. Dined at Springfield. Much fatigued. The Western elections have issued favorably. The cars are well filled.

24. Rode in the cars to New Bedford and in the stage home. Have had, through mercy, a very prosperous journey. Visited the aged Mr. Jesse Hammond; very sick. A fine live-oak ship was launched here yesterday, built in twelve weeks. Dr. Cobb<sup>5</sup> preached here the last Sabbath.

25. Preached with notes on Luke xiv: 18, and a sermon on Luke xviii: 13. Meeting well attended. Spoke at the third meeting on Rom. viii: 17. Mr. Hammond is very low. Mr. Crosby has made alterations in his house.

26. Have a little fire. Wrote nine days of diary. Read. Visited the sick man. Some of my last books are brought in. In looking over the accounts of my journey I find \$1.18 deficit. Wrote to Mr. Tillinghast, of Bridgewater, and Rev. Abijah Baker,<sup>6</sup> of Medford.

27. Worked at my books and furniture. Find much to do. Our newspapers are almost entirely occupied with political matters. Making preparations for removal. Visited.

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from Warehouse Point to Enfield, because of the Enfield Falls. It plied between Hartford and Springfield.

<sup>1</sup> John Todd, D. D., born in Rutland, Vt., 1800, graduated at Yale College, 1822, and Andover Seminary, 1825. He was first settled at Groton, Mass., 1827, in Northampton, 1833, in 1836 in Philadelphia, and 1842-1870 at Pittsfield, Mass., author of many volumes for young people and old. He died at Pittsfield, 1873.

<sup>2</sup> Mark Hopkins, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> William Allen, D. D., author of the *Biographical Dictionary*. He was graduated at Harvard College, 1802, and 1820-1839 was

President of Bowdoin. He was a native of Pittsfield, son of Rev. Thomas Allen, of Revolutionary traditions.

<sup>4</sup> Henry H. Childs, M. D., born in Pittsfield, 1783, graduated at Williams College, 1802, founder of the Berkshire Medical Institute in 1823, which became a college in 1837. He was a Jeffersonian Democrat, but Dr. Robbins, as his guest, could forget that. He died in 1868.

<sup>5</sup> Oliver Cobb, D. D., who had for forty-five years been pastor of the Sippican church.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Abijah Baker has been before noticed. His wife was a daughter of Prof. Leonard Woods, D. D., of Andover.

28. Wrote to Mr. Seth Bliss,<sup>1</sup> of Boston. Dined out. Visited the sick and others. Collecting my books. Attended the evening meeting.

29. Wrote to my brother Francis. Occupied with company. Walked in the heat and visited. Visited Mr. Hammond yesterday; this afternoon he died. A very industrious, just, and good man. Mr. Burnside, of Worcester, and others, called on me. He expressed an admiration at my collection. Took the account of the births.

30. Read. Walked a distance and took the account of births. We have hot sun in the middle of the day. My last visits are trying. People show me much kind feeling. Worked at my books.

31. Began and wrote near half of a sermon on Matt. xvi: 18. Mr. Sherman and Mr. Howland, of Bedford, with Mr. Davenport, of Richmond, Va., came to see my library. Visited the mourning family. Had to write in the evening on account of interruption.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Wet and rainy the most of the day. Preached in the morning with notes on Deut. iv: 40. Afternoon we attended the funeral of Mr. Hammond, but the public service was prevented by the rain. I spoke fully on the character of Mr. Hammond. An evening meeting which I had appointed was also prevented by the wet. Visited. Monthly concert, of course, prevented. Read late in the *Recorder*.

2. Visited the sick and others. Am pretty feeble. Read. Our country is much excited by political movements. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Seth Bliss, of Boston. Wrote.

3. We had a hard, rainy night. Looked at a vessel to carry my things. A whale brig, gone three months and twenty-three days, came in with four hundred and fifty barrels of sperm oil. A great voyage. Worked at my books, etc. Paid for a small book, .25. The weather is warm and languid.

4. Expected to have gone to Bedford, but found that Mr. Hammond, with several workmen, had commenced boxing my books,<sup>2</sup> and I had to be with them and labor through the day. Much fatigued. Attended the evening meeting. Received of two good men a donation of \$4.25. Paid for sawing wood, \$1.00. Cooler.

5. Worked at my library with others. They have filled forty boxes. Had calls from abroad. Rode to the Neck with company and visited. We have some sickness. Capt. Le Baron made me a donation of \$25.00. Wrote. There are many regrets respecting the removal of my library from this place. Received last evening of Mr. Wilson Barstow a donation of \$6.00. Apples are plenty.

6. Gave some clothing to Widow Davis. Rode to Bedford. Paid Mr.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Seth Bliss, a native of Springfield, Mass., born 1793, was pastor at Jewett City, Ct., 1825-1832, General Agent of American Tract Society at Boston, 1832-1833, Secretary, 1833-1858. He died in 1879.

<sup>2</sup> It had been agreed that his parish should pay him two hundred dollars, and be at the expense of his removal to Hartford. His books and pamphlets made the great burden of the removal.

Richmond \$9.82, and balanced his account. Paid Mr. Howe \$12.11, and balanced his account. Paid W. C. Taber \$10.00 on his account. Dined at Mr. Arnold's. Made several calls. Spoken to very kindly by many. Called at Fairhaven. Looked at the large new meeting-house, and Mr. Jenney's house. It is said there was a light frost this morning. Rode home in the evening.

7. A Mr. Barker,<sup>1</sup> agent of the Colonization Society, called on me. Paid him \$1.50 for the *African Repository* for the current year, to be sent to Hartford. Was called to visit a youth under deep, serious impressions. Wrote what I could on my farewell sermon; a good deal in the evening. It is long. Had less interruption than I feared.

8. My last Sabbath in my ministry here. Wrote and finished my farewell sermon on Matt. xvi: 18, and preached it in the afternoon to a large assembly. Took a brief review of my ministry in this place. A very pleasant day. Had a solemn meeting. In the morning preached a sermon on Ps. xii: 1. Took notice of the late death of Mr. Hammond. Baptized two children.<sup>2</sup> Had no evening meeting. Visited. Yesterday received of Capt. Barstow a donation of \$5.00. Wrote.

9. Very busy in preparing for my removal.<sup>3</sup> Rode to Bedford. Did errands. Rode to Long Plain and saw Mr. Alden Spooner, aged ninety-four. His grandson gave me a shot-gourd, brought from England in the Mayflower. Very warm.

10. Visited. Collecting my books and other things. Afternoon they worked several hands getting my things on board a vessel. A great and difficult task. One box was broken, and some books were injured. A very confused scene. Wrote on the church records and finished them. Was up late.

11. Worked laboriously at my effects, with others, and got them on board a vessel which sailed for Hartford in the afternoon. Very warm. Much fatigued. Wrote to Mr. C. Hosmer, of Hartford. Received a letter from Mr. Dyer,<sup>4</sup> at Boston. At evening attended the meeting. Received of Lazarus Le Baron for the use of my pew in the meeting-house, \$8.00. Paid a debt for carting wood, \$2.00. Received a donation of Capt. Mayhew of \$7.00. I hope a young woman here has got religion. Wrote late.

12. Rode a distance and visited aged people and others. It is painful to leave kind and afflicted friends. Gave Thomas R. Davis, a child, \$1.00. Paid for sweeping my library chamber, .50. At evening wet. Visited at Capt. Dexter's. Wrote late. Wrote to Theo. King, town clerk, and paid him \$2.00 for recording marriages. Left with Mr. Crosby an order on the town of

<sup>1</sup> Capt. George Barker, who was employed by the Society as traveling agent, especially to secure subscribers for the Society's publication, *The African Repository*. The Colonization Society was then very active.

<sup>2</sup> These were Charles Dunbar and Harri-son, sons of Stephen and Eunice Snow.

These were the last baptisms performed by Dr. Robbins.

<sup>3</sup> It will be remembered that Dr. Robbins's pastorate was to end when the people had fulfilled the conditions prescribed by the council. Those conditions had been met.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. David Dyer.

\$8.00. Settled accounts with the society. Received of Mr. Hammond on salary for the year closing Sept. 22, 1842, \$24.97; on salary for the year closing September, 1843, \$193.73; from the society in consideration of my removal, \$200.00; and for a sofa I had procured for the pulpit, \$20.00. They are also to pay all the expense of removing my effects to the Atheneum at Hartford. For these sums Mr. Hammond paid me \$224.25, and gave me a note of \$216.45. I am not worth as much aside from my library<sup>1</sup> as when I came to Mattapoissett, but would bless God for what I have. I have received of individuals, for the year now nearly closed, donations.

13. Rainy and wet through the forenoon. Paid Mr. White for horse hire, \$9.75. He made me a donation of \$3.00. Paid Rogers Barstow a bill of \$3.92. He made me a donation of \$1.00. Paid Mr. Baker on my boarding bill, \$24.25. He made me some deduction. Mr. Crosby paid me \$1.00 for a washstand. Gave several small articles to these two families. Dea. Crosby paid me \$3.00 for tracts which I had paid for at Boston. Balanced all pecuniary accounts. At noon took the stage, left Mattapoissett, and rode to Bedford. Took the cars and rode to Boston. Much fatigued with many labors. May God in mercy remember my people, now destitute of a pastor the first time in more than seventy years.<sup>2</sup> The State of Maine has done poorly.

14. Am burdened with my baggage. Took the cars and rode to Springfield. Dined, and rode in a stage to Enfield. The middle of the day hot and very dusty. It is very dry in this quarter. My brother's wife is better than when I was here last. My surtout, which I lost in my last journey here, is found. Much fatigued. Have had a prosperous journey.

15. Preached for my brother on Gal. iii: 8, and Phil. i: 23, 24. He attended a funeral at noon. Attended an evening meeting with him, and spoke on Ps. lxxxiv: 11. A plenty of fine peaches here. My brother has a fine congregation. Was up late. Very warm and dry.

16. My brother rode with me, west side of the river, to Hartford. The heat and dust very oppressive. A great number of persons at work on the railroad.<sup>3</sup> My Mattapoissett vessel has not arrived. Looked at the Atheneum with my brother. He tried to procure for me a boarding-place. Rode to East Windsor, and my brother went home in the evening. A great privilege to have such a resting-place.

17. Looked over my things. Am pretty feeble. Wrote a large and arduous portion of diary. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Eb. Watson, at New Bedford. Read. At evening walked out.

18. Northerly winds continue. Little prospect of the arrival of my freight.

<sup>1</sup> That is an important qualification. He had spent a large amount of money on his library during the twelve years he had been there.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Lemuel Le Baron began his ministry in that parish, Jan. 29, 1772, seventy-three years before, and Dr. Robbins was settled as his colleague.

<sup>3</sup> From Hartford the railroad was built on the west side of the river to a point about a mile above Windsor Locks; then it crossed the river, and went through Enfield and Longmeadow to Springfield. Up to that time the stage and the little steamboat had to serve for conveyance between Hartford and Springfield.

Read. Afternoon rode to the hill and visited former acquaintance. There is much change of population here during my absence.<sup>1</sup> Very warm, dry, and dusty. Am fatigued and have a cold. There is a great crop of tobacco, and a fine time for making it.

19. Was carried to Hartford. The roads very sandy. Visited a school by invitation; in very good order. Am quite rheumatic. My cold affects my head and hip. Afternoon Capt. Baker arrived with his vessel, and the valuable cargo he brought from Mattapoissett. Several truck loads were carried to the Atheneum. Found some valuable articles safely brought, about which I have been concerned. The articles appear to be but little injured. At evening attended a large meeting, and heard Mr. Kirk,<sup>2</sup> of Boston, about Romanism. Am quite unwell. Tarried at Mr. Treat's.

20. Had a sick night. My cold affects my head and my rheumatism is severe. Had difficulty in getting up. Do not find a convenient place to board. Got out in a warm morning and attended to the transportation of my things. The boxes, some of them, are very heavy. I was so unwell as to be obliged to come to East Windsor.<sup>3</sup> Very warm and dusty. Left my business with Mr. Hosmer. Have a good deal of pain. Am very kindly taken care of. Received a letter from Mrs. Harriet Burr Turner, at New Haven; one from Mr. John F. Watson, Germantown, Penn.; and one from my brother Francis. Paid post office for letters and pamphlets, .65; gave Capt. Baker \$2.00; and passage to East Windsor, \$1.25.

21. Am, through mercy, some better. Still very hot and dusty. Kept in; did not go into the street. There is a Methodist field-meeting<sup>4</sup> a few miles east. Wrote. Read *Life of Napoleon*.

22. Preached for Mr. Smith<sup>5</sup> in my old pulpit, on Ex. ix: 20, 21, and Acts xiii: 38. This congregation has become small. I am better than I have been, through mercy, but yet rheumatic.

23. Got a ride to Hartford. The road is bad with the long drought. Worked at my books what I could. They are much intermixed, but generally uninjured. Have a good deal of rheumatic pain.

24. Have a laboring man with me, and other assistance. Afternoon went into the session of our old Consociation.<sup>6</sup> It has become a large body. At evening the Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society had a good meeting.

25. Cooler. Have many visitors at the library. Afternoon and evening we had a very grateful rain; greatly needed. Wrote to sister Battell. The whole country is in commotion about the approaching Presidential election.

26. The ground is refreshed by the rain, but the river is not raised. Am

<sup>1</sup> It was eighteen years since he left.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Edward N. Kirk had then been pastor of Mount Vernon Church, Boston, only three years,

<sup>3</sup> One of the pleasant things connected with Dr. Robbins's removal to Hartford was, that a ride of five miles would take him to

his old East Windsor home, where he was sure of a kind and hospitable reception.

<sup>4</sup> Camp-meeting. This meeting was in Manchester, probably. One was held there annually for a good many years.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Levi Smith, pastor there 1840-1842.

<sup>6</sup> Hartford North Consociation.

gaining slowly of my complaints. Worked laboriously at the library. Took a horse and carriage and rode to East Windsor. A great favor to have such a home-like resort.

27. Returned to Hartford. The roads quite wet. There was some frost on the 23d, our first, and more this morning. Have got a good portion of the books assorted. Have many calls. Read.

28. Quite cool. Had a good deal of company. My rheumatism, through divine mercy, is better. I work a good deal. Took tea at Mr. Wadsworth's.<sup>1</sup>

29. A steady rain last night and through the day; some of the time quite hard. Preached in the morning for Mr. Sprague<sup>2</sup> on Ex. ix: 20, 21; and afternoon for Dr. Hawes<sup>3</sup> on Acts iv: 12. Well treated at my boarding-house.

30. The ground is quite wet, and the river is raised a little. Worked diligently at my library. We have nearly finished the assorting.

#### OCTOBER.

1. My rheumatism, through great mercy, is much better. Worked as much as I could at my books. I get much fatigued. At evening we had a regular meeting of the Connecticut Historical Society. Took tea at Mr. Gallaudet's.<sup>4</sup> Received a dividend of \$52.50 of the Phoenix Bank.

2. We had a hard frost. We make slow progress with the library. Much company comes in. Our splendid room is not very well fitted for the books. At evening went into the public fair. A very splendid collection of articles, and a multitude of people.

3. Warmer. Pleasant fall weather. I get quite tired. Wrote. See many former acquaintances.

4. Rainy. The fair, which has done very well, was closed. The plowing match had a hard shower. The political excitement in the country is very great.

5. The streets are very wet. Have a good deal to do for our great library room. Have many visitors of the first character. The fire companies here make a fine appearance. We have a favorable account from Maryland.

6. Attended meetings as a hearer. A new scene.<sup>5</sup> Dr. Hawes preached in the morning, Dr. Bushnell afternoon. A great congregation. At evening

<sup>1</sup> Daniel Wadsworth, who, as a chief contributor, gave his name to the Wadsworth Athenaeum. This building was begun in 1842 and finished in 1844. He was at this time an elderly man, and died in 1848. He was descended from Daniel Wadsworth, pastor of the First Church.

<sup>2</sup> The Fourth Congregational Church in Hartford was organized in 1832, and Rev. Isaac N. Sprague was pastor of it 1837-1845. Mr. Sprague was a graduate of Middlebury College in 1822.

<sup>3</sup> Joel Hawes, D.D., then in the twenty-

eighth year of his pastorate in the First Church, Hartford.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Thomas H. Gallaudet, LL. D., head of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum.

<sup>5</sup> The "new scene" is explained by the fact that an exchange made by Dr. Hawes and Dr. Bushnell, between whom there were some theological differences, was a rarity. Dr. Robbins adds "a great congregation," partly from the novelty of the occasion, and partly from Dr. Bushnell's power in the pulpit. Since the days of Jonathan Edwards, New England has produced few preachers of more

went to the Episcopal church with Mr. Tudor, and had a sermon for the Orphan Asylum from Mr. Burgess.<sup>1</sup>

7. Am better able to work at my library than I have been. Have to alter the shelves. At evening my brother Francis came here and tarried. Attended the monthly concert.

8. Have got the most of my books put up. Wrote. My rooms are not well warmed. We have good news from Philadelphia.

9. Have much labor in fixing some of my shelves. This town is busy, but very regular. Have many visitors.

10. Am still something rheumatic. Mr. Ketchum,<sup>2</sup> of New York, with others, called on me. At evening my sister Battell came here with three of her children. Wrote. Warm and pleasant. Mr. Jonathan Edwards<sup>3</sup> called on me. Visited at his mother's, and saw a number of valuable books.

11. There was a great political mass meeting here. Said to be 20,000 persons collected. They made a very imposing impression. I attended the public speaking on the Wyllis grounds.<sup>4</sup> It was very good. New Jersey has done very well. Have a good visit from my relatives. Received a letter from Dr. Hewitt,<sup>5</sup> of Bridgeport, one from Pres. Hopkins, and one from Mr. Frederic S. Pease, Albany.

12. My cousins went off for Norfolk, and their mother remains here. We had much company in at the library. Am occupied with attention to them.

13. Spent the Sabbath mostly with Mrs. Battell in Mr. Treat's chamber. Heard Mr. Hawes. Afternoon preached for Mr. Bushnell on Acts xiii: 38. At evening heard Mr. Bushnell on the Protestant Alliance. The North congregation is a large and good one.

14. Sister Battell went to Enfield. Worked what I could. The country is greatly excited with political movements. Read newspapers a good deal.

15. Am quite unwell. Can do but little. Had a fine stove put up in my library room. Sister Battell returned. Brother Francis's wife is better in health, but not in mind. At evening our Historical Society had a good meeting. Read late.

16. Am a little better. Mr. Force,<sup>6</sup> from Washington, called here. He much admired our collection. I gave him some articles. Last evening was out late at tea.

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commanding eloquence than Dr. Horace Bushnell.

<sup>1</sup> George Burgess, D.D., then rector, 1834-1847, of Christ Church, Hartford, afterwards Bishop of Maine.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Mr. Silas Ketchum.

<sup>3</sup> This is probably the Jonathan Edwards that was graduated at Yale, 1819, a lawyer in Troy, and Mayor of that city.

<sup>4</sup> On the south side of Little River, between Main Street and the Connecticut River.

<sup>5</sup> Nathaniel Hewitt, D. D., with whom Dr. Robbins was quite intimate during his settlement at Stratford.

<sup>6</sup> Peter Force, whose name and character agree. By his energy it was that the nine volumes of the *American Archives*—a perfect store-house for the historian and biographer—were gathered and published. His plans reached much farther, but Congress would not vote the money to carry forward the undertaking. He published also four volumes

17. Have little time for anything out of my library. My book-cases are to be taken into use for pamphlets. Wrote. Ohio has done well, and the news is very cheering.<sup>1</sup>

18. Last night a good deal of rain. Showery through the day. Rev. W. Ely<sup>2</sup> called on me. Had some paintings put up in my library chamber. Our election prospects improve. Wrote.

19. Last night we had a powerful rain. Had a good deal of company. Am quite feeble. Have poor opportunity to prepare for the Sabbath.

20. Quite cool. In the morning heard Dr. Hawes, and afternoon preached in his pulpit, and by him supplied the South congregation. Preached on Ps. cxlii: 4. At evening Dr. Hawes lectured on his travels in Greece,<sup>3</sup> etc. The Millerites are very wild, full of political zeal.

21. Came early to my work, and nearly completed putting up my books. In the evening rode to East Windsor. The water is quite high, considerably in the meadows. Am feeble. Had a pleasant visit.

22. Brought a good many things from Windsor. Quite warm. Did not get down till afternoon. Had much company; the first people. At evening walked out.

23. The Millerites have fixed upon yesterday and today for the close of time. The mania affects a few in various parts of the country. My niece, Ellen Battell,<sup>4</sup> is in town on a visit. At evening visited. Paid for candles, etc., \$1.28.

24. My health, through mercy, is improved. Worked at my things. At evening wrote in my library; the first evening spent here. Heard of the death of my old friend, Dr. Yates,<sup>5</sup> of Schenectady.

25. We finished putting up the books of my library. It was nearly done before the present week. It is much admired. It has required great labor. Wrote to my friend and cousin, J. A. Le Baron,<sup>6</sup> Mattapoisett.

26. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. S. Southgate, of New Bedford. Had a good deal of company. Can bear but little labor. Read.

27. Attended Mr. Bushnell's meeting as a hearer with Dr. Bull. At evening attended with Dr. Hawes at his interesting lecture on Greece, etc. Called at Mr. Trumbull's.

28. Wet and cold. Worked at my books. Wrote to Dr. Hewitt, of Fairfield. Read. Am not well accommodated for evening studies.

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of rare *American Tracts*, and beyond these was an editor and voluminous writer. He was born at Passaic Falls, N. J., 1790, and died in Washington, 1868.

<sup>1</sup> It will be bad enough in November.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William Ely.

<sup>3</sup> In 1845, Dr. Joel Hawes went with Dr. Rufus Anderson on a visit of survey to the missions in Greece and Turkey.

<sup>4</sup> Now the wife of Azariah Eldridge, D. D., of Yarmouth, Mass.

<sup>5</sup> Andrew Yates, D. D., pastor at East Hartford, 1801-1813, and during six years of this pastorate, Dr. Robbins, at East Windsor, was his near neighbor. Dr. Yates went as a Professor to Union College. He died early in 1844, but Dr. Robbins seems not to have heard of it at the time. Dr. Yates was graduated at Yale in 1794.

<sup>6</sup> John Allen Le Baron, the third son and fourth child of Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, of Mattapoisett. He was born in 1782.



29. Last night we had a hard rain, and rainy through the day. Looked over and arranged old almanacks. Read M. M. Noah's<sup>1</sup> views on the state of his own (Jewish) nation.

30. On the 27th. I married two young persons at Mr. Treat's.<sup>2</sup> Wrote. The *Courant* newspaper of this morning has a handsome notice of my library. I think the political excitement of the country exceeds anything I have ever seen. Cold and wet. Looked over pamphlets. At evening visited friends.

31. Have to spend considerable time in reading newspapers. Quite cold. My strength, in the divine goodness, improves. At evening attended a meeting at Mr. Bushnell's lecture-room.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Pleasant. Had the most of my book-cases set up for pamphlets, etc. Pennsylvania and Ohio commence the Presidential voting today. The Lord be our helper. At evening wrote at the library. Had many calls.

2. Worked at my pamphlets. Quite cold. Occupied with company. My cousin G. A. Alden<sup>3</sup> came with a request from brother F. L. that I would go and spend the Sabbath at Enfield. Rode with him.

3. Preached on John xxi: 15, and Ps. xlii: 4. We had the sacrament. A large church. Mrs. Robbins was at the communion. Her health is much improved. At evening attended the monthly concert. Called at Mrs. Dixon's.<sup>4</sup>

4. Took the steamboat at Thompsonville and came to Hartford. Wet and cold. The voting day for President in a large number of the States. A very great vote in this town; 404 majority. By divine goodness, the day was not unfavorable. Unfavorable news from Pennsylvania.

5. The *Courant* published the returns from nearly all the towns before noon. Highly satisfactory. All from the mercy of God. Pennsylvania has gone for Democracy. Better things were hoped for. Worked at old almanacks. At evening we had a meeting in my room of the Historical Society. Was out late.

6. Worked at our pamphlets below. There is much to be done. Dr. Hawes has lost his only daughter; died in Smyrna.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Eldridge<sup>6</sup> came here from Norfolk. At evening wrote in my room.

<sup>1</sup> Major Mordecai Manuel Noah, born in Philadelphia, 1785. An able editor of Democratic papers, and at one time Surveyor of the Port of New York. He held various public offices. A somewhat romantic and dreamy writer on matters pertaining to his own nation, the Jews.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Treat's was his boarding-place, probably Selah Treat, father of Rev. Selah Burr Treat, the late able Secretary of the American Board.

<sup>3</sup> Gideon A. Alden was the son of Gideon S. Alden, of New Bedford, and Priscilla (Le Baron) Alden. After Mr. Alden's early death, the widow married Rev. Francis Le

Baron Robbins, of Enfield, and her young son Gideon went with her to Enfield, and there made his home.

<sup>4</sup> Widow of Judge William Dixon, and mother of Hon. James Dixon, United States Senator, 1857-1869.

<sup>5</sup> The only daughter of Rev. Dr. Hawes (Mary E. Hawes) was united in marriage, Sept. 4, 1843, with Rev. Henry John Van Lennep, D. D., a native of Smyrna. She died at Smyrna, Sept. 27, 1844. Seven years later his only son was killed by the kick of his horse, he being then pastor in Plymouth, Ct.

<sup>6</sup> Joseph Eldridge, D. D.

7. The news from New York appears favorable. Read the Bible. The late vote in this State is much larger than any before given. Whig, 31,346; Democratic, 28,233; scattering, 1,798; — 61,377. Worked at pamphlets. Much company. Tea at Mr. Brown's. Attended Mr. Hawes's evening meeting. He is in deep affliction.

8. On the 6th wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston, and sent them \$25.00 by Mr. Shuff. Very pleasant. Wrote to Dr. King,<sup>1</sup> of Rochester, and to Pres. Hopkins, Williams College. New York and Pennsylvania appear to have gone for the miserable Polk for President, and the wicked are triumphing.<sup>2</sup> S. T. Wolcott and wife and daughter called on me. God's ways with our country are unsearchable.

9. There was a terrible noise of huzzas and firing cannon, last evening and the most of the night, in the prospect of the election of Mr. Polk. Am, through mercy, able to do more work than I have been. Am making progress with my pamphlets. Received a letter of invitation from the Historical Society of New York to attend their anniversary. One from Mr. Herrick,<sup>3</sup> of New Haven; one from Elizabeth Barstow, of Mattapoissett; and one from G. A. Alden, of Enfield. Had a good deal of company. Paid \$4.50<sup>4</sup> for a new hat made for me. Wrote in the evening. There is noise in the streets still.

10. The clamor and firing in the streets last evening continued late, and was most disgraceful, and we have reason to fear very offensive in the view of heaven. At the South Church heard Mr. McKay, from Scotland, and at the Centre Mr. Spring,<sup>5</sup> of East Hartford. Attended Mr. Hawes's full evening meeting. The failure of New York and Virginia in the election produces a great gloom in the better part of the community.

11. Wrote. Have a cold seated in my head. Worked at books and coins. Received a very interesting letter from Dr. Edward Strong, of West Springfield, and a very kind one from my cousin, J. A. Le Baron, Mattapoissett. They have a good deal of sickness there.<sup>6</sup> Received pamphlets. Paid the post office, .40.

12. Employed in arranging and putting up desultory books of the Historical Society. Invited out to tea. Wet. Delivered in the evening an address before a temperance society. Dark and rainy. Massachusetts has done remarkably well in its election.

13. Rainy and wet. Am considerably unwell. Looked over my old

<sup>1</sup> George King, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> News not so good as it was.

<sup>3</sup> Edward Claudius Herrick.

<sup>4</sup> Quite a reduction on hats. His hats used to cost him eight and ten dollars.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Samuel Spring, D. D., son of Rev. Samuel Spring, D. D., of Newburyport, and brother of Gardiner Spring, D. D., of New York. He was pastor in Abington, Mass., 1822-1826, in the North Church, Hartford,

1827-1833, in East Hartford, 1833-1861, when he resigned. He was born 1792, graduated at Yale, 1811, at Andover, 1821, died Dec. 13, 1877, in his eighty-sixth year.

<sup>6</sup> There had been prevailing sickness at Mattapoissett, it will be remembered, for two or three years before Dr. Robbins left. There were probably local causes for this sickness which had not been found out. There was then less attention to the laws of health.

*Green's Registers*.<sup>1</sup> Conclude to have them bound. Democracy triumphs in the land. God's ways are unsearchable and holy.

14. We have clear weather after the rain, but cold. Took the river steamboat early, and went to Springfield, and in the cars to West Springfield. Called on Dr. Strong, and he went with me to Mr. Pliny Day's, where I found and purchased the chest of *Elder Brewster*, brought in the Mayflower. It is large, well preserved, and fully identified. Kindly entertained by Dr. Strong. Paid for the chest \$25.00. Found that several persons were intending to have the chest, but it was put off till tomorrow.

15. Mr. Day gave me a conveyance to Springfield with my chest; took the boat and got to Hartford about ten o'clock. My relic is much noticed. At evening Mr. Hooker<sup>2</sup> gave a good public lecture before the Historical Society.

16. The Pilgrim chest is highly estimated. Notices in the newspapers. Dined at Gov. Ellsworth's.<sup>3</sup> He has a very valuable and beautiful place. The school committee met at my room and organized. Wrote. Had numerous visitors. Had my surtout made over and new colored. Wrote in the evening. Yesterday morning the ground at Springfield was hard frozen. Wrote to Elizabeth Barstow, Mattapoisett.

17. A hard frost. Attended Mr. Bushnell's meeting both parts of the day. A fine congregation, with good music. At evening wrote to Mr. Eldridge, of Norfolk. Put on my flannel.

18. Was up early. Took the cars and went, the first time, to New Haven. Wet and dark weather. Took steamboat immediately, and arrived at New York before three o'clock. Passage, \$3.00. Kindly entertained at Mr. Hoffman's. Find friends and relatives well. Much talk about the late election.

19. Walked out. The streets very much occupied. The omnibuses make great noise, are troublesome, and very convenient.<sup>4</sup> Read. Attended the public auction of books, and bought a few. The most of them sold high. Called on Mr. Gallatin.<sup>5</sup> An interesting man; very intelligent, eighty-four years old. Visited friends at Brooklyn. That town rapidly increases.

20. Purchased books at the auction. Old American books in great demand. Mather's *Magnalia* sold at \$19.00.<sup>6</sup> Wet; the roads muddy. Toward evening attended the fortieth anniversary of the New York Historical

<sup>1</sup> In a great library State registers are exceedingly valuable for reference. They solve a multitude of questions.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Wm. W. Ellsworth.

<sup>4</sup> That general description will answer for a good many things.

<sup>5</sup> Albert Gallatin, LL. D., a native of Geneva, Switzerland. He came to this country at the age of nineteen, out of sympathy with a country struggling for independence. He

became one of our most distinguished statesmen. He was M. C. six years, was Treasurer of the United States, 1801-1813, and was sent as agent and ambassador to treat with foreign nations. He was born in 1761, and died in 1849, eighty-eight years old. He was President of the New York Historical Society at the time of his death.

<sup>6</sup> The first edition (English) published in 1702. It has since been sold for forty dollars and more.

Society. There was a delegation from the Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania Societies. Mr. Brodhead<sup>1</sup> delivered a good address. A very large, intelligent, splendid company. Mr. Gallatin presided. There was a very splendid dinner about eight o'clock. The company pretty noisy. Mr. J. Q. Adams and others spoke. I left among the first, about twelve o'clock. Got home safely. Our Connecticut Historical Society was greatly respected. Had a pleasant call on Mr. F. H. Wolcott.

21. Attended the auction again and bid off more books. Some quite low. Rainy and the streets very wet. Dined with my cousin, Dr. Gilman.<sup>2</sup> Am much fatigued. Looked at books at Bartlett & Welford's. Read.

22. Still wet and rainy. We had a very pleasant dinner, with cousins and friends, at Mr. Hoffman's. Cousin J. Battell took me to the boat. Paid for books at auction, \$56.88. Bought of Bartlett & Welford twenty-one volumes for \$42.00, charged on his book. Saw Mr. Force,<sup>3</sup> of Washington. Left New York and came on in the steamboat.

23. Slept considerably in the boat, which kept on its way through the night. Arrived at Hartford at ten o'clock A. M. Fare, \$2.00. Quite rainy, not cold. Glad to get home. Have not been greatly wanted in my absence. I think my health is improved. Received a letter from Mr. Wilson Barstow, Mattapoisett.

24. Attended meeting at Mr. Hawes's. He preaches with much effort, and very well. Took the charge of his prayer-meeting in the evening. Had a good deal of company yesterday afternoon. It grows cold. Dr. Chapin<sup>4</sup> is quite sick.

25. A rough, winter day. Received two boxes from New York; one containing an ottoman having been owned by Gen. Washington, and used in his family. An elegant article. Presented to the Historical Society by Mr. Frederic H. Wolcott, of New York. The other box contained about sixty volumes, with Stephens's *Thesaurus*<sup>5</sup> in numbers twenty-one volumes, bought of Bartlett & Welford. Looked over books. Wrote. Difficult to warm my large room. Brother Francis came here last evening in the cold, and returned today.

26. The cold abates a little. The ground is hard frozen. Have four invitations to a Thanksgiving dinner, and three from out of the city to preach. Wrote. Had a number of visitors.

27. Took the stage early and rode to Norfolk. Suffered a good deal with the cold. Rode slow. At evening Joseph Battell, Anna Battell, Mr. Hum-

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<sup>1</sup> John R. Brodhead, distinguished as a historical writer, author of several volumes, including a history of the State of New York.

<sup>2</sup> Chandler Robbins Gilman, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> Peter Force.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Calvin Chapin, pastor at Rocky Hill, a few miles from Hartford, since 1794. He died in 1851, after a ministry of fifty-seven years.

<sup>5</sup> This work came from that celebrated family of scholars in France of which Henry Stephens was the head. He was born about 1470, and died about 1520. They were Protestant scholars, and the light they shed abroad was very offensive to the Catholic Church, and they suffered persecution. The *Thesaurus Linguae Graeciae* was the work of Henry Stephens, second of that name.

phrey, Mr. and Mrs. Larned, came to sister Battell's<sup>1</sup> from New York by the Housatonic Railroad.

28. The mercury this morning was about 10°. It began to snow about ten o'clock, and continued through the day. Mr. Eldridge preached well. I made the first prayer. There was a good congregation. We dined at Mr. Eldridge's. A very interesting and pleasant occasion. I believe I have not been here at a Thanksgiving since 1806.<sup>2</sup>

29. The snow is about five inches deep. Some sleighs move. Thermometer about 12°. Rode in the stage to Hartford. We got detained, and rode slow. Got to Hartford near nine o'clock at evening. Suffered with the cold, but, through mercy, my health seems not to be injured.

30. Thermometer about 8°. The ground was firmly frozen. Much taken up with company at my library. The ice has stopped in the river. Mr. Tryon Edwards<sup>3</sup> called on me. Some sleighing.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Heard Mr. Edwards<sup>4</sup> at Mr. Bushnell's in the morning, and at Mr. Hawes's in the afternoon. Wet and rainy through the day. The snow not gone. At evening attended a good temperance meeting. Was up late.

2. Worked at our library. Dined at Mr. E. W. Bull's. Had much and very respectable company. Wrote to Mr. James Humphrey,<sup>5</sup> New York. At evening attended the monthly concert.

3. Am able, through mercy, to perform more labor than I have been. Had much company. Dined at Mr. Sigourney's.<sup>6</sup> At evening the Historical Society had their stated meeting. Was up late.

4. Had a cold and pretty hard rain. Mr. Wadsworth has made a good addition to our library. The Democracy have a poor time for celebrating their unholy triumph. They made a great noise in the evening; tar-barrels, rockets, procession, torches, guns, etc.

5. Worked at the library. Attended a temperance meeting; had good speaking. At evening Mr. Gough delivered a temperance address to a great audience; the most impressive one, I think, I have ever heard.<sup>7</sup>

6. Had company. Wrote. Called on Mr. Wadsworth, and presented

<sup>1</sup> These comers from New York, with the kindred in Norfolk, young and old, made a very intelligent and agreeable company.

<sup>2</sup> That was the year when he returned, broken in health, from his missionary labors in Ohio.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Walter, grandson of Jonathan, D. D., and great-grandson of President Jonathan Edwards, born in Hartford, Aug. 7, 1809, graduated at Yale College, 1828. He is still living (1886). Tryon Edwards, D. D., Hon. Jonathan Edwards, of Troy, and Rev. Erskine Edwards, were brothers and sons of Walter Edwards, of Hartford, Ct.

<sup>4</sup> Tryon Edwards, D. D. He began his

public ministry in Rochester, N. Y., 1834, but was at this time about to be settled in the Second Congregational Church of New London, Ct., where he remained, 1845-1857.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. James Humphrey, who married Urania Battell.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Charles Sigourney.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. John B. Gough was buried in February, 1886, with a large company gathered at his funeral, and with the most tender tributes of respect and affection. In 1844, when Dr. Robbins heard him, he was just entering upon his public career. It was not far from 1840 that he began to speak in public, at first with timidity.

him our thanks for his late donations. The ice has gone from the river, and the streets are very muddy. Wrote late. Not cold.

7. Quite rainy. Put up books. Dined at Mr. Joseph Trumbull's.<sup>1</sup> At evening wrote to Mr. Reid,<sup>2</sup> of Salisbury. Yesterday I was requested to preach at West Hartford, and also at Windsor the next Sabbath.

8. Cold. Rode to West Hartford in a severe wind on horseback, and the roads very rough. Preached on Ex. ix: 20, 21, and Acts xiii: 38. This is a good congregation; they are expecting soon to instal a pastor. Rode home, mostly walking my horse. Mr. Hawes preached in the evening on the death of his daughter, to a great congregation.

9. The ground is hard frozen. Had a good deal of company. Afternoon visited a school. Read. Received a letter from Dea. Pettibone,<sup>3</sup> of Norfolk, requesting me to preach an historical discourse there.

10. Wrote. Worked at my room. Mr. Wadsworth is adding a portico to this building. Afternoon visited a school. Large and unmanageable. At evening visited at Dr. Grant's.<sup>4</sup>

11. Attended to my books. Looked over Stephens's *Thesaurus*; a very complicated work. Took tea at J. R. Woodbridge's.<sup>5</sup> Visited the third school in the stone school-house on the ascending grade. In very good order.

12. Weather very cold and rough. Wrote to Mr. Marsh,<sup>6</sup> of Winchester. Visited the fourth school in the first district. A large school, and a very good one. In the four schools about four hundred and fifty scholars.<sup>7</sup> Two male and ten female teachers. Read late.

13. Visited two young primary schools. Had Dr. Alcott with me. Too much singing and extra proceedings. It snowed. Took tea at Mr. Hosmer's. Massachusetts and South Carolina have got into a difficulty which looks bad.

14. Visited the African school; with a good teacher, colored, and might do well with a steady attendance. Dr. A. with me. Afternoon had much company. Am burdened with business. At evening wrote. Weather moderates. But little sleighing. My health, through mercy, is improved.

15. The streets quite wet. Heard Mr. Hawes in the morning; afternoon preached for him on Acts xiii: 38. At evening Mr. Hawes preached in his meeting-house at a union circular meeting. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Trumbull, LL. D., was of the Lebanon family which gave three Governors to Connecticut, and this Joseph was one of them. He was born in 1782, and died 1861. He was graduated at Yale in 1801, and received his LL. D. from his *Alma Mater* in 1849.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Adam Reid, so long at Salisbury, Ct., was born in Scotland in 1808, and was graduated at the Glasgow University. He came to this country in 1835, and after preaching elsewhere a few months, began his work in Salisbury in 1836, was ordained in 1837, and remained there till his death in 1878. He was a sturdy, abiding man.

<sup>3</sup> Amos Pettibone, deacon of the Congregational church, Norfolk, Ct., 1825-1845, and again, 1859-1864.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Henry A. Grant.

<sup>5</sup> James R. Woodbridge was a prominent member of Dr. Hawes's church, and was descended from Timothy Woodbridge, pastor of that church, 1683-1732.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Frederick Marsh, who had been settled there since 1809.

<sup>7</sup> Wherever Dr. Robbins goes he has to do with the schools. It will be remembered that he early showed marked ability as a teacher.

16. Visited with Dr. Alcott<sup>1</sup> three schools in the south district; one building. They appear very well. At evening attended the performance, drama; well written, and very well performed.<sup>2</sup>

17. Hoped to have time for myself, but much occupied with company. Wrote some. At evening heard a fine lecture from Prof. Silliman on geology.<sup>3</sup> We had a partial meeting of the Historical Society. Winter cold. My cousin W. Lawrence<sup>4</sup> came here from Norfolk.

18. Very cold. Visited two schools in the north school-house. A great Whig State Convention was held here. Afternoon had much company. Took tea at Mr. Watkinson's.<sup>5</sup> Wrote. At evening began to write a historical sermon for the centennial anniversary at Norfolk,<sup>6</sup> on Jer. vi: 16. Many people in town. My friend, S. T. Wolcott, gave me for preaching at East Windsor, September 22d, \$8.00.

19. Had a good deal of company, convention men and others. Pleasant winter weather. Very good traveling. The river is firmly closed. Wrote on my sermon, but could do very little till evening. Cold. Had some donations for the Historical Society.

20. Occupied with company the most of the day. Wrote late in the evening on my sermon. Last evening wrote to Dea. Pettibone, of Norfolk.

21. The mercury this morning at 5°. Wrote. It requires much heat to warm my great room. Paid for candles, \$1.32.

22. Wet and dark and rainy through the day. In the morning heard Mr. Norton,<sup>7</sup> of New York, on the alarming movements of the Catholics in this country, and of those in Europe, respecting us. Afternoon preached in Dr. Bushnell's pulpit, he absent, on Gen. xxxii: 26, etc. Wrote on my centennial sermon quite late. We had a contribution for the anti-Catholic cause, and collected seventy-nine dollars.

23. Am something unwell with labor. Wet and thawing weather. Closed my door that I might write. Wrote some on my sermon, and in the evening nearly finished it. Brother Francis came in the evening on the railroad. Read to him most of my manuscript. He became quite unwell with rheuma-

<sup>1</sup> Dr. William A. Alcott, brother of Amos Bronson Alcott. Dr. Alcott was born in Wolcott, Ct., 1799, and died in Auburndale, Mass., 1859. He was known as a vegetarian.

<sup>2</sup> Performed by the school.

<sup>3</sup> For some years Prof. Benjamin Silliman, Sr., LL. D., was well known as a public lecturer on scientific subjects. He has sometimes been called the father of American science, for he was one of the very first men sent to Europe, especially to England and Scotland, to be instructed in European science preparatory to his professorship in Yale College. That professorship began in 1802, and continued actively till 1853, and then as Professor *Emeritus*, till his death in

1864. He was a man of stately proportions, and very fine personal appearance.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins still calls his nephews and nieces cousins. William Lawrence was the son of his sister Elizabeth.

<sup>5</sup> David Watkinson, who gave one hundred thousand dollars to found the Watkinson Free Library. This library is in the southeast portion of the Wadsworth Atheneum building.

<sup>6</sup> It does not yet appear what event is to be celebrated, for Norfolk was not an organized town until 1758.

<sup>7</sup> Asahel Strong Norton, D. D., one of the founders of Hamilton College, a native of Farmington, Ct., 1765, graduated at Yale College, 1790.

tism. Was up very late. Am much affected with labor. Received a letter from Mr. Reid,<sup>1</sup> of Salisbury, and one from Mr. Bartlett, of Scantic.<sup>2</sup>

24. Cold, and the ground hard frozen. Took the stage early and rode to Norfolk. Some snow last night. Conversed with persons about historic facts of the town. Had a cold ride.

25. We have a moderate and pleasant day. Some sleighing. Last evening wrote late, and finished my elaborate century sermon. We had a full public meeting, and I preached this sermon on Jer. vi: 1; over an hour and a half. Mr. Eldridge, Mr. Beach, of Winsted, and Mr. Marsh, of Winchester, assisted in the services. Many natives of the town not residents were present. My brother Samuel came late last evening, and nephews James R. and Grove Lawrence today from Onondaga. A vote of thanks was passed to me in the congregation.<sup>3</sup> Conversed with Mr. Reid, of Salisbury, about going to Hartford. Am relieved from much anxiety, though fatigued.

26. Walked and visited with cousins. Afternoon rode to Colebrook with sister Sarah and others, and visited sister Salome and her family.<sup>4</sup> They are in a prosperous state. Brother James is unwell, and could not be here with us. Our family circle are good singers.<sup>5</sup>

27. It snowed through the day. Visited Dr. Roys.<sup>6</sup> Left Norfolk about noon, and rode in the stage alone all the way to Hartford. Had a cold, slow, tedious ride. Have had, through great mercy, a prosperous time. Stage fare, \$3.50.

28. Received a letter from Sophia Tudor. Have a good deal of labor in making fire. Pretty good sleighing. Dined at Mr. Watkinson's. Had a good deal of company. Read the Bible. Cold and frosty.

29. Preached at the South Church by their request. A cold day. Had fire in my room. A good congregation. Preached on 2 Cor. v: 11, and Luke ix: 30, 31. Read the Bible. At evening heard Mr. Sprague<sup>7</sup> at the union meeting. A large assembly.

30. Much occupied with company. In the forenoon attended the dedication of the new chapel at the asylum. A very uncommon and interesting occasion. Saw Mr. Smith, late minister to Texas.<sup>8</sup> Wrote diary.

31. Have received a pleasant letter from Mattapoissett, mostly in poetry, signed by initials that I do not understand. Visited a school in a condition of past days. Afternoon attended an Episcopal funeral. Get but a little time for myself. I bless God for the great mercies of this year. I have never been forsaken of his grace.

<sup>1</sup> Adam Reid, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Shubael Bartlett.

<sup>3</sup> It is not yet made plain by the diary what event in Norfolk history was celebrated by this gathering, and this discourse; but by outside evidence it appears that they came as nearly as they could to the time of the coming of the first English family upon the soil.

<sup>4</sup> Wife and children of his brother Ammi

Ruhamah, Jr., whose death had lately occurred.

<sup>5</sup> The musical taste and singing power still continue, in large measure, with many members of his family.

<sup>6</sup> Ansen Roys.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Isaac N. Sprague, of the Fourth Church.

<sup>8</sup> Hon. Delaron Smith.





## 1845.

### JANUARY.

1. Lay awake a good deal of last night. Endeavored to consecrate myself and all my possessions and my hopes to a holy God for the coming year, and for eternity. I pray for his great mercy during the year on which I have entered. My sister Battell gave me an almanack. Dined at Mr. Nichols's.<sup>1</sup> Had much company. Prof. Silliman<sup>2</sup> was in. Yesterday Mr. Hill,<sup>3</sup> of New Hampshire, was here in my absence. Was up late.

2. Very pleasant for the season. Read. We received a large number of old books on deposit. Taken up with company. At evening preached a sacramental lecture with notes on Luke xxii: 19, at the South Church.<sup>4</sup> Wrote to my brother F., and to William Rodman, of Stonington, late.

3. Rode with Dr. Saltmarsh<sup>5</sup> and visited the Washington district school. A good house and indifferent teacher. Exchanged some of my books and pamphlets that were valuable for some large volumes very valuable. Read late.

4. Wrote. Waited on company. The streets are very wet. Brother Francis came here, and with sister Sarah<sup>6</sup> we had a good visit. Have more care than I expected in this employment. Not cold.

5. Preached in the morning at the South Church on John xxi: 15. Administered the sacrament. This church is large; more than I expected. Sister Battell was with me. Afternoon heard, at the same place, young Mr. Corning.<sup>7</sup> At evening attended a good temperance meeting with Mrs. B. Several speakers from abroad.

6. Visited the Lord's Hill school. Well taught by a female. Waited on company. Mrs. B. went away for New Haven in the cars. Find little time for myself. We had considerable snow.

7. It snowed the most of the day. Visited Mrs. Patten<sup>8</sup> and procured

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. James Nichols, a prominent citizen of Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> Benjamin Silliman, Sr., LL. D., professor at Yale, 1802-1864.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Isaac Hill, politician and journalist, born in Cambridge, Mass., 1788; died in Washington, D. C., 1851.

<sup>4</sup> At that time the pastoral office at the South Church, Hartford, was vacant, Oliver E. Daggett, D. D., resigning in 1843, and Walter Clark, D. D., succeeding in June, 1845.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Seth Saltmarsh.

<sup>6</sup> Mrs. Joseph Battell.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. William H. Corning, a graduate

of Trinity College, 1842, and of Yale Theological Seminary, 1845. He was afterwards settled at Clinton, Mass., Owego, N. Y., and Whitehall, N. Y., and died at Saratoga Springs in 1862. He was born in Hartford, 1820.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. William Patten had been pastor of the South Church, Hartford, 1767-1773, dying in 1775. His son, William Patten, Jr., D. D., graduated at Dartmouth College in 1780; had been pastor at Newport, R. I., 1786-1833; and died in 1839. It was from these ministerial libraries, probably, that Dr. Robbins procured the books for the Historical Society.

a good number of books for our library. Mrs. Alden also gave me two good quartos. It snowed the most of the day. At evening we had a good Historical Society. Wrote to Bartlett & Welford, New York.

8. Visited with Mr. Saltmarsh the Rocky Hill school. Doing well. Took tea at Judge Williams's.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Burt, one of my hosts, had a public temperance supper. On earnest invitation I attended.

9. The doctor and I visited the north school; a cheap school. The district do not favor religious instruction. Very good sleighing. Had a good deal of company. Took tea at Mr. R. Watkinson's.<sup>2</sup> A polite and good company.

10. The doctor took me again in his sleigh and we visited the northwest school. In a good state. Received from New York a large *History of the Roman Republic*, six folios, purchased at auction; cost about \$18. Afternoon was carried to West Hartford, and preached on John xxi: 15, at a meeting preparatory to their expected installation.<sup>3</sup> Was brought home. Not cold, and the best sleighing. Read.

11. Wrote to Bartlett, New York. Worked at our books. Afternoon rode with company to Windsor to spend the Sabbath. Find difficulty in getting time to write diary. Kept at Mrs. Stiles's.<sup>4</sup>

12. Preached on John xxi: 15, and Ps. cxlii: 4. Administered the sacrament. This church is larger than I feared. It appears well. The people are in an unsettled state, and have been since the death of Mr. Rowland.<sup>5</sup> At an evening meeting spoke on Heb. iv: 11. Went to Maj. Ellsworth's.<sup>6</sup>

13. Mr. Ellsworth brought me home in his sleigh. Worked at my pamphlets. Wrote. My health, through divine mercy, is very good. It snowed some. Had a good deal of company.

14. Worked at my pamphlets. I fear that a number are lost. Wrote. My writing is much in arrear. At evening heard Mr. Silliman's curious and bold geological lecture.<sup>7</sup> A cold evening.

15. We had a very cold night. Rode with Dr. Saltmarsh and visited the west school. They do poorly. Waited on company. Drank tea at Mr. Monds's. Mr. White paid me \$10 for a Sabbath's preaching in West

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<sup>1</sup> Chief-Justice Thomas S. Williams, deacon of the First Church, Hartford, 1836 to his death, 1861.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Watkinson, Esq., one of the public men of Hartford.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Dwight M. Seward, D. D., was installed at West Hartford in January, 1845. He had been pastor at New Britain, Ct., 1836-1842. He was born in Durham, Ct., 1811, graduated at Yale College, 1831, and Yale Theological School, 1835.

<sup>4</sup> The Stiles family was largely developed in Windsor and East Windsor. There were

at least four men of the name Stiles in the earliest years of the town of Windsor who became founders of families.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Henry A. Rowland, who died in 1835.

<sup>6</sup> Major Martin Ellsworth, one of the sons of Chief-Justice Oliver Ellsworth.

<sup>7</sup> The science of geology was then in its infancy, and though Prof. Silliman was eminently a Christian scientist, the wonderful facts of the earth's history when first presented made men hold their breath with astonishment.

Hartford. Mr. J. B. Hosmer<sup>1</sup> paid me on my salary here, \$100. The cold moderates.

16. Taken up with company the most of the day. Had strangers from abroad. A most ridiculous duel at Washington. Wrote on the school business. Fitted my *Thesaurus* for the binder. It rained and thawed the most of the day. Wrote to Mr. Seth Thomas,<sup>2</sup> of Plymouth. Visited.

17. Wet. The streets and sidewalks are very icy. Very difficult walking. Mr. Bacon, of New Haven, called on me. Received a kind letter from Mr. Hooker,<sup>3</sup> of East Windsor. At evening it rained very hard. Paid my merchant tailor, \$10. Visited.

18. Visited a school; doing well. Cold again, and the ground and trees all covered with ice. Very difficult walking; got a fall. Had company. The people seem to take a constantly increasing interest in our collection. Paid a binder, \$2.83. Wrote.

19. A very cold morning. Heard Dr. Hawes both parts of the day, and Dr. Bushnell at the union meeting in the evening. Had fire in my room. Read the Bible.

20. It snowed considerably. Occupied with company. Wrote. Paid Mr. Treat on my boarding bill, \$30. Spent the evening at Mr. Wadsworth's.<sup>4</sup>

21. Still very slippery and difficult walking. Worked at pamphlets. Wrote to Mr. Harris Haskell, Windsor Locks;<sup>5</sup> to the editor of the *Recorder*, and the editors of the *New England Puritan*, Boston, and to J. B. Moore,<sup>6</sup> Jr., New York. Received a letter from Mr. George Livermore, Boston, and one from Henry Onderdonk,<sup>7</sup> Jr., Jamaica, Long Island.

22. Wrote. Cold and frosty, but pleasant, and abundance of sleighing. Attended to company. Visited at Mr. Tudor's. Congress are greatly worried about Texas.

23. Visited the school for boys at the Orphan Asylum. In very good order. Afternoon the school visitors came here, and I made report of twenty schools. A good deal to commend; something to censure. More yard room is needed. Read.

24. Did errands. Paid for my annual *Courant*, \$2. Received two fine folios from Boston—Anderson's *History of Commerce*. Received from J. B. Moore,<sup>8</sup> Jr., New York, a fine rifle, taken in the French ship *L'Insurgente*,

<sup>1</sup> J. B. Hosmer was for many years Treasurer of the Connecticut Historical Society, and both he and Charles Hosmer were among the leading builders and helpers of the institution. They were both very useful and honored citizens of Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> The great clock manufacturer, who gave the name to the town of Thomaston in Litchfield County.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. Edward W. Hooker, D. D., of the Connecticut Theological Institute.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Daniel Wadsworth.

<sup>5</sup> Pine Meadow, of which we have so

often heard, had then become Windsor Locks.

<sup>6</sup> Jacob Bailey Moore, Jr., from 1845 to 1848 was Librarian of the New York Historical Society.

<sup>7</sup> Henry Onderdonk, Jr., was, 1832-1865, Principal of Union Hall Academy, Jamaica, L. I., and was also a popular, and somewhat extensive, writer.

<sup>8</sup> The father of Jacob B. Moore, of the same name, was surgeon in the United States Navy, dying in 1813. This French rifle came, probably, through his hands.

a donation to me for the society. Received a letter from sister Battell. Dined at Mr. Brinley's.<sup>1</sup> Worked at my books. Afternoon and evening a steady rain; evening quite hard.

25. We have a January thaw. Worked at my books. The ground almost covered with water. Wrote. Got quite fatigued. Read. I am up too late in the evenings.

26. Walked to the asylum and attended worship with the deaf and dumb. A very impressive occasion. Afternoon preached for Mr. Bushnell on Rev. xx: 12-15. At evening we had an excellent sermon from Dr. Hawes at a union meeting. Mr. Bushnell is quite unwell. Mild and pleasant.

27. The river is high, but the ice does not move. Visited two schools in the forenoon. Afternoon had much company. Had a good donation of books for our society. Had the painful news that the House of Representatives of Congress have voted to annex Texas.<sup>2</sup> In God is our hope. At evening visited.

28. My company seems constantly to increase. Very pleasant weather, and the sleighing is gone. Worked what I could at my books. At evening wrote. Dined out.

29. Worked on a new arrangement of my books. I get quite fatigued. Wrote. At evening attended a book auction. My cousin Robbins Battell<sup>3</sup> called on me. Was up late.

30. Colder. Received a letter from N. A. Sturdivant, of Mattapoisett, and one from Mr. Vaill,<sup>4</sup> of Amherst. Paid for a second-hand bureau, \$4.50. Wrote to Mr. Arnold, of Hebron.

31. Had a covering put on some of my book-shelves, to save the books from injury. Wrote. Occupied with company. We received a valuable donation from Mr. Wadsworth<sup>5</sup> of Dobson's *Encyclopædia*<sup>6</sup> and two elegant candle-sticks. Severe cold.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. The thermometers this morning were at zero and below. A delegation from the Massachusetts General Court<sup>7</sup> to the Deaf and Dumb Asylum

<sup>1</sup> George Brinley, whose death occurred in 1875, and whose remarkable library was recently sold at a very high range of prices.

<sup>2</sup> Texas was not fully admitted to the Union until Dec. 29, 1845. No one now probably regrets this action.

<sup>3</sup> Robbins Battell, Esq., was at that time twenty-five years old, having been born April 9, 1819. He was graduated at Yale College in the class of 1839. The death of his father occurred in 1842, and this event devolved upon him large cares and responsibilities in connection with his father's estate in Norfolk.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph Vaill, D. D., a graduate of Yale in 1811. His chief ministries were in Brim-

field, Mass., Somers, Ct., and Palmer, Mass. He was not settled in Amherst, but was, 1841-1845, financial agent of Amherst College. Dr. Vaill was son of Rev. Joseph Vaill, pastor at Hadlyme, Ct., 1780-1838. The son was born July 28, 1790, died Feb. 29, 1869.

<sup>5</sup> Daniel Wadsworth, from whom the Hartford Atheneum received its name.

<sup>6</sup> This work was probably Matthew Dobson's *Medical Commentary*.

<sup>7</sup> Massachusetts chose to send her deaf and dumb pupils to the excellent institution at Hartford, and year by year a committee from the General Court went on to see what progress they were making, and were almost uniformly satisfied with the result.

called at our room and expressed themselves well pleased. Rode in the car to Windsor Locks. The ground very hard frozen. Kept at Mr. Harris Haskell's. Paid John Keep for a poor book, thirty-seven cents. At evening attended the preparatory lecture, and preached without notes on John xvi: 33-50.

2. Still very cold. The river firmly frozen. Preached on John xxi: 15, and Ps. cxlii: 4. A small, new, interesting congregation.<sup>1</sup> Administered the sacrament. Received Mr. and Mrs. Haskell to a public profession.<sup>2</sup> The first addition to the infant church. The whole an impressive and solemn scene. At evening attended the monthly concert. Spoke on the second Psalm.

3. Rode home early. This is the third morning that the mercury has been about zero. Did errands. Received a good letter from Mr. Arvin Cannon and his wife, of Mattapoisett. Had a good deal of company.

4. It snowed through the day. At night a hard storm. Had various visitors from home and abroad. Our usual fortnight meeting prevented by the storm. Brother Francis called on me yesterday. Traded.

5. Worked shoveling snow. Wrote diary. Had the most of the day to myself. It snowed the most of the day. At evening visited. The snow is quite deep. On Monday Mrs. Haskell gave me a valuable mahogany box, which I gave to her at the time of her marriage.

6. Severe cold. A heavy body of snow. Wrote a long letter to Arvin Cannon and his wife, at Mattapoisett. Did errands. The mails are much delayed. Yesterday arranged and labeled my numbers of Green's *Registers*—seventeen small volumes.<sup>3</sup>

7. Read the Bible. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Vaill, of Amherst. Had a good deal of company; very respectable. At evening visited. The cold abates a little. Difficult to warm my room sufficiently.

8. Read the Bible. Much occupied with company. Some from Boston, Springfield, New York, and Litchfield. Had some donations. Pleasant, but winter cold. The river very firm. Wrote to Henry Onderdonk, Jr.,<sup>4</sup> of Jamaica, Long Island.

9. Kept what I could at my room. Attended at the North Church and heard Mr. Emerson,<sup>5</sup> Agent for the Education Society. Preached there in the afternoon, by request, on 1 John i: 7. At evening attended the union meeting at the Fourth Church. Wrote.

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<sup>1</sup> This church was organized with fifteen members, Feb. 28, 1844, mostly from the First Church of Windsor.

<sup>2</sup> Harris and Frances (Wolcott) Haskell. These were the first additions to the original fifteen.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Green began to publish the *State Registers* of Connecticut in 1785. They were published annually, so that sixty numbers had been issued. By seventeen volumes

he means that all these had been brought together in seventeen bound volumes.

<sup>4</sup> Since the preparation of a previous note (see January 21) news has come of the death of Henry Onderdonk, Jr. He was born at Manhasset, N. Y., June 11, 1804, and died June 21, 1886; a man of large historical acquisitions, and a ready writer. His special work has been that of teacher.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Joseph Emerson.

10. A fortunate day. The coldest morning we have had. Mercury at 4° and 5° below zero. Received from Boston a magnificent Bible, Macklin's;<sup>1</sup> three very heavy folios, printed in London in 1800. Got them low—\$30. Procured a valuable deposit. Worked at my books. Attended to company. At evening visited Mr. Bushnell; confined with sickness. Paid for freight, seventy-five cents. Was informed of the death of brother Ammi's only granddaughter. Received of the society committee of Windsor, \$8.

11. The cold abates. Had an addition to our snow. Worked on the library, improving the shelves. Had much company. Mr. S. T. Wolcott paid me on his note, \$75. Visited at Mr. Wadsworth's. Wrote.

12. My new Bible is greatly admired. I get fatigued with labor. Our collection constantly increases in value. Wrote to Mr. George Livermore,<sup>2</sup> of Boston. Received a letter yesterday from Mr. Drake,<sup>3</sup> of Boston, informing me that I am elected a member of the Historic Genealogical Society, recently formed there.<sup>4</sup> It thawed considerably.

13. Cold again. Occupied with company. The sleighing is poor. Wrote. Paid for books, \$1.

14. Worked on the new arrangement of my books. We have more snow. Cannot labor through the day. Wrote.

15. Was requested to preach at the North Church tomorrow, and they afterwards found they had a previous engagement. Worked at my books. At evening rode to East Windsor. Good sleighing, though it thaws.

16. In the forenoon quite rainy. Walked to meeting in the snow water. My brother<sup>5</sup> preached on an exchange with Mr. Smith.<sup>6</sup> Afternoon I preached on 2 Cor. 7: 11. I much fear that I have sustained a severe pecuniary loss. Gave Mrs. Wolcott's girl, \$1.

17. Rode home. The snow much thawed and the sleighing fails. My brother called on me. Had my Stephens's *Thesaurus*<sup>7</sup> brought in from the binder's, executed in the best manner. It makes a noble addition to my library. Received a letter from Mr. Vaill, of Amherst. Had company and located books.

18. Finished putting up books; the floor is clear and the shelves filled. I have made a large addition, since I came from Mattapoissett, to my library. Very pleasant, and the most of the snow is gone. Dined out. At evening there was a meeting here of our society.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Macklin's Bible was published by Nares in London, in three volumes, with the Apocrypha. The price was £18, 18s. It was described as a splendid work; printed in large type by Baskley, and ornamented with fine engravings.

<sup>2</sup> Before mentioned in connection with his very choice collection of Bibles.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Gardiner Drake, eminent as a historical writer.

<sup>4</sup> This society dates from 1845, and had

only just been formed when Dr. Robbins was elected a member.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Francis Le Baron Robbins.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Levi Smith.

<sup>7</sup> This work came from the family of Henry Stephens, of Paris. His sons and later descendants were distinguished as early Protestant scholars and publishers. Henry Stephens, the head of the family, was born in Paris about 1470.

<sup>8</sup> Connecticut Historical Society.

19. Visited the grammar school.<sup>1</sup> Highly classical, and in a very good state. Attended the funeral of Mr. — Stewart. A wretched criminal case has been on trial in the Supreme Court seven days, and comes out about nothing. Dined at Mr. Day's. Gen. Samuel L. Pitkin, of East Hartford, has committed suicide.

20. Wrote to my brother Samuel, and to Senator Tappan,<sup>2</sup> at Washington. Waited on company. Received a valuable letter from Mr. Elisha Whittlesey,<sup>3</sup> of Canfield, Ohio. Attended Dr. Hawes's evening meeting.

21. Warm, and the streets exceeding wet and muddy. Visited a small private school. A committee of the Historical Society came here. Much company; some from a distance. Read.

22. Wrote to Col. S. T. Wolcott, East Windsor. Quite warm. Towards evening rode in the cars to Windsor to spend the Sabbath.<sup>4</sup> Kept at Mrs. Stiles's. Had a request to preach tomorrow at Wethersfield.<sup>5</sup> At evening attended a small meeting.

23. It rained the most of the day. Much water fell. The moving in the streets very difficult. Preached on Ex. ix: 20, 21, and Acts iv: 12. Meetings quite thin. Mr. Leete<sup>6</sup> is expected to be here.

24. Rode home in the cars quite early. Had to come over Windsor Causeway in a boat. It is like pleasant spring weather. Wrote. There are many fears that the Texas annexation will pass. On the 22d paid for horse hire, \$1.50.

25. A fortunate day. Received of Hartford Bank, \$17.50, on their last dividend; and on two preceding dividends, which I supposed had been paid, \$13.85 and \$17.50 = \$31.35; the whole, \$48.85. Paid Mr. Stillman, book-binder, \$15. Visited Mr. Brace's<sup>7</sup> school of young ladies. They do well. The water is high and the ice runs very powerfully in the river. At evening attended a temperance dramatic exhibition.

26. Warm and pleasant like the last of March. Had much company. Wrote. Paid a merchant tailor, \$20.

<sup>1</sup> The Hartford grammar school in all those years was of a high grade.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Benjamin Tappan was born in Northampton, Mass., May 25, 1773. He emigrated to Ohio in 1799, when Ohio was in its infancy. He was a member of the State Legislature, aid to Gen. Wadsworth in the War of 1812, presiding Judge of the Circuit Court, appointed in 1833 United States Judge for Ohio, Senator in Congress 1839-1845, and Chairman of the Committee on the Congressional Library.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, born in Washington, Ct., Oct. 19, 1783, was another of the distinguished early settlers of Ohio who held high offices in the State and national governments. He was appointed, by President Taylor, First Comptroller of the Treasury.

<sup>4</sup> At that time they were without a pastor at the old church, Windsor. Rev. Spofford D. Jewett was dismissed in 1843.

<sup>5</sup> The church in Wethersfield was also without a pastor. Rev. Robert Southgate was dismissed in 1843, and Rev. Mark Tucker, his successor, was installed in October, 1845.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Theodore A. Leete, of the class of 1839 at Yale College, and of 1843 in the Yale Theological Seminary, was settled in Windsor in September, 1845, and remained pastor till 1859. Mr. Leete died at Longmeadow, Mass., only two months since (1886).

<sup>7</sup> John Pierce Brace, a native of Litchfield, Ct., and a graduate of Williams College, in the class of 1812. He taught at first some years in Litchfield before coming to Hartford, afterwards one of the editors of the *Courant*.



27. Received a good letter from brother Samuel, and one from Mr. W. J. Annable, of Hebron. Both respecting valuable ancient relics. Wrote. I fear I have lost some valuable papers. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Cogswell,<sup>1</sup> of New Brunswick, N. J. Much occupied with visitors. Was out to tea. Received by post office a valentine.

28. Visited, with Dr. Saltmarsh, Miss Palmer's private school of twenty scholars. A very fine one. Growing cold again. The roads begin to dry. Have some cold. Wrote.

#### MARCH.

1. Much occupied with company. Miss Palmer and her school called on me. Paid Mr. Treat on my boarding bill, \$14. We have the painful intelligence that the Texas annexation bill has passed the Senate. Was left by the cars, and had to get a carriage to ride to Windsor. Went toward sundown and got there quite in the evening. The riding very bad; some of the way mud quite deep. Got through safely.

2. The walking not quite as bad as last Sabbath. Preached on Ps. cxix: 6, and Rev. xii: 15. People well out. Attended an evening meeting and spoke on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. Concluded to supply here till Fast. Kept at Mrs. Stiles's.

3. Rode home in the morning. Little improvement in the roads. Showery. Visited and took tea at Mr. Wadsworth's.<sup>2</sup> Am pretty feeble. Miserable proceedings at Washington.

4. Visited a school with Dr. Saltmarsh. Improving. Had much company; several distinguished ladies. Heard at evening a good historic lecture from Mr. Bacon,<sup>3</sup> of New Haven.

5. We had a hard rain. Worked at papers and pamphlets. Gave a workman, \$2. Yesterday received of S. T. Wolcott, \$26, and gave up his father's note, held for some years. Also paid for Porcupine's *Works*,<sup>4</sup> twelve octavos, \$4.50. Put up a curtain before my Bibles. Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston, and sent them \$30. Read President Polk's<sup>5</sup> Inaugural Address. Commonplace, partisan.

6. Very pleasant. The frost mostly out of the ground. Highly respectable.<sup>6</sup> Paid for a newspaper, *Puritan*, \$1.65. Get much fatigued.

7. Visited a school, with others, in good order. Prevented from going to another by company. Mr. Brimmer,<sup>7</sup> of Boston, called on me. Received from the South Society here, \$20. God is to be praised for his great mercies.

<sup>1</sup> Jonathan Cogswell, D. D., who had been professor in the Connecticut Theological Institute, born, 1782; graduated at Harvard College, 1806; died at New Brunswick, N. J., 1864.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Wadsworth.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Bacon had recently given his lecture on the history of the First Church, New Haven. Very likely it was one of those which he gave at Hartford.

<sup>4</sup> Peter Porcupine was William Cobbett, 1762-1835, a popular and pungent writer. An edition of his works, in twelve volumes, was published in 1801 in London.

<sup>5</sup> Delivered the day before at Washington. Copies were doubtless furnished to the newspapers in advance.

<sup>6</sup> We fail to discover here what is "highly respectable."

<sup>7</sup> Martin Brimmer.

Wrote to Bartlett & Welford, New York, and sent them \$30. Wrote a short piece for the printer.

8. The portrait painter called on me to sit for my likeness. He commenced the work, which I think will be long. Rode in the cars to Windsor.<sup>1</sup> Preached a sacramental lecture with notes on Ps. lv: 22. A good number attended. Visited the elder Dr. Sill.<sup>2</sup> At evening attended a meeting. Kept at Dr. Pierson's.<sup>3</sup> In the morning received a good dividend of the Phoenix Bank.

9. Quite rainy through the forenoon. Preached on Luke xxiii: 34, and Rom. ii: 4. Administered the sacrament. The meetings thin. Attended an evening meeting and spoke on 1 Thess. v: 9. Something fatigued.

10. Rode early in the cars to Hartford. The ground quite wet, but generally free from frost. Have to make my own fire. Sometimes quite a task. Afternoon visited a good school. Paid for the material for my curtains, \$4. Paid for charcoal, sixty-three cents.

11. A large fall of snow, nine or ten inches deep. Not cold. Wrote to Mr. Eli Terry, of Plymouth. Did errands. At evening our society had a regular meeting here.

12. Wrote notices for the papers. Visited the southwest school. They have done well. The snow thaws and the ground is very wet and muddy. Received a good letter from Little & Brown, of Boston. At the school-house found a pen-knife which I had supposed lost. Wrote.

13. Waited on company. Visited a good school of young children.

14. A hard, rainy day. Worked busily, arranging old newspapers. Had the assistance of Mr. Parsons. Wrote. Kept my chamber closely. Our new government at Washington appears very imbecile.

15. Worked at newspapers. Pleasant, and a good deal of company. Mr. Dewey,<sup>4</sup> Unitarian minister, called. Rode in the cars to Windsor. Attended a small evening meeting. Kept at Esq. Morgan's. Cold.

16. Cold, and the ground hard frozen. Preached on Gal. iii: 8, and Heb. iv: 9. Had a pretty good congregation. Read the proclamation.<sup>5</sup> At the evening meeting spoke without notes on 2 Cor. viii: 9.

17. Rode home in the cars. The passage twenty-one minutes. Considerably fatigued. Occupied with company. Worked at papers. Wrote.

18. Did errands. Putting in order my series of Boston *Recorder*. Had some smart company. At evening rode in a carriage to East Windsor. Had a tedious time. The road very bad and quite a snow-storm.

<sup>1</sup> The railroad from Hartford to Springfield was first opened Dec. 19, 1844; so that it had only been running two or three months when Dr. Robbins used it for his journeys to Windsor.

<sup>2</sup> The elder Dr. Sill was Elisha N., and the younger, Theodore. The younger, a man of great promise, was cut off by untimely death in 1853.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. William Seward Pierson, graduate

of Yale, 1808. He had a son of the same name graduated at Yale, 1836.

<sup>4</sup> Orville Dewey, D. D., then pastor of the Church of the Messiah, New York, but much of the time unable to preach because of ill health.

<sup>5</sup> For Fast. In Connecticut, as will be remembered, Fast Day is on Good Friday, and so follows the course of the movable law of the Jewish Passover.

19. Am pretty feeble. Towards noon rode to Hartford. Chilly, cold, and bad road. I believe I have taken some cold. At evening Mrs. Battell and Fanny Robbins, brother Samuel's daughter, came to Mr. Treat's. We have an account of the death of Senator Bates,<sup>1</sup> of Massachusetts, at Washington. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott.

20. Visited a school with Dr. Saltmarsh. They do pretty well. Do not get time for study, as I need. Wrote. Attended to company. Toward evening rode to Windsor in the cars. Kept at young Dr. Sill's.<sup>2</sup> Wrote in the evening an addition to a Fast sermon.

21. Fast. Preached on Dan. x: 12. Had two exercises like the Sabbath. At the close of the sermon spoke in reference to a temporary removal from the meeting-house, which is to be repaired and renovated, after an occupation of about fifty years.<sup>3</sup> Cold. Quite fatigued.

22. Rode home early in the cars. Visited a colored school. They appear tolerably well. Mrs. Battell and Fanny Robbins called at the library. Had a good deal of company.

23. Attended meeting with Mrs. Battell at the South Church. Mr. Neill,<sup>4</sup> of Hatfield, preached. Afternoon attended with cousin Fanny at the North Church and heard Mr. Thompson,<sup>5</sup> of New Haven. At evening we heard his noted sermon on lewdness, connected with a late murder at New Haven. It was very well done.

24. My sister and niece at my room. Worked at books. Afternoon visited the Washington Street school. Did better than we expected. My sister went to Enfield. Wrote in the evening pretty late.

25. Have a task in making my morning fire of hard coal. Have had but one fire in this during the winter. Visited, with two others, the third and second departments of the south district. A good number of parents present. The schools did well. Dr. Gillette,<sup>6</sup> of East Windsor, gave me an ancient folio, valuable. At evening was at Mr. Wadsworth's.

26. Weather more mild, after much rough March wind. Visited the first part of the south school both parts of the day. The school in fine order. A large number of spectators were present. At evening they had a good and popular exhibition of speaking. I attended. The room very much crowded. Held late. A good deal of singing. We have some better news from Texas.

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<sup>1</sup> Hon. Isaac C. Bates, born in Granville, Mass., 1780; graduated at Yale, 1802; U. S. Senator, 1841-1845. He died in Washington, D. C., March 16, 1845.

<sup>2</sup> Theodore Sill, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> The house of worship which was then to be renovated was built in 1694. The earliest meeting-house of the ancient Windsor church was built in 1640.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Henry Neill, D. D., a graduate of Amherst in 1834. He was in Hatfield a

short time, and was settled in Lenox, Mass., Aug. 26, 1846, and afterward became a distinguished clergyman in the New School Presbyterian Church, dying in 1879.

<sup>5</sup> Joseph P. Thompson, D. D., some years at New Haven, then the able pastor of the Tabernacle, New York. He died 1879.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. Horace Cornelius Gillette, a graduate of the Yale Medical School in 1829, made large collections toward a history of East Windsor.

27. Sister Battell, with Fanny,<sup>1</sup> returned from Enfield last evening, and went off for Norfolk this morning. Visited a school at Lord's Hill; very good. Afternoon the one at Grand Hill. The most of the scholars have the influenza, and they did poorly. A warm spring day. The first we have had. Paid for Dr. Whitney's sermon at the funeral of Gen. Putnam,<sup>2</sup> \$1. At evening wrote. Much fatigued. Received a letter with a valuable pamphlet from George Sharpe, Esq., of Abington.

28. Visited the first and second departments of the great center school. An unfavorable time. They appear very well. At evening those schools had a public singing in the Centre Church, and Mr. Raymond, Baptist minister, delivered an address on the public schools. My absence from the library is felt by friends.

29. Visited the third and fourth departments of the center district school. In the whole there are more than five hundred scholars. Generally in very good order. Did this visiting in the forenoon. Afternoon had my time at home. Had two calls to preach tomorrow. Am much fatigued. Read. Warm.

30. In the morning preached for Mr. Bushnell<sup>3</sup> on Prov. xi: 7. He was present, but quite unwell. Afternoon for Mr. Sprague<sup>4</sup> on 2 Cor. vi: 11. He temporarily unwell. The meeting-house quite warm. Wore no out-coat. At evening heard Mr. Van Rensselaer<sup>5</sup> in the Centre Church. Made no fire in my room.

31. Very warm. It makes one very languid. Visited the Arsenal school. It has a good teacher, and he has done much for them. My furniture was removed from Mr. Treat's to Mr. Richmond's. Much occupied and weary. Slept at Mr. Treat's.

#### APRIL.

1. Rainy and hard showers. Very grateful to the ground. Vegetation starts suddenly. Occupied with company. Went to Mr. Richmond's to board. Our society had a meeting here in the evening.

<sup>1</sup> Fanny Robbins was a daughter of Samuel, who removed many years before to Central New York, where he was then living.

<sup>2</sup> Gen. Israel Putnam died in what is now Brooklyn, Ct. (a part of the ancient Pomfret), May 19, 1790. The funeral sermon was preached by his pastor, Dr. Josiah Whitney, whose ministry in that parish stretched from 1756 to 1824. This sermon had grown rare, and so brought a large price.

<sup>3</sup> The constant calls on Dr. Robbins to supply important pulpits in and around Hartford show that he had not lost his preaching power. He was now nearly sixty-eight years old.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Isaac N. Sprague, settled over the

Fourth Church in Hartford from 1837 to October, 1845, came from the Presbyterian ministry, and returned to it after his settlement in Hartford. He was a graduate of Middlebury College in 1822.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Cortlandt Van Rensselaer, D. D., a Presbyterian clergyman, graduate of Yale College in 1827. He was born in Albany, May 25, 1808, and died in Burlington, N. J. (where he was settled in the ministry), July 25, 1860. After graduating at Yale, he first studied law, and was admitted to the New York bar in 1830. He soon left to study theology at Princeton, and was ordained 1835. He was a conspicuous and able divine.

2. Very pleasant after the rain. Wrote. Went to visit a school and found it closed. Wrote. Received donations for our collection.

3. Am much oppressed with a cold. Judge Washburn<sup>1</sup> and wife, of Worcester, called on me. Wrote. Quite cool. The river is unusually high. At evening quite unwell.

4. Am, through mercy, considerably better than last evening. Paid Mr. Treat, \$20. Rev. Tryon Edwards gave me a lead inkstand, said by good authority to have been Gen. Washington's. Received a donation of \$3 from the society of Windsor Locks. At evening was at Mr. Wadsworth's.

5. Wrote. Can get but little time for my own business. Had a large school of young females come to my room. Read the Bible.

6. Preached at the African church<sup>2</sup> for Mr. Pennington,<sup>3</sup> their preacher; a worthy and respectable man. A decent congregation; well behaved. Afternoon heard Dr. Jenkin, of Pennsylvania, and at evening Dr. Hawes, on the present low state of religion.

7. Had calls from very respectable strangers. Read a report of my visiting the schools to the Board of Visitors at my own room. The day of election of State officers. The town quite still. Received a letter from Dr. Cogswell,<sup>4</sup> of New Brunswick, N. J. Yesterday received a letter from sister Battell.

8. A favored day. The accounts of the election yesterday are fully and entirely favorable. The Whigs have succeeded in all their important objects. May that God who has done all this in his rich mercy do the same in other States, and for the National Legislature, and keep them so, and be praised forever. Attended as a guest the wedding of Giles Thompson, of Norfolk. Cold and windy. Some snow. Wrote. Read.

9. We had a cold night; the ground frozen. The election news is still favorable. All of divine mercy. Wrote. Had a good deal of company. Was requested to preach next Sabbath at Wethersfield. Afternoon attended the examination of the North African School, and at evening an exhibition of the same. Very well done. Am still burdened with my cold, and have sore feet.

10. Weather more moderate. Looked over my coins. Wrote. Received a letter from F. P. Tracy, of Williamsburgh. Wrote to Judge Woodruff, of Granby.

11. Cold and rough weather. Did some errands. Had much company. My cold and cough and sore feet continue. Visited Miss Draper's school

<sup>1</sup> Emory Washburn, LL. D., was born in Leicester, Mass., Feb. 14, 1800; graduated at Williams College, 1817; admitted to the bar 1821; practiced law, first in Leicester, 1821-1828, then in Worcester, 1828-1856. He was Governor of Massachusetts, 1854 and 1855, and professor in Cambridge Law School.

<sup>2</sup> Commonly called African, but its name strictly was Colored Congregational Church. There were relatively more colored people in Connecticut than in Massachusetts.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. J. W. C. Pennington, D. D., was pastor of the church from July, 1840, to November, 1847.

<sup>4</sup> Jonathan Cogswell, D. D.

of young ladies. They are very forward. Wrote a biographical sketch of Samuel J. Mills, Sr.,<sup>1</sup> of Torrington. Saw a few blossoms on a fruit-tree.

12. Did errands. Read. Waited on company. Had two requests to preach tomorrow. Have considerable debility. Wrote.

13. A messenger came and carried me to Wethersfield. Preached on Ex. x: 20, and Heb. iv: 9. A large and good congregation. The meeting-house has been renovated and very much improved. Visited the Sabbath-school. It is large, and goes through the year without intermission. Attended an evening meeting. Called at Mrs. Marsh's.<sup>2</sup> Kept at Mrs. Williams's. Much fatigued.

14. Mr. Bulkley brought me home, and paid me \$10. The roads are dusty. There has been a great and very destructive fire at Pittsburgh.<sup>3</sup> Attended at the examination of Mrs. Draper's school. Received a letter from my cousin S. D. Robbins,<sup>4</sup> of Chelsea, Mass. At evening was at Mr. Parsons's. Moved furniture.

15. Attended the performances of Mrs. Draper's school in the forenoon, and Miss Thacher's in the afternoon. Private female schools, and very good ones. Warm. At evening attended a lecture by Prof. Elton,<sup>5</sup> on *Herculaneum*.<sup>6</sup> My feet are quite sore.

16. Have had my cents<sup>7</sup> cleaned and strung; a full set from 1793. Had a good deal of company. Did errands. Worked at my room. Wet.

17. Wet. We have a good deal of rain; very salutary. Worked at my library room. There is much to be done.

18. My cousin W. Lawrence,<sup>8</sup> of Norfolk, called on me. Visited with Mr. Morgan the North School. It has improved, but is still low. Attended Mr. Elton's<sup>9</sup> second lecture. Read.

19. Last night we had a hard thunder-shower. Wrote. Have a good deal of debility and cannot work all day. At evening quite rainy.

20. The ground and roads very wet. Preached in the morning at the

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Samuel John Mills, Sr., was born in Kent, Ct., May 16, 1743; graduated at Yale College, 1764, and was pastor at Torrington, 1768-1833, sixty-five years; a man quaint and original to a remarkable degree.

<sup>2</sup> Widow of John Marsh, Sr., D. D. Her maiden name was Anne Grant, daughter of Col. Ebenezer Grant, of East Windsor, Ct. Her husband died in 1821. She was now of great age, for her marriage with Dr. Marsh took place in 1775, so that her life as wife and widow had been seventy years.

<sup>3</sup> This fire occurred April 10, 1845, destroying not far from one thousand buildings, and causing a loss of about \$6,000,000.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samuel Dowse Robbins.

<sup>5</sup> Prof. Romeo Elton, D. D., LL. D., born in Bristol, R. I., 1790; died in Boston, 1870;

a man of large and varied learning. He was graduated at Brown University in 1813, was ordained in 1817, and was Baptist minister at Windsor, Vt., 1817-1824. Then he became Professor of Ancient Languages and Literature in Brown University, 1825-1843. His later years were devoted to various literary enterprises. When he died he left \$20,000 to Brown University, and \$20,000 to Columbia College, N. Y.

<sup>6</sup> Excavations first began at *Herculaneum* in 1711, and have since been followed up from time to time.

<sup>7</sup> In his collection of coins.

<sup>8</sup> Nephew, son of his sister Elizabeth (Mrs. Grove Lawrence), a merchant in Norfolk, Ct.

<sup>9</sup> Prof. Romeo Elton.

African church on Luke xxiii: 34, and in the afternoon for Mr. Gallaudet, at the Retreat for the Insane, on Col. iii: 11. Had an interesting, but gloomy, audience. At evening heard Mr. Clarke<sup>1</sup> at the South Church.

21. Worked at my library catalogue. Wrote. We have news from Mexico. That government is much dissatisfied with our Texas proceedings, and very justly.

22. A very pleasant day, after long cold and wet. Received a letter from Dr. Cogswell, of New Brunswick. Wrote to brother Francis. Heard Prof. Elton's last lecture on Pompeii. Very good.

23. Did errands. Worked at my library. Warm and very pleasant. Had much company. Have numerous visitors from abroad.

24. Employed at my books and with company. Attended at an examination of the grammar school. Wrote. Last evening attended a public exhibition of the South African School. They did well.

25. Showery. Received from Mr. Daniel Arnold, of Hebron, by Mr. Annable, the dinner-pot of Capt. Miles Standish—a donation to the Historical Society. Capt. S. was the Achilles<sup>2</sup> of the Pilgrims. The genuineness of the article is undoubted.<sup>3</sup> Visited the grammar school. A very good one. Received a kind letter from my cousin, Mrs. Hoffman,<sup>4</sup> of New York. Wrote.

26. Worked at my library. Did errands. Brother Francis came and dined with me, and carried me to Enfield. Had no fire in my room. The blossoms appear on the early fruit-trees generally. The daffs are in blossom. My brother was late. The evening quite cold. Good traveling.

27. Quite cold. Preached for my brother on Acts iv: 12, and 1 Tim. vi: 12. A good congregation. At evening had a thin meeting. We both spoke on the 32d Psalm. Mrs. Robbins is better than she has been.

28. Took the cars at Thompsonville and rode home pretty early. Wrote. Sat an hour for my portrait. He (the painter) appears to be a skillful workman. Visited. Waited on company.

29. My company increases. Worked at my library catalogue. At evening attended a public exhibition of the grammar school. An excellent performance.

30. Wrote on my library catalogue. Some of my books have got

<sup>1</sup> Walter Clarke, D. D., was then preaching as a candidate at the South Church, Hartford. He was settled there the following June, and remained till January, 1859. He was born in Middletown, Ct., April 5, 1812; graduated at Yale College, 1837, and at Yale Theological Seminary, 1840. Before his settlement at Hartford he had been pastor at Canterbury, Ct., and, after leaving Hartford, he was pastor of the Mercer Street Presbyterian Church, New York, and of the First Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, where he died in 1879.

<sup>2</sup> The comparison is good, and it would be equally good to call him the Leonidas. He was emphatically a soldier.

<sup>3</sup> It may be remembered that letters had passed between Mr. Arnold, Mr. Annable, and himself a short time before, and the historical succession of the owners of the *dinner-pot* had doubtless been made sure.

<sup>4</sup> Chandler Robbins, M. D., Professor in the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, married Serena Hoffman, daughter of Martin Hoffman, Sr. So Dr. Robbins calls Mrs. Hoffman, her mother, cousin.

deranged. Read. Find little time to write. Sat a good while for my painter. I fear I have lost my last boots. Read.

## MAY.

1. Wrote to my sister Battell. Had company from a distance. Afternoon rode with Mr. Richmond to Glastonbury. Crossed the ferry at Rocky Hill. Visited some ancient families. Mr. Malon Stacy, aged eighty, gave me for our society the tongs of Rev. John Willson—the first minister of Boston—his mother's great-grandfather. They are in good preservation. Got some old manuscripts. Many fruit-trees are in full blossom.

2. Mr. Brimmer and other Boston gentlemen called on me. Many ladies called. Wrote to my cousin, Mrs. Hoffman, at New York. Had made a fine pair of buckskin shoes. Had a good sitting with my painter. Wrote to Dr. Arnold, of Hebron. Had a good deal of company. Afternoon took the cars and rode to Windsor. Preached a preparatory lecture with short notes, on Mark iv: 20. Baptized two children. Meeting in the chapel. Looked at the meeting-house; in a renovating state. Attended an evening prayer-meeting. Received of Dr. Pierson, for this society, \$32.<sup>1</sup>

3. Preached for Mr. Leete,<sup>2</sup> at his request, on Col. iii: 11, and 1 Tim. vi: 12. Administered the sacrament. The church appear well. The room very full. We had a good season. At evening attended with Mr. Leete the monthly concert. A pleasant day. Kept at Mr. Alva Rowland's.<sup>3</sup>

4. Mr. Rowland brought me home. The apple-tree blossoms appear in plenty.

5. Wrote. Worked at my books. Received of Mr. Hosmer on my salary, \$55. Wrote to W. C. Taber, of New Bedford. Read.

6. Sent in my letter to W. C. Taber, \$10. Paid Mr. Treat, \$19, and balanced his account. Paid Mr. Corning, merchant tailor, \$10. Sat for my painter. He is laborious, but proceeds slowly. Much preparation for the election. We had a stated meeting of our society.

7. Election day.<sup>4</sup> A great collection of people. The military display was numerous and very fine. My room was almost filled the most of the day. Dr. Nott,<sup>5</sup> of Franklin, aged ninety-one, was in. Gov. Baldwin<sup>6</sup> appeared well. His speech is a very good one. Much fatigued. Pleasant weather, but cool.

8. Paid for a good pair of buckskin shoes, for my sore feet, \$2.50. Sat for my painter. Had many Representatives and others at my room. My

<sup>1</sup> For his supply of the pulpit several Sabbaths a few weeks before.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Theodore A. Leete was then preaching as a candidate. He was not settled till the following September.

<sup>3</sup> A son, probably, of Rev. David S. Rowland, and, if so, brother of Rev. Henry A. Rowland, who died in 1835.

<sup>4</sup> Not the voting day, which had occurred on the 7th of April, but the day of the assem-

bling of the Legislature, on the first Wednesday in May.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Samuel Nott, born in Saybrook, Ct., Jan. 23, 1754, died in Franklin, Ct., May 26, 1852, in his ninety-eighth year. Pastor in Franklin, 1782-1852, seventy years.

<sup>6</sup> Roger Sherman Baldwin, LL. D., of New Haven, Ct. He held many high offices, and was Governor of the State, 1844-1846. Simeon E. Baldwin, of New Haven, is his s-



labor is hard. Read. Find little time for myself. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Stone,<sup>1</sup> of Cornwall.

9. Had a long sitting for my portrait. Quite cool. Much company. Find old acquaintance. Wrote in the evening. We have a very respectable House of Representatives.

10. Worked some at my books. Wrote to Amos Knowlton, Esq., of Ashford. The Representatives are in a good deal of the time. Quite cool. Read the Bible.

11. Heard Dr. Hawes in the morning, and attended the sacrament. The church very numerous; six deacons. Afternoon heard Beckwith,<sup>2</sup> the agent of the Peace Society. At evening Matthew H. Smith preached a trimming sermon about Universalism. A great audience. Read a good deal in the Bible. Afternoon it became quite warm.

12. Worked at my room. Cleaning and putting in order. Had a very fatiguing sitting with my painter. A very warm day. The mercury was near 90°. Waited on company. Oppressed with labor and the heat. Gov. Baldwin called on me. Read.

13. Wrote to Dr. Brewster, of Killingly. Still warm. The ground is much in want of rain. Had a long sitting for my painter. Many members of the Legislature and others called on me. Much fatigued. In the evening wrote.

14. Sat again for my painter. Warm summer weather and very dry. Am troubled with sore feet. At evening had a special meeting of our Historical Society, and voted to apply to the Legislature for assistance. Received on my salary, \$20.

15. Wrote for the papers a recommendation of Phelps's<sup>3</sup> *History of Simsbury*. Walked out and did errands. The ground is very dry and vegetation suffers. Met with a committee of our society.

16. We have a grateful rain. Cold, and made a fire. Sat till quite weary for my painter. Judge Hubbard,<sup>4</sup> of Boston, called here. Wrote. Began to write an addition to a sermon on John xi: 28, in reference to the death of Dr. Yates.<sup>5</sup> Wrote in the evening.

17. Wet and rainy through the day. Some of the time it rained very hard. The dry ground is greatly refreshed. Wrote on my sermon. Wrote late. Took tea at my nearest neighbor's. Something unwell.

18. Wet and rainy through the day. Wrote, though feeble, on the addition to my sermon, and finished it about noon. Did not attend meeting in the

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Timothy Stone, pastor at Cornwall, 1803-1827. He died in April, 1852. He received the honorary degree of A. M. from Yale in 1804.

<sup>2</sup> George C. Beckwith, D. D., of Boston, for thirty-three years Secretary of American Peace Society. He died in Boston in 1870, aged seventy. He is well remembered by many now living.

<sup>3</sup> Noah A. Phelps, whose *History of Simsbury, Ct.*, was published in 1845.

<sup>4</sup> Samuel Hubbard, LL. D., born in Boston, 1785; graduated at Yale, 1802; died in Boston, Dec. 24, 1847.

<sup>5</sup> Prof. Andrew Yates, D. D., with whom Dr. Robbins was intimate while he himself was settled at East Windsor, and Dr. Yates at East Hartford.

forenoon. Expected to have preached at East Hartford in the afternoon; but they came not for me on account, I suppose, of the rain. Afternoon heard Mr. Baldwin,<sup>1</sup> of New Haven. At evening heard a very good address from Rev. Mr. Campbell,<sup>2</sup> of Kentucky.

19. Had a close sitting of two hours for my painter. Attended to company. At evening heard a fine temperance address from Mr. Gough.<sup>3</sup> Have in bills, \$96.

20. Last night there were three alarms of fire. One very near the Athenæum, but it was mercifully arrested without great damage. Evidently by an incendiary. Rode to East Windsor; George Richmond with me. Found my best boots, which I had supposed were lost. Paid Mr. Brinley,<sup>4</sup> for books procured at Boston, \$15.

21. It is a privilege to have such a home to go to as Mrs. Wolcott's.<sup>5</sup> Returned to Hartford. Vegetation appears in its richness. My room is filled with people and preparation. Afternoon we had the annual meeting of our Historical Society. Highly respectable. At evening the society had a public address from Mr. Hamersley.<sup>6</sup> A good one. After which we had an exhibition in the library room of ancient dresses and occurrences. Members of the society, with a few friends, attended. The scenes were very pleasing.

22. Much bustle with company and clearing out my room. Have no time for myself. Get very weary. Have a great many visitors from abroad. We have frequent showers.

23. Very pleasant. Wrote. Mr. Gough lectures here on temperance with high approbation. At evening met with the managers of the Retreat for the Insane. Was out late.

24. Quite cool. Spent some time in the House of Representatives. They are very orderly, and do business with great dispatch. Had much company. Worked at my books.

25. Very cold and rough weather for the season. Occasional showers, and not without snow. Attended Dr. Hawes's meeting in the morning. At noon rode to East Hartford, and preached for Mr. Spring<sup>7</sup> on the occasion of the death of Dr. Yates. He died in Saratoga County, N. Y., Oct. 13, 1844,

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Abraham C. Baldwin, who was about closing his pastoral relation with the Howe Street Church, New Haven. He was settled there, January, 1842-June, 1845.

<sup>2</sup> Alexander Campbell, D. D., born in Ireland, 1786, died in Virginia, 1866, founder of the "Campbellite sect." He was a man of strong intellectual powers, and a very able preacher.

<sup>3</sup> John B. Gough.

<sup>4</sup> George Brinley.

<sup>5</sup> It was such a home to him during his life in Hartford, 1844-1854, as it had been

during his ministry in East Windsor, 1808-1827.

<sup>6</sup> William J. Hamersley, of the firm of Belknap & Hamersley, booksellers.

<sup>7</sup> Samuel Spring, D. D., son of Dr. Samuel Spring, of Newburyport, Mass., and brother of Dr. Gardiner Spring, of New York. Dr. Samuel Spring was settled first in Abington, Mass., 1822-1826; then at the North Church, Hartford, Ct., 1827-1833; then at East Hartford, Ct., 1833-1861; afterward lived at East Hartford without charge, and died 1877.

aged seventy-one.<sup>1</sup> At evening attended a meeting with Mr. Spring, and tarried with him. Preached in the afternoon on John xi: 28.

26. George Olmsted brought me home. Afternoon the weather became warm, after a turn of uncommon cold. Had a good deal of company. Received for our society a large pewter platter, supposed to be brought in the Mayflower. It was owned in early times in Plymouth. At evening attended a meeting of the managers of the Retreat.

27. Paid for horse-hire to go to East Windsor, \$1.50. Warmer: Yesterday received a letter from brother Francis, and today he called on me to go with him to Norfolk. Brother James has written to him that he expected to be there at this time. He is very unwell, and I fear he cannot live long. He is paralytic. The Lord be his helper.

28. A committee of the Legislature visited us, and received statements with regard to our resources, wants, etc. Sat for my painter. At evening attended a meeting of the managers of the Retreat. A respectable body.

29. Was visited early by a set of abolitionists from Norfolk, and others. They have a public meeting in the city at this time. A contemptible business.<sup>2</sup> Quite cool for the season. Worked at books and waited on company.

30. There was a little frost this morning. Cold through the day. Had a steady fire. Wrote to my cousin Samuel D. Robbins,<sup>3</sup> Chelsea, Mass. Last Saturday, 24th, was requested to go to Litchfield and preach on the succeeding Sabbath.

31. There was a pretty hard white frost. Vegetation must suffer considerably. A committee of the Legislature were in here. Yesterday sat for my painter. Towards evening rode in the cars to Windsor Locks. Had much company at my room. Kept at Mr. Haskell's.<sup>4</sup>

#### JUNE.

1. Not as cold as it has been. Preached on Col. iii: 11, and 1 Tim. vi: 12. Mr. Allen,<sup>5</sup> the steady supply here, unordained, was with me. Administered the sacrament.<sup>6</sup> This church is evidently improving. At evening attended the monthly concert with Mr. Allen.

2. Rode in the morning with Mr. Allen and made a short call on my brother at Enfield, and returned. Took the cars and came home. Received from Mr. Allen, \$5. On the 30th ult., my brother Francis and nephew. Samuel Robbins, called on me from Norfolk. Brother James they hope is improving. Sat for my painter. Warm. Wrote. Read. People in England are much affected with our governmental movements about Texas, etc.

<sup>1</sup> This was simply a memorial service, Dr. Yates having died the year before.

<sup>2</sup> A large amount of such business had to be attended to before the day of full freedom came.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel Dowse Robbins.

<sup>4</sup> Harris Haskell.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Samuel H. Allen, who was then preaching as a supply, was ordained pastor of this church in April, 1846, and continued till 1869.

<sup>6</sup> As Mr. Allen was not yet ordained, he could not, by church usage, administer the sacrament.

3. Received from Mr. Taber, of New Bedford, a good thermometer, and paid for it, \$3. Paid to balance Taber's book account, \$1.70; and to Capt. Baker, thirty cents=\$5. Wrote to Mr. Taber. Received a good letter from my cousin J. A. Le Baron,<sup>1</sup> and a very good one from my afflicted brother James, now at Norfolk. Attended the ecclesiastical council relative to the installation of Mr. Clarke.<sup>2</sup> Assisted in the examination. He is an able man. Very warm. Thermometer 81°.

4. Made the first prayer at the installation. Dined at Mr. Clarke's. No public dinner. Severe heat. Am very languid. A good deal of company called while I was out. Dr. Hooker<sup>3</sup> preached very well at the installation. Mr. Morris, of Springfield, called here. Thermometer at 83°.

5. Legislative committee met again at my room. Wrote to my cousin J. A. Le Baron, of Mattapoisett. Looked over old books that are for sale. Tuesday evening there was a meeting of our society here. Have numerous and various calls. Afternoon a very grateful shower. Thermometer 84°.

6. Had a long sitting for my painter. Received a letter from Mr. Spring, of East Hartford, and wrote to brother Francis. Looked over old books at a store. Attended to company. Paid for charcoal, sixty cents.

7. Prayed at the opening of both houses of the General Assembly. Spent the forenoon in the Senate. Am fatigued with labor. Wrote a letter to brother James. Could not finish it.

8. Heard Mr. Hawes in the morning; afternoon heard Mr. Clarke—first Sabbath after his installation. Quite warm. Read the Bible. At evening we had an excellent sermon from Mr. Pinney.<sup>4</sup> Thermometer about 85°.

9. Wrote. Attended, by invitation, the House of Representatives the most of the forenoon. The heat very oppressive. Waited on company. Did errands. Thermometer at 93°.

10. Prayed with the House of Representatives at nine o'clock, and the Senate at ten. Sat in the Senate till noon. Both houses are laborious, and do their business with great dispatch. Finished my letter, after many interruptions, to brother James. Received of Mr. Leete, of Windsor, for preaching for him one Sabbath, \$5. Towards evening my sister Battell and a part of her family came here. In the evening attended a great party at Mr. Dixon's.<sup>5</sup> Was out quite late. Thermometer about 85°.

11. Showery. Very beneficial. Prayed at the opening of the Supreme Court of Errors. Am quite feeble. The Legislature are much perplexed with the temperance business. There is an Episcopal convention in town. Many of the members call on me.

12. Wrote. Sister Battell, with her son and daughter, went off to Norfolk. Many strangers called at my room. Am quite languid. We have frequent showers, and a fine time for vegetation. Read.

<sup>1</sup> John A. Le Baron.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Walter Clarke, that day installed pastor of the South Church.

<sup>3</sup> Edward W. Hooker, D.D.

<sup>4</sup> John B. Pinney, agent of the American Colonization Society.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. James Dixon, who was Member of Congress, 1845-1849.

13. Wrote a letter for a poor woman to Mr. Abraham Howland, of New Bedford. The Assembly are much hurried at the close of the session. Thermometer at 87°.

14. Rainy. Sat for my painter. He bestows great labor on the work. Toward night rode to East Windsor to spend the Sabbath. Vegetation is in its richest state.

15. In the morning Mr. Smith preached very well. Afternoon I preached on Acts iv: 12. The congregation is small, but respectable. It is thirty-seven years this month since I came to this place to reside. See many old friends.

16. Rode quite early to Hartford. Am languid and feeble. Had very respectable company from a distance. Wrote. Visited. Thermometer at 83°.

17. Worked at the library. Sat awhile for my painter. His work appears to be nearly completed. Wrote. Rode with company to West Hartford. Saw an ancient clock, probably Mr. Thomas Hooker's.<sup>1</sup> The old treasury-chest of the colony was destroyed in the Whiting family<sup>2</sup> a few years since. Received for attending a little on the Legislature, \$8. A meeting of our society was held here in the evening. Cool. Mercury about summer heat.

18. Cool. Mercury does not much exceed summer heat. Looked at a parcel of old books. My cousin John A. Le Baron and wife came here on a visiting journey. Walked about with him. We have the news of the death of Gen. Jackson.<sup>3</sup> He has shown us that our population, like the majority of all countries, love arbitrary power.<sup>4</sup>

19. Occupied considerably with my friends. Brother Francis and his wife are here. Wrote. Quite cool. Took leave of my cousins in the evening, intending to take the cars in the morning. Read late.

20. Visited a small private school. Well instructed. Read history. Wrote to Mr. Stone,<sup>5</sup> of Cornwall. Get much fatigued in the long days.

21. Received of the Hartford Bank a dividend of \$17.50. Paid Mr. Richmond, \$25. Worked at the library. Yesterday Dr. Sprague,<sup>6</sup> of Albany, called on me. We had a grateful shower. Heard of antiquities.

22. A very pleasant day. Heard Dr. Hawes forenoon and afternoon. Read the Bible, and finished it in course. I do not know how many times I have read it in course. At evening heard Mr. Hastings, at the North Church.

<sup>1</sup> First minister of First Church, Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> The founder of this Whiting family was William Whiting, who was also one of the founders of Hartford, Ct., in 1636.

<sup>3</sup> Gen. Andrew Jackson, Ex-President, died at the Hermitage, near Nashville, Tenn., June 8, 1845.

<sup>4</sup> President Jackson may have loved power, but one of the chief features of his

mission, as a public man, was to curb those who sought unjust power.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Timothy Stone.

<sup>6</sup> William B. Sprague, D. D. Since Dr. Sprague, removed from West Springfield to Albany, in 1829, his name, so frequently mentioned before, has seldom appeared in the diary. It will, however, still appear, for his tastes and those of Dr. Robbins were similar.

23. Visited the two lower schools in the stone school-house. Doing well. Warm. Went to the public prison, county jail. An excellent prison; in the best order. Began to read my Bible again in course. Hope, in divine mercy, to live to finish it, and to be greatly profited. Wet day.

24. Visited the second school in the stone school-house, and the one in Pearl Street. Mr. Morgan with me. Very hot and sultry. Showery. Mr. Bushnell called to bid me farewell; going to Europe. People call at my room in my absence, with some disappointment. Read.

25. Visited with Mr. Morgan the first school in the stone school-house. A noble school. In the four schools in that building are over five hundred scholars. In excellent order. Yesterday forenoon Dr. Saltmarsh was with us. Yesterday the mercury was near 90°. Cooler. A great parade in New York on the death of Gen. Jackson.

26. Rev. Mr. Schoonmaker, of Jamaica, L. I., and Mr. Van Ness, of New York, two venerable good men, called on me. Visited two schools in the south district with Messrs. Morgan and Saltmarsh. Very numerous, and doing well. Fine weather. Thermometer from summer heat to 80°. Strawberries and cherries abundant. Get much fatigued. Mr. Richmond had company. Wrote.

27. Visited the upper school in the south district; a very good one. Had good assistance. Afternoon visited the African school of the center district; small. Wrote early. Vegetation very prosperous. Read.

28. Have read in the Bible each day this week. Visited alone the school in Clinton Street. Improving. The newspapers give many accounts of fires all over the country. Paid \$1 for two books, which, with another, I gave to an agent from Michigan. Had a call from eighteen genteel people from Middletown.<sup>1</sup> Much fatigued.

29. Got some rest. Heard Mr. Clarke at the South Church, and Prof. Fowler<sup>2</sup> at Dr. Hawes's. A young couple came to my room from Wethersfield and were married. Read the Bible. Wrote.

30. Rainy and cold. Visited a public school, and Miss Rockwell's private school; in a very good state. Took some cold and am unwell. Wrote. The noted Dorr, of Rhode Island, had been let out of prison.<sup>3</sup> The mercury about 65° through the day.

#### JULY.

1. Visited with Mr. Morgan the North School; doing poorly. Visited in the afternoon Miss Palmer's private school. A good one. Drank tea at Mr.

<sup>1</sup> These callers day after day, from near and far, are drawn by Dr. Robbins's famous library. He took great pleasure in showing them the books, though himself was kept under a kind of bondage because of the disappointment of people if they did not find him there when they came.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William Chauncey Fowler, LL. D.,

born in Clinton, Ct., 1793; graduated at Yale, 1816; tutor in Yale, 1819-1823; Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory in Middlebury College, and later of Rhetoric in Amherst College. He died in 1881.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins, as a Conservative, did not see but one side of the Dorr question, but there were certainly two sides to it.

Nichols's. In the evening we had a good meeting of our Historical Society. Mr. Hosmer<sup>1</sup> paid me on my salary, \$85.00. Was up late.

2. Visited a private school of young ladies, and the public school, Washington Street, with Mr. Morgan. The mercury has been about 70° several days.

3. Slept very well last night; eight hours without waking. Showery and quite wet. My cousin Robbins Battell,<sup>2</sup> called on me. Visited an African school; doing well. Prevented by the rain from visiting another. Had the afternoon in my room. Wrote.

4. I bless God for seeing again the national anniversary. May the God of our fathers still be our protector, and save us from public iniquities and judgments. Was alarmed in the night by a fire near Mr. Richmond's. Incendiarism here and in other parts of the country is truly alarming. Had a great deal of company all day. In the morning had some ladies from New Bedford. Many from this and the neighboring towns, from twenty to thirty at a time. There was no special public parade. Two Sabbath-school celebrations, at which I was invited, but could not leave my station. A very pleasant day. Much fatigued. Retired early.<sup>3</sup>

5. Was early at my room. Much out of order. Wrote. Worked at my room. On the 2d received a letter from Rev. D. L. Ogden,<sup>4</sup> Cherry Valley, and on the 3d one from Rev. W. O. Ayres, of Westchester, New York. Had numerous visitors. Warm. Rode in the car to Windsor to spend the Sabbath, by desire of Mr. Leete, gone to Guilford.<sup>5</sup>

9. Keep at Mr. Hayden's.<sup>6</sup> Mr. Storrs,<sup>7</sup> agent for the Bible Society, is here. Preached in the forenoon on 1 John i: 7. Administered the sacrament. We had a good season. Mr. Storrs preached in the morning for the Methodists, assisted at the sacrament, and preached well on his agency in the afternoon. At evening I attended the concert of prayer. Spoke on the second Psalm. The repairs of the meeting-house advance slowly. Very warm.

7. Rose early. Had to wait for the cars. Rode in them to the Locks. Mr. Haskell gave a conveyance, and Mr. Allen rode with me to Enfield. My brother rode with me to Longmeadow. He went to Springfield. Stopped at Mrs. Storrs's.<sup>8</sup> They have had a desolating fire here. Called on Col.

<sup>1</sup> James B. Hosmer.

<sup>2</sup> His nephew, the youngest son of Joseph and Sarah Robbins Battell.

<sup>3</sup> The 4th of July that year was a holiday of hard work.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. David Longworth Ogden, born in Hartford, 1792, graduated at Yale, 1814, and at Andover Seminary, 1818. Settled in Southington, Ct., 1821-1836, at Whitestown, N. Y., 1836-1844, and at Marlborough, Mass., 1848-1850. His last years were passed in New Haven, Ct., where he died Oct. 31, 1863.

<sup>5</sup> Guilford was Rev. Mr. Leete's native place.

<sup>6</sup> Chester Hayden, one of the active men in Windsor in church matters and in town matters.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. John Storrs, born in Mansfield, Ct., 1801, graduated at Middlebury College, 1824, was settled in Holliston, Mass., 1836, where he remained a few years, and then became agent of the Bible Society.

<sup>8</sup> Mrs. Storrs (Sarah Williams) was the second wife, and widow of Rev. Richard

Williams. His house, his grandfather's, Rev. Stephen, built by him in 1716, is mostly destroyed by the fire. Many valuable papers and antiquities are gone. He has a number left, but will part with nothing. Very kindly treated by Mr. Wolcott<sup>1</sup> and Mrs. Storrs, who gave me several articles. My brother brought me to Thompsonville, and after much detention I came down in the cars, and got home late and much fatigued. The heat oppressive.

8. Am quite feeble. Occupied with company. My former esteemed friend, Elisha Whittlesey,<sup>2</sup> of Ohio, called on me. He is a very estimable man. Wrote. Did errands. The mercury was at 90°. I conclude that yesterday it was higher.

9. Visited the North School on the Windsor road. Doing better than it has been. Fortunate in getting conveyance. Wrote. Am elected an honorary member of the Trinity College Athenæum. Mercury at 86°.

10. Wrote. Visited the grammar school. A very fine one. The principal study is the languages.<sup>3</sup> Prevented from visiting another as I expected. A fine season for having. Much company. Read.

11. Walked the most of the way in an oppressive heat, and visited the Arsenal School. In a pretty poor state. Drank some beer standing in ice water. I believe it hurt me. Rode home mostly. Had some elegant company from Boston and Salem. Quite feeble. About three o'clock was taken suddenly sick. I was carried to Mr. Richmond's very ill. Not much pained, but a good deal of fever. The mercury was at 90°.

12. Had an ill night, but by great mercy, my disease is abating. Had two calls from a physician. Kept the house all day. Great complaint of the severity of the heat. My thermometer was at 96°; others were higher. Kept my bed the most of the time. The Lord is holy, and of great mercy. I never before went through such a scene. At evening had some appetite. My rooms were taken care of.

13. I had promised Mr. Gallaudet, now absent, to preach today once at the Retreat.<sup>4</sup> Did not go out of the house. The heat about the same as yesterday, or greater. I conclude my thermometer, if out, would have been 97°. Read the Bible considerably. Am very feeble and languid with disease and heat. Mrs. Richmond's sister came here from Galveston. The ground is much heated.

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Salter Storrs, pastor at Longmeadow from 1785 to his death in 1819. He was father of Richard Salter Storrs, D. D., of Braintree, Mass., and grandfather of Richard Salter Storrs, D. D., of Brooklyn, N. Y.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Samuel Wolcott, D. D., who died a few months since in Longmeadow, was pastor there 1843-1847.

<sup>2</sup> Comptroller of the Treasury, appointed by President Taylor, several times noticed.

<sup>3</sup> That school fitted a great number of young men for Yale and other colleges.

<sup>4</sup> It might seem odd that Dr. Robbins should be engaged to preach to deaf and dumb people, as he probably had no knowledge of the sign language. He preached just as he usually did, and had doubtless some persons with good ears to hear him, while one of the teachers of the deaf and dumb stood beside him and interpreted the sermon by sign language to the pupils. The writer has preached to a deaf and dumb assembly under similar conditions, and the scene was one of peculiar interest.



14. Am permitted, in great mercy, to be again in my own room. The heat continues, and the mercury was at 93°. About two o'clock we had a little shower and a violent gust of wind. It became a little cooler. Wrote; oppressed with thirst.

15. We have very warm nights. The mercury the most of the time is above 80°. Paid Mr. J. Olmsted, \$5.00. Sent to Bartlett & Welford, New York, \$20.00. Can do but little. My brother called on me. Mercury a good while at 96°, and a short time at 97°.¹ Some thermometers 100°. The society had a special meeting. My thirst is severe. Was up late.

16. Hot nights and light dews. Vegetation suffers. Read the Bible. It is said that wild fruits, like those in gardens, are much hurt by the drought and heat. Can do but little. The mercury was at 93° in the afternoon and rising, when it was checked by a hard wind and light shower.

17. Had a physician. Have a severe thirst with an affection of my throat. Read the Bible. Walked out and did errands. Do not rest well at night. Afternoon we had a very grateful shower, hard thunder, and a good deal of rain. Mercury before the shower at 93°, after at 90°. Had a curtain put before my great west window. Took sarsaparilla.

18. We have a better air, and the heat less oppressive. Read the Bible. Occupied with company. Wrote. Mercury up to 90°. I think I have got benefit from the sarsaparilla.

19. Am quite feeble, and can do but little. Paid a man \$1.00 for assistance in my late illness. The heat abates. Thermometer about 85°. Waited on company as far as I was able. A great fire is supposed to be now raging in New York.² Wrote considerably.

20. Am very feeble. Dizziness and languor. Attended Dr. Hawes's meeting in the morning. We hear that the fire in New York was got under about noon yesterday, but there is great desolation. Was on my bed the most of the afternoon. Mr. Richmond's mother, aged eighty-five, who has been quite low some time, died in the afternoon. She has been kindly taken care of in the family. Thermometer 83°. Yesterday towards evening I was looking over some papers, and found two bills of \$100.00 each, which I have supposed for several months to be lost.³ All of divine and great mercy.

21. Wrote. Had company early. Am, through mercy, better than I have been. Visited a school with Mr. Morgan; school doing well, and he a good assistant. The afternoon excessive hot. Thermometer from 96° to 97° for some hours till midnight. Paid \$1.00 for Madeira wine.

22. Last night we had a heavy and most grateful shower. A great deal of lightning. The air is very different, but quite warm. Rode and visited

¹ This was a season of intense heat, such as does not occur every summer, but many years do not pass in our New England latitude without such a heated term.

² In Haydn's *Dictionary of Dates* under the head of fires, we read as follows: "New

York City, 302 stores and dwellings, four lives, and \$6,000,000 of property, July 19, 1845."

³ Very careful and systematic people are liable to such accidents as well as others, sometimes through excess of care.

Gravel Hill School. In a good and improving state. Afternoon was present at two funerals; Mr. Richmond's mother, and Mr. Richard Goodman.<sup>1</sup> Both about eighty-five. Dr. Hawes performed the services. Thermometer about 87°. Am quite feeble. Have dizziness and some fever, with much debility.

23. Rode with Mr. Morgan and visited Rocky Hill School. A small school, in a very good state. Read. Wrote. Thermometer about 80°. Find it needful for me to retire early at night if I can. Stimulants, I think, are not good for me.

24. Had company in the morning. Visited Mr. Harris's private school of lads; a very good one. Dr. Hewitt, of Bridgeport, called on me. Cooler. Thermometer about 85°. Rode with Dr. Saltmarsh, and made a second visit to a poor-school. Received a good letter from brother. He is paralyzed, and I fear will not be much better.

25. Read the Bible. Wrote. Had the day mostly for myself. Wrote copying diary. Thermometer about 80°.

26. My health is, through mercy, much improved. Visited the public school at Lord's Hill. A good school. Wrote copying diary.

27. Read the Bible. Heard Dr. Hawes in the morning, and Mr. Clarke in the afternoon; both in the South Church. Had some company in my room in the evening.

28. Was early at my room, and had an extensive sweeping and dusting. Wrote. Rode with Mr. Morgan, and visited the school at the Orphan Asylum.<sup>2</sup> In a very good state. My health is better than it has been. Read the Bible.

29. Wrote copying diary. Did errands. The mercury has been for several days from summer heat to 80°. Attended to company. Paid Mr. Spencer, tailor, \$5.00. Wrote Little & Brown, of Boston, indorsing a draft of \$20.00. Showery, with much thunder. Paid George Brinley, Jr., for books, many volumes, \$50.00.

30. We have alarms of fire almost nightly. Am troubled with dizziness. Wrote what I could. Had some heavy rain; very grateful. The people have had a fine season for gathering in their crops. Have very reputable company.<sup>3</sup>

31. Wrote. Am quite feeble. Troubled with dizziness. Labored in my chamber. At evening preached at Dr. Hawes's stated evening meeting in his absence on Ps. cxix: 6. Was up late.

<sup>1</sup> There was a Richard Goodman among the early settlers of Hartford. He removed to Hadley in 1676. The Richard Goodman here mentioned is probably one of his descendants.

<sup>2</sup> The reader has had occasion to notice how largely Dr. Robbins was occupied in visiting the Hartford schools. His reputation as an educator was such, that wherever

he went he was sure to be at once on the school committee. But Hartford was the largest place he had ever lived in, and the schools were numerous, greatly engrossing his time.

<sup>3</sup> He means to say that the numerous visitors at the library belong to the respectable classes in society. A thief sometimes slips into such places.

## AUGUST.

1. Wrote and finished copying my diary, which has been a great task. I had written it on other papers from the beginning of this year to the 1st of July. Occupied with company. At evening attended a public exhibition of Mr. Harris's school. Read late. Thermometer 82°. Received of Mr. Pelton, of Boston, a fine copper-plate with my name engraved, and one thousand impressions, for which I paid him \$10.00.

2. Visited Miss Hilger's private school. A very good one. Had much company from a distance. A worthy gentleman of Philadelphia, John Robbins, called.<sup>1</sup> Dined with him at the hotel. Wrote. At evening rode to East Windsor to spend the Sabbath.

3. Quite warm. Heard Mr. Smith<sup>2</sup> in the forenoon; afternoon preached for him on Ps. cxix: 6. After meeting went with Mr. Smith to his house. Attended in the evening the monthly concert and spoke considerably.

4. Came to Hartford early. Am quite feeble. Have left off drinking coffee on account of my dizziness. Much occupied with company. Read. Thermometer at 87°.

5. In the forenoon attended the examination at Trinity College.<sup>3</sup> Had a long sitting. The performance was good. Am very languid. At evening we had the usual Historical Society meeting. Read a late valuable work on *Romanism*. Thermometer 88°.

6. Visited Mr. Brace's private school of young ladies. A want of energy. Afternoon my good nephew, Ammi R. Robbins,<sup>4</sup> of New York, called on me. He brought me a very valuable folio, Pliny's<sup>5</sup> *Natural History*, a present from my friend and benefactor, Joseph Battell. Hot and dry. Thermometer 83°.

7. Attended by invitation the exercises of the Trinity College Commencement. The class was small, but the performances were good. Dined at the public dinner. Had much company. Am very languid. Thermometer 86°. Our society had a good present of English Revolutionary maps.

8. Read the Bible. My room almost filled with company. Much complaint of drought through the country. Thermometer 87°.

9. Wrote to my brother James. Had company from the South. Received a letter from Little & Brown, Boston, and a letter of dismission and recommendation from Rev. Andrew Bigelow, Scribe of the Old Colony Association; session at Fairhaven. Rode with Mr. David Bartlett<sup>6</sup> to his father's,

<sup>1</sup> He may have been one of the descendants of John Robbins, of Wethersfield, Ct., rather than of Richard, of Cambridge, Mass., from whom Dr. Robbins came.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Levi Smith.

<sup>3</sup> At first called Washington College.

<sup>4</sup> In him the name Ammi Ruhamah Robbins had reached the third generation.

<sup>5</sup> Caius Plinius Secundus, known as the Elder Pliny, died in the year 79 of our era, the same year in which Herculaneum and Pompeii were destroyed by a great eruption

of Vesuvius. "His writings were numerous but the only one which has reached our times is his famous *Natural History*. This great work is a perfect mine of observations, though, unfortunately, the true and the fabulous are mixed up in nearly equal proportions."

<sup>6</sup> Rev. David Ely Bartlett, second son of Rev. Shubael Bartlett, of East Windsor, was born Sept. 29, 1805, and was graduated at Yale College in 1828. He engaged, soon after graduation, in the instruction of the

East Windsor, Scantic. Called at Mrs. Wolcott's. She is quite sick. Mercury at 87°.

10. Brother Bartlett has been greatly prospered in his family.<sup>1</sup> A part of his sons are at home from a distance. Preached for him on Acts iv: 12, and Ps. cxix: 6. Am very feeble. Very hot and dry. I conclude the mercury must be much the same as yesterday. Poorly able to perform the labors of the day. Kindly taken care of.

11. Had a very ill night. We have, through divine mercy, a gentle rain. Rode to Mrs. Wolcott's. Her case appears critical. She has often had help from God. Towards night rode to Hartford. My complaint, by divine goodness, is subsiding. I am sixty-eight years old.

12. The rain has wet the ground, but much more is needed. Visited Mr. Brace's private school. Not in the best state. Worked at my room. Our collections are much commended by judicious strangers. Am quite feeble. Thermometer 86°.

13. Worked at my room laboriously. It requires a good deal of labor. Read. Thermometer 83°.

14. Read the Bible early. Wrote. Great complaint of drought through the country. Mr. Kinney, from Newark, N. J., made us a visit. Thermometer 86°.

15. Worked at my room. Wrote to Mr. Abner Harlow, of Mattapoisett. I get but little time for myself. Read. A large number of visitors. Thermometer 84°.

16. Had highly respectable visitors from various parts of the land. Read Bible. Wrote. Rode in the cars to Windsor to keep Sabbath at the request of Mr. Leete. Thermometer 83°.

17. Preached on Prov. xi: 7, and Acts xiii: 38. Spoke to the Sabbath-school. Noticed the late death of Dr. Edward Rowland<sup>2</sup> in Ohio, aged thirty-five. At evening visited Dr. Sill's.<sup>3</sup> Kept at Mr. Hayden's.<sup>4</sup> Quite warm.

18. Looked at the meeting-house, renovated and much improved. Came home at ten o'clock. Got through the Sabbath in regard to health better than I expected. My cousins Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey,<sup>5</sup> of New York, and their father,<sup>6</sup> called on me and other ministers. Wrote to Mr. Whittlesey, of Danbury. Had an elegant pair of new boots made. They fit well.

deaf and dumb, and this was his life-long employment, in which he achieved a remarkable success. He was a man of a most winning and loving nature, and died in 1879 greatly mourned.

<sup>1</sup> When Rev. Mr. Bartlett's children were young Dr. Robbins thought they were a heavy burden to him. But now they are grown he sees the beauty and glory of nice sons and daughters.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Edward Rowland was the son of Rev. Henry A. Rowland, of Windsor, and was born Nov. 18, 1809. He was graduated

from the Yale Medical School in 1837, and for some years practiced medicine in East Hartford, where in 1840 and 1841 the writer of this was intimate with him. He was a cultivated man, and a delightful companion.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Elisha N. Sill.

<sup>4</sup> Chester Hayden.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. James Humphrey and Mrs. Urania (Battell) Humphrey. They were married Oct. 11, 1836.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. Heman Humphrey, who had been President of Amherst College, but retired from the office that year (1845).

19. Wrote early. Mrs. Humphrey went to Norfolk, and Mr. Humphrey to New York. Worked at my room. Read. At evening had a meeting of the society here. We have frequent donations. Paid for a book .50. Thermometer about 86°.

20. Took a seat in a car and rode to New Haven. Well accommodated in a temperance house. Brother Francis is with me. The services of the Commencement occasion began last evening. Afternoon we had a very good performance from the elder class of the theological institution. Took tea at Prof. Gibbs's.<sup>1</sup> Met with my cousin Henry Starr, of Cincinnati.<sup>2</sup> At evening Mr. Barnard,<sup>3</sup> of Hartford, gave an address to the P. B. K., and Elizur Wright<sup>4</sup> a poem. Have not attended a Commencement here in many years. Thermometer about 85°.

21. Yesterday called on Judge Daggett.<sup>5</sup> Gov. Smith<sup>6</sup> was with him. They grow old.<sup>7</sup> Last night we had a pretty hard and very grateful shower. Vegetation has suffered very much. Much of the ground is brown. The Commencement exercises were very good. Numerous speakers, and very audible. Dinner under a large and fine tent. Took tea at Prof. Silliman's. Saw my nephew, James W. Robbins,<sup>8</sup> of Uxbridge. Very warm and oppressive heat. I conclude my thermometer must be at 87°.

22. Called on my classmate Jones.<sup>9</sup> Few of them here. This town is much improved in a few years, and very beautiful. Rode with Dr. Ives<sup>10</sup> and saw the noble burying-ground. Called on Mr. Herrick at the new library building. A splendid fabric. The heat very oppressive, though we had a heavy shower and thunder last night. Took the cars and rode home. The mercury about 89°. Very tired, and in want of rest. The American Institute of Education is in session here. At evening heard a learned lecture from Mr. Mann. It was anti-evangelical. At New Haven called on Miss Lyon.<sup>11</sup> Kindly treated.

23. Am quite feeble. Occupied with company. Attended what I could on the lectures of the Institute. We had a shower of much thunder, but little rain. The late showers have much relieved the severe drought. The heat very oppressive. The mercury rose to 91°. The highest between five and six o'clock. Read.

24. Heard Mr. Linsley<sup>12</sup> on the moral wants and dangers of the West.

<sup>1</sup> Josiah Willard Gibbs, Ph. D.

<sup>2</sup> Son of Rev. Peter Starr, of Warren, Ct.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Henry Barnard, of Hartford, with whom Dr. Robbins had carried on a large correspondence, was graduated at Yale in 1830.

<sup>4</sup> Elizur Wright, who died Nov. 22, 1885, at Medford, Mass., was a native of South Canaan, Ct., born in 1840. In his childhood his family removed to Tallmadge, Ohio. He was graduated at Yale in the class of 1826.

<sup>5</sup> Judge David Daggett.

<sup>6</sup> Gov. John Cotton Smith.

<sup>7</sup> They ought to grow old since Judge Daggett was born in 1764, and Gov. Smith in 1765.

<sup>8</sup> James W. Robbins, Jr., M. D.

<sup>9</sup> William Henry Jones.

<sup>10</sup> Dr. Eli Ives, one of the leading physicians of the State.

<sup>11</sup> Probably Miss Mary Lyon, then in charge of the Mt. Holyoke Seminary.

<sup>12</sup> Joel H. Linsley, D. D., President of Marietta College, 1835-1845.

Afternoon heard Mr. Porter,<sup>1</sup> of Springfield. At evening Dr. Hawes had a large audience at his female address. The mercury at 89°. Am very languid with the heat and with labor. Read the Bible.

25. Attended what I could on the lectures and discussions of the Institute. Dined at Mr. Raymond's. Received a letter from Dr. Sprague,<sup>2</sup> of Albany, and one from Mr. Bradford,<sup>3</sup> of Sheffield. Thermometer 83°. Mr. Richmond's little child is very sick.

26. Have a good deal to do at my room. Wrote as far as I could get time. I think I have lost a valuable penknife. A slavery commotion in Kentucky. Very bitter. Visited a colored school; doing well. The war prospect seems to increase. Thermometer about 88°.

27. Received a letter from Mr. Heminway, of Suffield, with four small volumes and a manuscript sermon; valuable. Mr. Richmond's<sup>4</sup> little son, a promising child of one and one half years, died in the forenoon. Paid my tailor, Corning, \$12.00. I think I shall not employ him much more. Paid towards my new boots, \$6.00. The whole charge is \$14.00. It is true they are very good and elegant. Gave Mr. Linsley,<sup>5</sup> for the Western colleges, \$10.00. Read.

28. Cooler. The month till now had been very hot. My letter and books yesterday were from Rev. Daniel Heminway,<sup>6</sup> residing in Suffield. Find it difficult to get time to write. Worked changing my room. At evening walked out.

29. Thermometer in the morning near temperate. Yesterday wrote a short piece for the newspaper. Mr. Stone, of Cornwall, called on me. Occupied with company. Attended with Mr. Richmond and his family at their afflicting funeral. Read. Roads very dusty. My health, in great mercy, is improving.

30. Was early at my room. Wrote. Had much company. Wrote an article for Mr. George Brinley.

31. Weather very pleasant, and the ground dry again. Attended meeting at the South Church. Heard Mr. Clarke<sup>7</sup> and Mr. Sprague.<sup>8</sup> The former spoke with much ability. Read the Bible. At evening attended Dr. Hawes's monthly concert.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Had a long and laborious task in sweeping and dusting my room.

<sup>1</sup> Noah Porter, Jr., D. D., now the retiring President of Yale College. His successor, Timothy Dwight, D. D., was inaugurated, day before yesterday (July 1, 1886).

<sup>2</sup> William B. Sprague, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. James Bradford, settled in Sheffield in 1813.

<sup>4</sup> The Mr. Richmond with whom Dr. Robbins was then boarding was probably Francis Richmond.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Linsley was just closing his Presidency of Marietta College, Ohio.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Daniel Heminway taught a family school for young ladies in Suffield, 1842-1861. He was born in Bridport, Vt., 1790, and was graduated at Middlebury College in 1815. He had been pastor at Wareham, Mass., 1821-1828, and at East Granby, 1832-1842.

<sup>7</sup> Walter Clarke, D. D., pastor of the South Church.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Isaac N. Sprague, of the Fourth Church, Hartford. He had been preaching among the Presbyterians before he was settled at Hartford.

Wrote. Married at the Exchange coffee-house Miles Gaylord and Elizabeth Byington, from Waterbury. Had much respectable company. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Roberts,<sup>1</sup> Fairhaven, Mass.

2. Rode early with Rev. Mr. Clarke to Unionville, Farmington, and met with Hartford Central Association.<sup>2</sup> United with them as a member on a recommendation from the Old Colony Association. This is a manufacturing village and new society. Association principally occupied with difficulties at Bristol. A pretty hard shower in the forenoon; very grateful to the ground. Returned mostly in the evening. The usual evening meeting was held here. Fruit is very plenty.

3. Last night we had a heavy and reviving shower. Am troubled with tremor. Have many unnecessary hindrances. My visitors are from all parts of the land. Visited. Wrote to Mr. William H. Smith, of Sharon. Thermometer 82°.

4. Wrote. Strangers speak highly of our collections. Read the Bible. I eat a good deal of fruit. Thermometer 84°.

5. Wrote on a new will. Received a kind letter from Dr. William Buel, of Litchfield. Called at Mr. Guion's private school; few pupils. Yesterday received a letter from Rev. Chauncey Eddy, of Illinois.<sup>3</sup> Read. The Queen of England is visiting on the continent. Thermometer 83°.

6. Read the Bible. Wrote. Attended to visitors. Took the cars and rode to Windsor to spend the Sabbath. Attended a small evening prayer-meeting with Mr. Leete.

7. Preached in the morning on Luke xxiii: 34. Administered the sacrament. Mr. Leete with me, and a serious church. Mr. Leete preached in the afternoon very well. At evening attended with him the monthly concert. Took tea at Dea. Rowland's.<sup>4</sup> Fruit very plenty.

8. Looked at the meeting-house, new modeled and very much improved. Quite cool. Rode home. Much fatigued. At evening a meeting of the Retreat. Paid for a book \$1.00. In the evening there was a fire.

9. Quite cold, but I believe no frost. Visited the public school at Lord's Hill; but middling. Paid for a book .50. Worked at my room. The cleaning is laborious. Read.

10. Visited with company the school at the Boys' Asylum; doing well. Have company from a distance. Read the Bible. My health, through mercy, is improved.

11. Took a pretty long walk early. Wrote. Read Bible. Visited the Rocky Hill School; doing well. Have presents of fruit. Had visitors from Colebrook.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jacob Roberts.

<sup>2</sup> When Dr. Robbins was settled in East Windsor, 1808-1827, he was connected with the Hartford North Association. The Hartford Central was a new organization, formed out of the Hartford North, which had grown inconveniently large.

<sup>3</sup> When Dr. Robbins was settled at Mattapoisett he was familiar with Mr. Eddy as agent for the American Board. But at the time of this entry he (Mr. Eddy) was pastor at Jacksonville, Ill.

<sup>4</sup> Dea. Alvy Rowland. A son of the first pastor in Windsor by the name of Rowland.

12. Was early at my room. Brushed, read, and wrote. Visited with company the Washington Street School; a good one. Dea. Whittlesey and his son called on me, of Berlin. A very ill feeling in Mexico against our country, and justly.<sup>1</sup>

13. Worked at my room. Visited Clinton Street School. A great number of little ones. There was a good deal of frost this morning; the first we have had.

14. Rainy and wet through the day. In the morning heard a Mr. Scribner,<sup>2</sup> who preached for Dr. Hawes. Afternoon preached for Dr. Hawes, he unwell, on Gen. xxxii: 26-29. Read the Bible. Kept mostly in my room.

15. Have much to do in sweeping, etc. Was early at my room. Wrote. Have a good pear-tree in my back yard. Visited Front Street School. Afternoon had much company. Took tea at Judge Parsons's.<sup>3</sup> Read late.

16. Early at my room. Wrote. The effects of the late frost are visible. Read Bible. Afternoon rode with my neighbor, Mr. Robbins,<sup>4</sup> cabinet-maker, to Rocky Hill, and visited my old classmate, Levi Robbins.<sup>5</sup> A worthy man, in very good circumstances. Called on Dr. Chapin; a remarkable man for eighty-two years.<sup>6</sup> At evening we had the meeting of our Historical Society; a good one. In the forenoon visited at the north one, and found it closed. The teacher dismissed.

17. Was not called on to go and visit a school, as I expected. Cool. Went into the United States Circuit Court. The new Judge, Mr. Nelson,<sup>7</sup> appears well. Gov. Baldwin<sup>8</sup> called at our room. Had much very respectable company. Mr. Wolcott and wife, of Boston, were here. Received of the Phoenix Bank a good dividend of \$60.00. Paid Mr. Richmond, \$50.00.

18. Wrote early. Went with Mr. Morgan, and visited Gravel Hill and Northwest Schools; doing well. Thermometer about summer heat.

19. Wrote. Am a good deal languid. Yesterday Prof. Robinson,<sup>9</sup> of New York, called on me. Visited with company a large school of little folks.

<sup>1</sup> This ill feeling continued till it eventuated in war the following year between the two countries, continuing till near the close of 1847.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. William Scribner, an old school Presbyterian minister. He was graduated at Princeton College in 1840, so that he was in the very beginning of his ministry at the time he preached at Hartford. He was living in 1881.

<sup>3</sup> Francis Parsons.

<sup>4</sup> Philemon F. Robbins.

<sup>5</sup> Levi Robbins was his classmate at Yale, graduated in 1796. He died in 1866, seventy years out of college.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. Calvin Chapin lived on nearly six years longer, dying March 17, 1851. He was

born in Springfield, Mass., in 1763, graduated at Yale, 1788, and was on the Yale Board of Trustees, 1820-1846.

<sup>7</sup> Samuel Nelson, LL. D., born in Hebron, N. Y., 1792, graduated at Middlebury College, 1813. He was appointed Judge of the United States Supreme Court, Feb. 14, 1845.

<sup>8</sup> Hon. Roger Sherman Baldwin.

<sup>9</sup> Edward Robinson, D. D., LL. D. From 1837 to his death in 1863, he was Professor of Biblical Literature in the Union Theological Seminary. He was the son of Rev. William Robinson, of Southington, Ct., was born in 1794, graduated at Hamilton College, 1816. He was an eminent scholar, and has brought much honor to American learning.



Paid for books bought very cheap at a late auction (Pennington's<sup>1</sup>), \$2.35. Also paid Mr. Wells for fourteen volumes sold by him for Mr. Brinley, \$8.40. Cheap for their value. Paid Mr. Gleason for a new volume, \$2.00. Read. My room had a good cleaning, done by Mr. Hosmer.

20. Was prevented from visiting a school by constant company. Mr. Silliman<sup>2</sup> called on me. Yesterday Mr. Hamilton paid me \$5.00 for preaching a half day at the North Church some months since. An unexpected supply. Am some troubled with dizziness.

21. Rainy and wet through the day. Heard Mr. Clarke and Dr. Hawes, both at the house of the latter. Thin meeting. At evening walked out. Read the Bible. Finished the *Pentateuch* in my course.

22. Took some cold yesterday, I think; have my dizziness. Wrote early. Visited with Mr. Morgan the third and second departments of the south district schools. They have done well. The noted Mrs. Jarvis<sup>3</sup> called at my room. Afternoon attended the funeral of Rossiter Loomis's daughter. Was with Mr. Sprague.<sup>4</sup> At evening called on Mrs. Jarvis.

23. In the forenoon we visited the first department in the south district. A good school. Miss of seeing visitors who wish to see me. Afternoon visited the North Colored School. They do pretty well, except being like themselves. Read.

24. Rode quite early to Windsor. Wet and rainy. The meeting-house,<sup>5</sup> finely improved, was dedicated anew, and we ordained Mr. Leete.<sup>6</sup> The parts were very well performed. Mr. Leete, I am told, passed a good examination yesterday. The house well filled notwithstanding the wet. My brother brought me home. Was entertained at Dea. Rowland's.<sup>7</sup>

25. We had a pretty cold night. Brother F. L. called in this morning. Visited with Mr. Morgan the second department of the second North School in the morning, and the first department in the afternoon solus. They are doing well. Think I took cold yesterday in the wet.

26. Am troubled with my cold, and am rheumatic. Had company pretty early. Went to visit the South Colored School, and found it dismissed some days since. Am quite ill with my rheumatism. Made applications. Cold. Am much in want of fire.<sup>8</sup> Had good company.

27. Worked at my room. Cold. Put on warmer clothes. Had a small movable furnace in my room, which gave warmth, but did poorly. Received a kind letter from Dr. Sprague, of Albany, with donations of some new pamphlets, and four valuable volumes, two of them in manuscript. Mr. Richmond has friends with him, a part from Texas. Am quite feeble.

28. Am quite unwell. Read in the interesting book of Joshua. Heard

<sup>1</sup> J. W. C. Pennington, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Prof. Benjamin Silliman, Sen., LL. D.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Jarvis was the wife of Samuel Farmer Jarvis, D. D., LL. D., and their domestic relations were not pleasant.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Isaac N. Sprague, of the Fourth Church, Hartford.

<sup>5</sup> The meeting-house in Windsor remains to this day essentially as it was then finished.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Theodore A. Leete.

<sup>7</sup> Dea. Alvy Rowland.

<sup>8</sup> In his former boarding-place and in this. Dr. Robbins seems to have been troubled about proper warmth in his room.

Dr. Hawes the two parts of the day, and Dr. Stowe,<sup>1</sup> of Cincinnati, in the evening. A sensible man, but quaint and unpolished. Yesterday had an interesting call from Mrs. Hamilton,<sup>2</sup> widow of Gen. Alexander Hamilton, aged eighty-eight. There was a contribution for the Female Beneficent Society.

29. Had a good deal of respectable company, but our book is carried out, and they are not recorded. Wrote an article relative to the New England Fathers<sup>3</sup> for Dr. Stowe. Read.

30. Received some valuable donations for our collection. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. John Morrison, of Willington. Yesterday paid for a book from England, a reprint of Henry VIII's *Primers*, \$3.00. A rare thing.

#### OCTOBER. •

1. Last night we had a pretty hard rain. Prayed at the opening of the Superior Court. Sat to hear a trial for murder some time. Brother F. L. called on me. Very pleasant. Mercury at summer heat. Paid for pine wood, \$1.25. Read in the evening.

2. Wrote. Was in at the court. Attended on company. Afternoon rode to West Hartford and preached a sacramental lecture on Col. iii: 11. Mr. Seward<sup>4</sup> carried me out and brought me home. My rheumatism still troubles me. Get but little time to write.

3. The public fair<sup>5</sup> excites much attention. Many people are in town. Had many calls in the forenoon. Most of the afternoon my room was closed. Dined by invitation at the public dinner, and heard at the North meeting-house Mr. Stewart's able agricultural address. My cousin, Dr. P. G. Robbins, of Roxbury, called on me. We went in the evening to the fair. A great collection of agricultural and mechanical articles, and of people.

4. Wrote early. Have a plenty of sweeping to be done. Made a fire in my room, with a new close stove for wood. Procured two knives. Have lost, supposed stolen, three valuable knives since I have lived here. Paid for a hatchet .75. Wrote on school returns. Had Dr. Robbins with me.

5. Wet and rainy all day. It is not cold, and the ground is greatly

<sup>1</sup> Prof. Calvin Ellis Stowe, D. D. He was born in Natick, Mass., April 26, 1802, was graduated at Bowdoin College, 1824, and at Andover Seminary, 1826. He served as Assistant Professor to Professor Stuart at Andover, in 1830 was made Professor of Languages at Dartmouth College. He was Professor of Biblical Literature at Lane Seminary, 1833-1850, and in 1850 was made Divinity Professor at Bowdoin College. In 1852-1864, was Professor of Sacred Literature at Andover Seminary. He is still living at the age of eighty-four in Hartford, with his wife, Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe.

<sup>2</sup> She was Eliza Schuyler, daughter of

Gen. Philip Schuyler, and was married to Alexander Hamilton in December, 1780. She had been a widow forty-one years at the time of her visit to Hartford.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins, as will be remembered, had published his volume on the *New England Planters*.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Dwight M. Seward, D. D., was a native of Durham, Ct., born 1811, graduated at Yale College, 1831, and at Yale Seminary, 1835, besides other settlements before and after was pastor at West Hartford, Ct., from Jan. 14, 1845, to Dec. 18, 1850.

<sup>5</sup> Annual cattle show and fair for Hartford County.

benefited. Cousin Peter<sup>1</sup> and I heard Dr. Hawes twice, at the Centre Church and North. Read the Bible. Had a fire at my room, and at evening wrote.

6. Have a good new stove that burns wood. Worked at my books. Read the Bible. At evening attended the monthly concert at the North Church.

7. Wrote. My cousin, Dr. Robbins, left here to go to Norfolk. Our society had its meeting here in the evening. Mr. Hosmer paid me on my salary, \$50.00.

8. Have to do a good deal of sweeping. Wrote and completed my will, which I have had on hand for some time. Went to Judge Williams's<sup>2</sup> in the evening, and had it executed. I hope it may be approved of God. Thermometer 70°.

9. Worked at my books. Occupied with company. Received of Mr. Hosmer, Treasurer of the Historical Society, \$25.00; a subscription of my cousins, J. Battell and Irene Larned.<sup>3</sup>

10. Took the stage and rode to New London. Kindly entertained at Mr. McEwen's.<sup>4</sup> Mrs. McEwen<sup>5</sup> is quite unwell. A pleasant day, and not much fatigued. There was a regimental review at Hartford. Roads wet. It is long since I have been over this road.

11. Walked with Mr. McEwen and made calls. Judge Perkins's<sup>6</sup> papers not yet to be examined. Looked over some old pamphlets at Mrs. T. S. Perkins's. They have some rare articles, but could give me but a few. This town is flourishing with the whaling business. Made calls. The ancient Winthrop<sup>7</sup> place, Baronial Castle, is a great curiosity.

12. Preached for Mr. McEwen on Prov. xi: 7, and Gen. xxxii: 26. A very good congregation, much prospered. At evening attended a Sabbath-school meeting. Rainy. The town is rough, but active. Mr. McEwen has had a long and pleasant ministry.<sup>8</sup>

13. Last night a hard rain. Walked about. Saw a very elegant old Bible at Mr. Winthrop's,<sup>9</sup> covered with silver open work; not to be had. Dined with Mr. McEwen at Mr. Ebenezer Larned's.<sup>10</sup> He is a very respectable and useful man. Mr. McEwen gave two large, ancient folios, and some smaller articles, to our society. Took the steamboat and sailed to Norwich

<sup>1</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Scott Williams, LL.D., a noble Christian jurist, from 1834 to 1847 Chief-Justice of Connecticut. Born in Wethersfield, 1777, graduated at Yale, 1794, died in Hartford, 1861.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Battell, Jr., and Mrs. Irene (Battell) Larned, wife of Prof. William A. Larned, of Yale College.

<sup>4</sup> Abel McEwen, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. McEwen was Sarah Battell, sister of Joseph Battell, Sen.

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Shaw Perkins, a graduate of

Yale in 1812. He died the year before the above entry (1844).

<sup>7</sup> John Winthrop, Jr. (the younger Winthrop), was the founder of the town of New London, 1646.

<sup>8</sup> He was settled there in 1806, and continued till his death in 1861.

<sup>9</sup> The last Winthrop of the older race from New London, graduating at Yale, was William Henry Winthrop, 1809.

<sup>10</sup> Ebenezer Larned was a native of Killingly, Ct., and a graduate of Yale College, 1798.

Landing. Got a carriage, and rode up town and returned. Was at Mr. Daniel Wadsworth Coit's.<sup>1</sup> Hope to get some articles here. Cool, and roads muddy. A good deal of business here.

14. Took the stage and rode home. From Colchester the stage very full. Have had a pleasant journey. Connecticut River much risen. Received a letter from Mr. Washburn,<sup>2</sup> of Suffield, and one from Mr. Samuel Rockwell, of Berlin.

15. Had much to do in putting my chamber in order. Read the Bible. I think my late ride has been beneficial to my health. Wrote. Much occupied with calls.

16. Quite cold and hard frost. Not much before this. Read. I think I never read my Bible with more pleasure and attention.

17. Worked at my room and books. A hard frost this morning. The Board of School Visitors met at my room. Received a letter from Mr. N. C. Sturtevant, of Mattapoissett. Some danger of a pecuniary loss. And one from Caleb Leavitt, Jr., East Windsor, and one from Mr. H. B. Hooker, of New Haven. On the 14th received one from Thomas Nelson, of Mattapoissett. Wrote in the evening. Wrote to Mr. Washburn, of Suffield.

18. Am some troubled with headache. Perhaps from my new stove. Wrote. Sister Battell and her son came here from New York today. Cousin Robbins<sup>3</sup> got a carriage and rode with me to Enfield. Brother Francis is quite ill; has been confined several days. Stopped at Mrs. Wolcott's.<sup>4</sup> She is much better than she has been.

19. Preached on Col. iii: 11, and Gen. xxxii: 26. A very good congregation. Brother Francis rode out, and appears to be improving. After meeting attended the funeral of a child. At evening had company in.

20. Brother Francis had a poor night, and I went early for his physician. I still think he will be better soon. Cousin Robbins called on Mr. Terry, the noted painter. He has resided several years in Rome. We rode to Hartford. Quite cool and dusty. Had valuable company at my room. Mr. Leete paid me for preaching at Windsor, \$15.00. Read Bible. Sister Battell in my room. Wrote.

21. Cold and dusty. Was called to W. R. Loomis's; his daughter, a promising youth, very sick. Was with sister Battell and Robbins. Read. Paid a tax of \$15.00. What I had not expected. Paid for washing, \$1.50. Had no meeting of our society for want of due notice.

22. Was requested by the committee of the Fourth Society here to supply them for an indefinite time.<sup>5</sup> All of God's great mercy. We had a cold night; the mercury this morning near 20°. Wrote on a report on the schools. Drank tea at Mr. Robinson's with Mrs. Battell.

<sup>1</sup> Daniel Wadsworth Coit, was the father of Daniel Lathrop Coit, who was graduated at Yale in 1842, and died after heroic service in the Sanitary Commission.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Daniel Washburn.

<sup>3</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>4</sup> Mrs. Abiel Wolcott.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Isaac N. Sprague was dismissed from this Fourth Church of Hartford during this month of October. Hence this opening for Dr. Robbins, which, as he was situated, he was glad to fill.

23. Cold and severe frost. Wrote on my report. Wrote laboriously in the evening. My wood fire is much pleasanter than the hard coal.

24. Wrote what I could, with a good deal of company, and presented my report to the school visitors, which was accepted.<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Battell left here for Norfolk. Read. Had my former study-table brought from East Windsor.

25. My friend, W. R. Loomis, has lost another daughter. Read the Bible. Mr. Hubbard<sup>2</sup> went for me to Suffield, that I may be at the Fourth Church tomorrow. Wrote by him to Mrs. Washburn. Had much company.

26. Preached at the Fourth Church on Acts xiii: 38, and Eccles. xii: 1. Attended at noon the funeral of Mr. Loomis's child. They are greatly afflicted. Afternoon there was a great congregation. A large Sabbath-school went in procession to the burial. At evening went to a public Sabbath-school meeting at the South Church. Assisted in the speaking. On the 24th wrote to Mr. Leete, of Windsor, and sent him \$2.00 of what he paid me.

27. Had a thorough sweeping and brushing of my chamber, done by myself. Read. Wrote to Bartlett & Welford, of New York, and sent them a draft of \$25.00. Mr. and Mrs. Richmond went on a journey. At evening we had a meeting of the Directors of the Retreat. Received a letter from Mr. Danforth W. Fisk, of Albany, with some donations for our collection. Warmer. Mercury about 60°. Paid a tailoress, \$1.00.

28. Wrote. Did errands. Very pleasant. Read Bible. Thermometer at 64°.

29. Wrote on my school returns. Remarkably pleasant weather. Read. Read Bible. My company not as numerous as it has been.

30. Thermometer in the morning at temperate. Rose to near 70°. Wrote on school returns. Attended the evening meeting at the Fourth Church; after commencing we were broken off by a fire. Read.

31. Read the Bible. Still warm. At evening wrote late on the school accounts.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Wrote. Can do but little in the short days. Had some good additions to our library. Preparing for the Sabbath. Wrote in the evening.

2. A steady rain through the day. Preached at the Fourth Church on Prov. xi: 7. Afternoon Mr. Hubbard preached. At evening heard Mr. Baird<sup>3</sup> ninety-five minutes about Catholics. The agent of the Foreign Evangelical Society. Took some cold.

3. Am a good deal unwell with my cold. Read the Bible; the same yesterday. At evening attended the monthly concert at the Fourth Church. Rainy.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins moved from Mattapoisett to Hartford in 1844, and seems almost immediately to have been made chairman of the Hartford school committee.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Rev. George Boardman Hubbard, who had just been graduated at the Yale Theological School.

<sup>3</sup> Robert Baird, D. D., of Scotch parentage, born in Fayette County, Penn., 1798, graduated at Jefferson College, 1818. He became the agent and secretary of the Foreign Evangelical Society, and was an extensive writer on religious, moral, and historical subjects. He died at Yonkers, N. Y., in 1863.

4. Last evening endeavored to consecrate myself anew to the disposal of God, particularly with regard to my property. Wrote on my school papers. At evening our society had a good meeting. The mercury rose to 70°.
5. Wrote. Occupied with company. At evening heard a long lecture from Mr. Baird about Russia and Poland.<sup>1</sup> Paid for horse hire, \$4.25.
6. Had much company. Mr. Haven<sup>2</sup> and Mr. Burnside, from Worcester. Have a very fine piece of painting here from Italy, belonging to Robbins Battell.<sup>3</sup> Wrote to my cousin J. W. Lawrence, of Syracuse, New York.
7. Wrote on my school returns. Afternoon the school society had their annual meeting. I did not know of it till just before the time. I carried my report unfinished. The meeting was thin; they voted to accept of it, and have it published. At evening preached a sacramental lecture without notes on Matt. xxv: 1, 2. A good number attended.
8. Read. Received a good letter from sister Battell. Taken up with company. At evening wet.
9. Last night a hard rain; wet the most of the day. Preached at the Fourth in the morning on John xxi: 15. The afternoon exercises occupied with the ordinance of the sacrament. A very large church, said to contain five hundred members. At evening Mr. Baird preached in the Centre Church on the religious state of France. An important state. Read the Bible.
10. Growing cold. Worked at my room. Read in the *History of Wyoming*.<sup>4</sup> Wrote to sister Battell.
11. Wrote to Dr. Abel T. Sizer, of New London. Paid Mr. G. Brinley, Jr., for books, \$10.00. Paid Mr. J. Olmsted, merchant, \$5.00, and Mr. Corning, merchant tailor, \$5.00. Received a letter from my cousin P. G. Robbins at New York, one from Dr. Webb, of Boston, and one from my cousin Robbins Battell. Wrote late.
12. Wrote on the school papers. Massachusetts has done well at its late election.<sup>5</sup> The abolitionists are a troublesome set of people.<sup>6</sup> At evening attended Mr. Baird's lecture, broken off by the cry of fire. Wrote late a letter to Dr. Webb, of Boston, and one to my cousin Robbins Battell.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Baird had lived much abroad, and had traveled extensively through the different countries of Europe.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Foster Haven, born in Dedham, Mass., May 7, 1806, graduated at Amherst College, 1826, a well-known writer on antiquarian, genealogical, and historical topics. He was for about forty years librarian of the American Antiquarian Society at Worcester, and greatly honored in his work. He died Sept. 5, 1881.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Battell has now an extensive art gallery at his home in Norfolk, Ct., in which are collected a large number of paintings, chiefly those of the best American artists, painted expressly for his collection. With these are a few very choice foreign pictures.

<sup>4</sup> This, of course, had no reference to the State or Territory of Wyoming, but to a small volume published in New York in 1841, entitled *Poetry and History of Wyoming*, meaning the vale of Wyoming, Penn.

<sup>5</sup> Massachusetts reelected Hon. George N. Briggs Governor, and continued to do so for five years more.

<sup>6</sup> The abolitionists here spoken of were not the Garrisonian abolitionists who were simply agitators, but the political abolitionists who began greatly to disturb the plans of politicians. These last continued to be more and more troublesome up to the abolition of slavery in 1863, and the end of slavery in this country came directly and indirectly through them more than through the Garrisonians.

13. A cold and frosty night. Wrote. Made a short visit with Mr. Day to the grammar school. At evening preached with short notes on John xvi: 7, 8.

14. Wrote and finished my laborious school report. Went into the South School and saw Mr. Winchester's writing system. Pretty good. Waited on company. At evening heard Mr. Baird's lecture.

15. Walked out. Read Bible. Had much company. A great fire at Sag Harbor. At evening wrote.

16. Mr. Mahan,<sup>1</sup> of the Oberlin Institute, preached in the morning, and Mr. Cole,<sup>2</sup> agent for Foreign Missions, in the afternoon. I was a hearer. At evening Mr. Mahan preached again; Full Perfectionism. Read the Bible.

17. Weather moderate and pleasant. Worked at my room. At evening received a letter from sister Battell. She wishes me to go to New York, and meet her this week. I have designed to go to Boston tomorrow. Brother Francis came here fortunately, and we concluded for me to go to New York instead of Boston. Brother Francis is still quite feeble. Wrote to sister Battell quite late. Prepared for my journey. Wet.

18. Took the cars to New Haven. A wet morning. Took the steamboat, and got to New York about two o'clock. Kindly received at Mr. Hoffman's.<sup>3</sup> Had difficulty in finding his house. Find here cousin P. G. Robbins, and his brother Isaac,<sup>4</sup> residing at Alexandria. The latter is confined, having lately had a cataract removed from his eye. He appears to be doing well; at seventy-five I hope his sight will be restored. Much fatigued. Dr. Gilman<sup>5</sup> came in in the evening.

19. Mr. Hoffman lives about two miles from his store. We ride in the omnibus. Visited bookstores. Visited cousin J. Battell at his iron store. Dined with him at Brooklyn. This is of itself a great town.<sup>6</sup> Pleasant weather. Find kind friends. The streets seem to be full.

20. Paid Bangs & Platt for books they sold last evening at auction, bid off at my order, twenty-three valuable volumes, \$25.00. Paid Bartlett & Welford,

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<sup>1</sup> Asa Mahan, D. D., born in Vernon, N. Y., 1800, graduated at Hamilton College, 1824, and at Andover Seminary, 1827. After pastoral work in Pittsford, N. Y., and in Cincinnati, 1829-1835, he was in the last named year made President of Oberlin College, Assistant Professor of Theology, and Professor of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy. He remained in this connection, 1835-1850. Afterwards he filled important places as professor and preacher. In 1871 he went to England, and is now (1886) living in London.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Rev. Erastus Cole, who had been pastor at Bethel, Ct., 1830-1837, and in his later years was on the Western Reserve, connected with the Presbyterians.

<sup>3</sup> Martin Hoffman had, for his wife, Eliza-

beth Hale Gilman. Her mother was Hannah Robbins, daughter of Chandler Robbins, D. D., of Plymouth, Mass., and wife of Benjamin Ives Gilman, one of the early settlers of Marietta, Ohio.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Isaac Robbins was second son and fourth child of Chandler Robbins, D. D., and was himself a Methodist preacher. He was born June 19, 1770, and was consequently seventy-five years old. He was the only one of his family who was a Methodist.

<sup>5</sup> Chandler Robbins Gilman, M. D., Professor in College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York.

<sup>6</sup> Very small then as compared with its present extent and population. The population of Brooklyn in 1840 was 36,233; in 1880 it was 566,663.

for Coverdale's<sup>1</sup> Bible and three quartos of Isaac Newton's *Works*, owed to me for paid over last summer, \$16.50. Had pleasant company at evening. Cousin Isaac improves. Called on Dr. Potts.<sup>2</sup> Looked at his elegant new church. Called on Mr. Bunker. Looked at the desolation of the burnt district. Mr. Hoffman has a very elegant and convenient new house in Ninth Street.

21. Called at Dr. Gilman's. His young wife has a young child. Looked at old books in the stores. Mr. Hoffman had a circle of our friends at an elegant dinner. Mr. Humphrey and wife, and my cousin, young Dr. Thomas Robbins. Paid for a box and cartage, \$1.00. Left our kind friends with cousin Joseph, and he went with me to the steamboat for Hartford. Left New York near sundown. A poor boat, and heavy laden with freight.<sup>3</sup>

22. Had an uncomfortable night. Cold and wind, but no storm. Got to Hartford about ten o'clock. Have had, through mercy, a prosperous journey. Quite fatigued. Have had very pleasant weather. Received letters, two from cousin Robbins Battell, one from sister Battell, one from Mr. Abel T. Sizer, of New London. I was told by one of the committee of the Fourth Church that they wish to have Mr. Mahan preach for them tomorrow. Perfectionism<sup>4</sup> is at work there again. My room has been well taken care of. Received a box with books from New York.

23. Heard Mr. Mahan in the morning. Afternoon preached for Mr. Hastings at the North Church, he unwell. Wet, and very dark. Preached on Rom. ix: 15. Early in the evening I married in the Fourth Church, Samuel Davis, of New Britain, and Mary Brainerd, of Portland. Afterward heard Mr. Mahan preach Arminianism. Read.

24. Had much to do at my room. Cold. Received a heavy bundle from New York, three heavy folios, Suidas's<sup>5</sup> *Lexicon*. Wrote diary. The good people at the Fourth Church feel alarmed at the apparent approach of error.

25. Mercury down nearly to 20°. I have a request from Syracuse, in New York, to write a history of the ancient Syracuse in two public papers. Wrote to cousin Joseph Battell, of New York. Looked over catalogues of books. At evening heard Mr. Mahan preach Perfectionism. Read.

26. Wrote again to cousin J. Battell. Wrote to brother Francis. Had a good deal of company. Mr. Charles Bull, of New York, gave me the elegant metallic pen and pencil with which I now write. Preparing for the duties of

<sup>1</sup> Miles Coverdale, 1499-1580. His translation of the Bible was printed at Zurich about 1535.

<sup>2</sup> George Potts, D. D., long the pastor of the University Place Presbyterian Church, New York. He was born in Philadelphia, 1801, graduated at University of Pennsylvania, 1819, and at Princeton Seminary, 1822, and died 1864.

<sup>3</sup> Reaching Hartford, according to old

time steamboating, some time the next fore noon.

<sup>4</sup> In former times there was great fear of what was called perfectionism in Dr. Mahan's preaching and theological teaching, and Oberlin College had a very bad name in New England, which it has now happily outlived.

<sup>5</sup> Suidas was a Greek lexicographer, who lived in the early dawn of modern learning, about the eleventh century.



tomorrow. Paid \$15.00 for an elegant frame for Col. Battell's<sup>1</sup> Italian painting. The money sent by him.

27. Thanksgiving. We had a hard rain the most of the day. Few people at meeting. Preached on Isa. xii: 1, 2. Mr. Mahan left the town yesterday for New York unexpectedly.<sup>2</sup> At evening heard Mr. Spencer, from England, speak on temperance very well. Read my Bible.

28. Wrote to my brother at Enfield. Much occupied with company; a holiday. Read. Quite cold. Great apprehensions of a scarcity of food in England, and especially Ireland.

29. Worked at my books, which have been long neglected. The mercury this morning about 20°. The ground quite frozen. Preparing for the Sabbath. Examined with Mr. Burgess and approved a female school-teacher. Wrote.

30. Preached at the Fourth Church on Col. iii: 11, and Heb. ix: 9. Afternoon and evening it snowed steadily. Our first snow, and a pretty hard one. At evening heard Mr. Bacon,<sup>3</sup> of New Haven, on the subject of the Christian Alliance. Read Bible.

#### DECEMBER.

1. It rained hard the most of the day. Assisted in examining two school-masters. Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston, and sent them \$25.00. Wrote on my library catalogue. Too long neglected.

2. Cold and icy. Our winter commences suddenly and powerfully. Occupied with company. At evening we had a good meeting of our society. Read late.

3. Mercury is about 20° to 25° day by day. Looked over books for arrangement. Wrote. At evening attended a phrenological lecture, by request, and had my head publicly examined. He, the lecturer, gave my character pretty well. Yesterday paid a blacksmith for a fire shovel, \$1.00.

4. Very bad walking; the roads icy. Worked at my library. Afternoon and evening a hard rain. Rode out, and married Orrin R. Kibbe, of Somers, and Hannah Amelia Wood,<sup>4</sup> of Hartford. Went to the lecture room of the Fourth at evening and found a small number, and soon dismissed. The Board of School Visitors had their annual meeting at my room. I am again appointed with another to visit the schools, and to examine the teachers.<sup>5</sup> Read the Bible.

5. Last night an additional snow. Sleighs move. The trees are loaded with ice. A splendid spectacle, but injurious to the trees. Steady cold.

<sup>1</sup> Robbins Battell, Esq., who here bears his military title as head of one of the Connecticut regiments.

<sup>2</sup> People afterwards thought better of Dr. Mahan as a thinker and a theologian, than they did in 1845.

<sup>3</sup> Leonard Bacon, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> The marriages at which he officiated be-

longed probably to the Fourth Church and Society, of which he was now a kind of acting pastor.

<sup>5</sup> This was not only an important, but a very laborious, office. We have had occasion to notice how largely it occupied his time the year before. Dr. Robbins was very faithful in his attendance upon his school duties.

Much to do in bringing up wood. Looked over books. Heard in the evening a very good lecture on China by Mr. Cushing.<sup>1</sup>

6. Very icy. Thermometer at 25°. Yesterday received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Boston. Wrote. Dined with Mr. Trumbull<sup>2</sup> on his birthday. Good sleighing. Preparing for the Sabbath.

7. In the morning received a note from one of the committee of the Fourth Church that they had engaged Mr. Patton, of South Boston, to preach for them today. Wholly unexpected, but by our agreement, they have a right to do so. Heard Mr. Patton<sup>3</sup> at three services. Gave some assistance. He preached very well. Cold and slippery. Read the most of the book of Job. Thermometer about 23°.

8. Last night considerably unwell. Commenced a general visitation of the schools. Visited two in the first district. Mr. Morgan<sup>4</sup> with me. At evening wrote. Late at evening my cousin, Col. Battell, called on me. Went into the hotel and saw sister Battell. Wrote to Dr. Thomas H. Webb, Boston. Read.

9. Visited with Mr. Morgan, as yesterday, two more schools in the stone school-house. One had one hundred and fifty-five pupils, the other one hundred and forty-eight. Pleasant, and the snow thaws. Was with sister Battell. Wrote. The Fourth Church here gave Mr. Patton a call on Sabbath evening, after having heard him one day.<sup>5</sup>

10. Sister Battell and her son went off for Norfolk. Visited two schools. Find it fatiguing. Received a letter from cousin J. Battell, with two very valuable volumes he procured for me at auction in New York. Wrote to Dr. Webb, of Boston. Read.

11. Cold. Thermometer 20°. Wrote. Attended to my necessary business. Get fatigued by constant visiting of schools. Received a letter from Capt. Lumbert, of Mattapoissett. At evening attended a stated meeting at the Fourth, and preached without notes on Ps. iv: 5. Have had my old East Windsor study-table repaired, and brought into my room. It is a very good one.

12. Thermometer at eight o'clock, the time I usually see it, at 16°, and rose but little through the day. Visited two schools. Very good sleighing, and said to be very extensive. Our streets very slippery. Almost full of sleighs. Dined out. Read. Am oppressed with the cold.

<sup>1</sup> John P. Cushing, probably, the great Chinese merchant, whose gardens and lawns near Mt. Auburn, Cambridge, Mass., have been visited by many thousands during the last fifty years.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Trumbull, LL. D., lawyer, Member of Congress, and afterwards Governor, 1849-1850, was born in Lebanon, Dec. 7, 1782, and was now sixty-three years old. His dinner was on Saturday, Dec. 6, because the 7th that year was the Sabbath. He was grandson of Gov. Jonathan, of Revolutionary

memories, and was graduated at Yale, 1801. He died in 1861.

<sup>3</sup> William W. Patton, D. D., now President of Howard University, Washington.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Morgan was associated with Dr. Robbins the year before. His given name has not been mentioned in the diary, but we understand that it is Nathaniel H. Morgan.

<sup>5</sup> He was installed pastor the next month (January, 1846), and continued in office ten years. He was settled afterwards in Chicago, and is now President of Howard University.

13. In the forenoon visited a school. Nine for the week. Thermometer in the morning at 8°, and rose to about 20°. Read. Did some errands. At evening wrote. The new Congress appears to be poor enough.

14. Last night we had some snow, and we had rain and sleet moderately through the day. Preached at the Fourth on John iii: 3, and Gen. xxxii: 26. Meetings not full. Mr. Patton, of Boston, has accepted the call they gave him last Sabbath evening. No evening meeting. Read the Bible. I began my Bible in course June 23d last, and am now half through Psalm 50th. Thermometer nearly up to freezing. Wrote.

15. It rained much last night, and we had a thawing day. Ice cleared from the sidewalks. Worked at my books. Thermometer at 44°. Wrote. Have less company than in time past.

16. Visited two schools. High wind, but not severe cold. Wrote to Eggleston & Battell, New York.

17. Had a long visitation at the principal South School. Worked at my books. Paid for flannel \$2.00. Quite pleasant. Thermometer above 40°.

18. The mercury above freezing. Visited two schools. Afternoon wet and rainy. Preached in the evening at our stated weekly meeting with short notes on Rom. v: 6. Read late.

19. Thawing weather and wet roads. Visited the North African School: doing well; fifty scholars. Received from Boston a large box of books, four valuable folios, and the parliamentary history from the Norman Conquest, with the debates in the House of Commons, and, in part, of the House of Lords, from 1660 to 1802; one hundred thirty-six volumes octavo. in the best order.<sup>1</sup> Among the best additions I have made to my library. All procured at auction. The parliamentary volumes for \$68.00; very low. Worked at my books. Received a letter from Dr. Webb,<sup>2</sup> of Boston. At evening our society had a meeting here. Paid for freight, \$1.12.

20. Cold again. Visited the school at the Orphan Asylum. Occupied with company. Read, preparing for the Sabbath.

21. Preached at the Fourth on Acts iv: 12, and Ps. cxix: 6. At the evening meeting preached on 1 Cor. xv: 16, 17. Severe cold. Thermometer about 20°. Two or three days ago I subscribed and paid for the Colonization Society, \$5.00. That institution appears to be doing great good.

22. Visited two private schools; Miss Thacher's and Mr. Brace's. Doing pretty well. At evening our society had a good meeting here. Prof. Kingsley<sup>3</sup> was with us. My late purchase of books is much noticed.

23. Wrote. My time is much occupied. Cold, and the ground hard frozen. Thermometer about 20°. At evening attended as a guest at a brilliant wedding at Gov. Ellsworth's.

<sup>1</sup> These were doubtless the Hansard *Parliamentary Reports*, the great authority in England. The beginning of the Hansard race, as a race of printers, was with Luke Hansard, born in Norwich, England, 1752.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas H. Webb, M. D., with whose name we have become very familiar.

<sup>3</sup> James L. Kingsley, LL. D., of Yale College, an accomplished New England scholar and writer of the last generation.

24. Visited a school, and dined out. The northwest district school doing well. Read. Yesterday attended at a public performance of Miss Thacher's school. Looked over the proof-sheets of my school report for the newspaper. Sent a letter, written yesterday, to Dr. Webb, of Boston, enclosing a draft on the Suffolk Bank of \$78.50. Received a dividend of Hartford Bank of \$17.50.

25. It snowed moderately the most of the day. Attended public worship at the Episcopal church. Mr. Burgess<sup>1</sup> preached. Dined at Col. Ward's. Texas has been brought into our Union by the slave-holding interest.

26. It snowed steadily through the day. Rode out to visit a school, and found the house closed. Dined at Mr. Erastus Smith's.<sup>2</sup> He has an elegant house, and a very fine library. Wrote diary. Yesterday received a letter from the Fourth Church to attend their proposed installation. Last evening attended our stated evening meeting and preached with short notes on John i: 11.

27. Thermometer about 20°. Seven or eight inches of snow. Received from New York the fine copy of Hume's *History*, quarto, first edition, bought of Dr. Gilman for \$15.00. Received of Mr. Hosmer on my salary, \$50.00. Worked at my books. Attended to company. Dr. E. W. Bull,<sup>3</sup> one of the most useful men in the city, and my friend, leaped from a high window in a turn of insanity, and was killed. Read the Bible. Wrote. Preparing for the Sabbath.

28. Preached on Micah vi: 8, and Mark viii: 36, 37. Pleasant and full meetings. At the evening meeting on Heb. xii: 1. I believe I took some cold. Quite tired.

29. Pleasant. It thawed considerably. Worked at my books. My late addition makes a fine appearance. Received a good letter from Mr. Battell, of New York. Wrote.

30. Visited the school at Lord's Hill. Wrote. Received about this time a letter from Mr. D. E. Mather, of New York. Worked at my books.

31. Paid the Hartford Bank \$29.00 for a draft on New York. Did errands. Worked arranging my books. Too long neglected. At evening attended at a very solemn meeting a union of the four Orthodox congregations, specially on account of the withholding of the special influences of the Holy Spirit. Four ministers spoke. Yesterday attended with a great number of people the funeral of Dr. E. W. Bull. I am closing a year. I think I have never seen a year of such unmingled mercies. All of infinite grace. Paid Mr. Brinley, \$10.00. I have now, through the great grace and infinite forbearance of my Heavenly Father, completed my fiftieth diary. All are preserved. And, the greater wonder, I am preserved.

<sup>1</sup> George Burgess, D.D., son of Judge Thomas Burgess, of Providence, R. I. He was born 1809, was graduated at Brown University, 1826, was Rector of Christ Church, Hartford, 1834-1847, when he was made Bishop of Maine.

<sup>2</sup> Erastus Smith was a wealthy and leading citizen of Hartford, connected with Dr. Hawes's society.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Bull's name has been repeated a large number of times in this diary, and he was a true friend and helper to Dr. Robbins.



## 1848.

### JANUARY.

1. Slept but little last night; employed the most of the time in looking over the events and the divine mercies of the year past, and contemplating my duties, and all I have to pray for, for the year to come. My all is committed to the blessed Redeemer. A pleasant day. Wrote. Dined at Mr. Seth Terry's.<sup>1</sup> Had a good deal of company. Spent the most of the evening at Mr. Wadsworth's.<sup>2</sup> He is very feeble. Did errands. Wrote to my cousin J. Battell, of New York, and sent him \$29.00, for books he has procured for me.

2. A very steady and hard rain. Had the forenoon entirely to myself. Worked at my books. Glad of the privilege. Paid a bill, .92. At evening preached a preparatory lecture with notes on Rom. viii: 35. Roads very wet, and the snow mostly gone. Paid Mr. Richmond,<sup>3</sup> \$30.00.

3. Wrote what I could on my book catalogue. I fear some are lost. A good deal of company. Read the Bible. Preparing for the Sabbath.

4. Preached in the morning at the Fourth a New Year's sermon on Luke xiii: 6-9. Afternoon we had the services of the sacrament. A large church and large congregation. A long exercise. At evening attended the monthly concert. Pleasant weather. Unusually tired.

5. Saturday received a very kind letter from Mr. A. Harlow,<sup>4</sup> of Mattapoisett. Read. Made this, my fifty-first diary. Wrote. Very pleasant. Paid a bill of \$1.38.

6. Rode early with company to Collinsville, and met with our Association.<sup>5</sup> We licensed on examination six candidates<sup>6</sup> belonging to the Seminary at Yale College. At evening rode home. We had some valuable donations.

7. A steady, rainy day. Worked at my books. The long neglect makes it difficult. Was mostly alone. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Seth Terry, Esq., was for many years a marked person in Hartford life and society. Of tall and commanding figure, and of decided opinions, he exercised a large influence civilly and religiously.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Wadsworth.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Francis Richmond, with whom he boarded.

<sup>4</sup> His old friend, Abner Harlow.

<sup>5</sup> An association then recently formed, the Hartford Central.

<sup>6</sup> The six candidates that day examined were all from the class of 1846 in Yale Seminary. They were: George Bushnell, D. D. (brother of Horace Bushnell, D. D.), who was

pastor of Salem Street Church, Worcester, 1848-1856; of First Church, Waterbury, Ct., 1858-1865; of First Congregational Church, Beloit, Wis., 1865-1883, now living in New Haven, Ct.; Henry Martyn Goodwin, D. D., Professor in Olivet College; Josiah Torrey King, who, after a brief missionary life in the West, died in 1849; Charles King McHurg, a Presbyterian minister in the State of New York, living in 1881; Isaac M. Ely, who, after preaching several years, became the principal of a Young Ladies' School at Chenango Forks, N. Y., and died in 1880; Solomon Dwight Pitkin, a Presbyterian minister at the West, who died in 1858.

8. In the forenoon was much occupied with company. Afternoon attended the council, and at evening the installation of Mr. Patton<sup>1</sup> in the Fourth Church. I was in the chair. Mr. Patton passed a good examination, and his father,<sup>2</sup> of New York, preached very well. Quite fatigued.

9. Diligently employed on my books. My cousin Mrs. Larned,<sup>3</sup> of New Haven, called on me. Had a good deal of company. We have very pleasant weather for the season.

10. Have purchased as much as five hundred volumes in two years. Wrote. Dr. Shepard,<sup>4</sup> of Lenox, is dead. Mr. Bacon, of Litchfield, called on me. Read the Bible.

11. In the forenoon heard Mr. Patton's introductory sermon at the Fourth; a good one. Afternoon preached at the Retreat for Mr. Gallaudet on Heb. iv: 9. At evening attended the annual meeting of the Tract Society.

12. Visited the North School. Low, but improving. Worked at my books. Received a good letter, with a *New England Primer*, from Rev. Eli F. Cooley,<sup>5</sup> of Trenton, N. J.

13. Visited two schools with Mr. Morgan as usual. They are doing well. We have a very good, uniform, winter weather. Wrote on my library catalogue. Am much interrupted.

14. Wrote. I have procured in two years more than five hundred volumes. Visited the Gravel Hill School. At evening made a call on Mrs. Bacon, of Litchfield. A great mourner. Read.

15. A convention at New Haven yesterday nominated Mr. Bissell,<sup>6</sup> of Norwalk, for Governor. A good selection. Wrote. Went to visit the Arsenal School. Not yet commenced. Read. Gave a contribution to Mr. Eastman for the Tract Society.

16. Wrote on my library catalogue. Made some bad mistakes. Had a good deal of company. At evening visited. Wrote late. Paid for women's work, \$1.00.

17. Have had my Polyglot Bible repaired, and very much improved. Wrote diligently. It snowed the most of the day. Wrote diary.

18. After a good while of moderate weather last night, it became severe cold. Thermometer this morning about 7°. Attended meeting at the Fourth. A tedious day. Read the Bible at my room in the evening. The mercury did not rise above 15°.

19. Thermometer about 10°. Wrote on my library record. Assisted in

<sup>1</sup> William W. Patton, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> William Patton, D. D., born in Philadelphia, 1798, graduated at Middlebury College in 1818, and studied at Princeton Seminary. He was for a long course of years a prominent preacher, and writer in the *Presbyterian*. He passed his last years in New Haven, Ct., where he died in 1879, aged eighty-one.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Irene (Battell) Larned.

<sup>4</sup> Samuel Shepard, D. D., whose name occurred frequently in the early years of this diary, was settled in Lenox, April 30, 1795.

<sup>5</sup> A Presbyterian minister, who died in 1860.

<sup>6</sup> Hon. Clark Bissell, LL. D., was one of several excellent governors which the town of Lebanon gave to the State. He was Judge of the Supreme Court of Connecticut and Kent Professor of Law at Yale College.

examining and approving a school-teacher. Visited alone the grammar school. In a good state. Wrote in the evening. Was up late. Had a good deal of company.

20. Mercury near 20°. Wrote and looked over my books. Have more than I expected.<sup>1</sup> I need much fire in my room. Occupied with company. At evening had our usual meeting here. Read.

21. The weather moderates some, but it is cold. Wrote on my book catalogue. Did errands. Received a letter from Col. Battell. Wrote.

22. Still severe cold. Attended to my writing. Professor Larned called on me. He met here his wife and sister from Norfolk, and they went to New Haven, and carried with them the fine painting of the Virgin Mary.

23. Wrote. Received a good letter from young Wilson Barstow, of Mattapoissett. Wrote to sister Battell. Had company. Interesting news from England.<sup>2</sup>

24. Last night took some cold. A little abatement of the cold. Have nearly finished the arrangement of my books. My brother came for me, and I rode with him in his wagon to Enfield. A good deal of snow at Enfield. Got very much chilled.

25. Am quite hoarse with my cold and oppressed. 'Preached on Rom. ix: 15, and Ps. cxix: 6. The weather moderates, and it thaws a good deal. At evening rode two miles with my brother, and attended an evening meeting. I believe it increased my hoarseness. Mrs. Robbins's mind is much impaired. Some difficulty here about a meeting-house.

26. Rode home early in the cars. Warm, and it thaws much. The streets very wet. Gave my room a laborious sweeping and brushing. Read. At evening visited.

27. My cold and hoarseness are burdensome. Wrote. Did errands. Visited with others the Arsenal School. The streets very wet. Took medicine.

28. Wrote. Worked at my books. Attended in the afternoon the dedication of the new chapel at the Retreat. Bishop Brownell<sup>3</sup> made the consecrating prayer. Mr. Gallaudet<sup>4</sup> delivered the address, and I closed the services. A very pleasing occasion. Near one hundred patients were present, and sung very well.<sup>5</sup> My hoarseness abates a little. The streets very wet. Read.

<sup>1</sup> This is a pleasing change. Generally the remark has been, "I fear I have lost some of them."

<sup>2</sup> The great debate was then going on in England touching the repeal of the corn laws. They were by act of Parliament repealed June 26, 1846.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Church Brownell, D. D., LL. D. He was made Bishop of Connecticut, Oct. 27, 1819, and was chosen first President of Trinity College, Hartford. He was a native of Westford, Mass., born in 1779, was gradu-

ated at Union College in 1804, and died in Hartford, 1865.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, LL. D., was at the head of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum in Hartford, and was chaplain at the Retreat for the Insane.

<sup>5</sup> In institutions for the insane there are usually a large number of the patients in such a state that they will attend public worship in a perfectly decorous manner, and even, as here, bear a part in it. Daily religious services in such institutions are usual.



29. Worked at my books. I have procured a large number in two years. Had company. The weather moderates and thawing. Read the Bible. My cold continues.

30. Wet and warm and rainy. Occupied with company. Dined out. Saw Col. Battell. Had at my room a meeting of the school visitors. We hope the schools are improving. At evening visited with Mr. Patton and others.

31. Read. Wrote on my catalogue. The streets are very muddy. Occupied with company. Through mercy, I hope my severe hoarseness is abating. Read. The mercury near 50°. Wrote.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Heard Mr. Patton for the day. Quite cold. Am glad not to have to preach today on account of my hoarseness. At evening attended the monthly concert. Read my Bible.

2. Occupied with company. Received of the school society as school visitor, \$48.00. Paid J. Olmsted, \$10.00. Paid Mr. Stillman, \$6.00. Paid for my *C. C.* newspaper.<sup>1</sup> Visited a small private school. My cold still burdensome.

3. Opened with prayer the Superior Court. A man on trial for murder. Yesterday I also paid to Mr. Spencer, \$4.25. Wrote on my catalogue. Read the Bible.

4. Wrote on my book catalogue. Pleasant for winter. Had company. Received of the Fourth Church for supplying eight Sabbaths, \$50.00. A great favor. Wrote.

5. The mercury nearly to 50°. Finished the catalogue of my books, which has been neglected about two years. In that period I have added five hundred volumes. All by the divine favor. My cold continues. Read the Bible. Paid Andrus for books and binding, \$10.00. Paid my shoemaker, \$7.00.

6. Paid Mr. C. Hosmer on his books, \$5.00. Paid Mr. Brinley for books, \$20.00. Much occupied with company. Prepared papers of my name for my books, and at evening had two hundred put in their place. Heard of the death of Mr. Oliver Tudor,<sup>2</sup> of East Windsor. An old and faithful friend.

7. Worked some at my books, but mostly occupied with company. Read. All speak of the open winter. Read the Bible. Wrote.

8. Cold, and a very tedious wind. Rode with Mr. S. Tudor<sup>3</sup> and wife to East Windsor and attended, between meetings, the funeral of Mr. Oliver Tudor. Mr. Smith preached<sup>4</sup> in the afternoon on the occasion. A tedious day. I spoke a little on the character of Mr. Tudor. His family are remarkable for longevity.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Connecticut *Courant*.

<sup>2</sup> Oliver Tudor was the son of Samuel Tudor, of East Windsor, and brother of Mrs. Abiel Wolcott (Ursula Tudor).

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Tudor, Jr., of Hartford, was a brother of Oliver Tudor.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Levi Smith.

<sup>5</sup> The father of Oliver Tudor (Samuel) died at eighty-five. His uncle, Dr. Elihu Tudor, died at ninety-three. His aunt, Mrs. Thomas Griswold (Rhoda Tudor), died about ninety. Mrs. Abiel Wolcott lived to great age, and her son, Samuel Tudor Wolcott, is now (1886) living at East Windsor, well-

9. Walked and visited. Kindly received by old friends. The aged Mrs. Higley<sup>1</sup> gave me the cane of Mr. Perry,<sup>2</sup> the second minister of this place. Afternoon Dr. Gillet brought me home. The wind cold and severe. My stove-pipe fell down, but, in mercy, did no special injury. Read my Bible.

10. The mercury about 20°. Occupied with company. Read. Wrote to sister Battell. Worked at my books.

11. Wrote. Did errands. Received pamphlets at the post office. Am trying to make some alteration in our book-shelves. Read.

12. Last night we had considerable snow. Wrote. When Mrs. Higley, of East Windsor, gave me the cane on the 9th, I gave her in return \$1.00. Worked at my books. At evening visited. Very little sleighing. Our government seems disposed to provoke a war with England.

13. Cold, but little sleighing. Visited Mr. Tracy's private school. Thirty-four lads well instructed. Wrote.

14. Wrote to Dr. William Buel,<sup>3</sup> of Litchfield. Worked at my books. My health is rather feeble. Read.

15. A violent snow-storm through the day. All meetings very thin. Heard Mr. Arms,<sup>4</sup> of Norwich, in Dr. Hawes's pulpit. Read the Bible. Kept my room the most of the day.

16. The snow is thought to be ten inches deep. People are engaged in opening paths. Worked at my books. Wrote to Mr. Abner Harlow, of Mattapoisett. Received of Mr. Hosmer, our treasurer, \$30.00, and paid the same, \$30.00, to my host, Mr. Richmond.

17. Read the Bible. Have a tremor in writing. Much occupied with company. The late storm very disastrous to shipping. Mr. Hosmer made me another payment, \$50.00; which, with yesterday, is \$80.00. Paid Mr. Brinley for books, \$25.00. Read late.

18. Cold. Opened the Superior Court. Worked at my books. A committee of Massachusetts Legislature, visiting the asylum, called on me. Dr. Gridley,<sup>5</sup> my kinsman, was one. They express a high approbation of our collection. Wrote. Difficult to produce a good warmth in this large room.

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preserved at the age of eighty-seven. His sister Eveline (Mrs. Edgar Bissell), is also living at East Windsor, in the clear possession of her powers, at the age of eighty-two. Ursula Wolcott, an unmarried sister of Mrs. Bissell, died three years since at the age of eighty-seven.

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Anna Higley, widow of Nathan Higley. Her maiden name was Barret, of Hartford. She was married to Mr. Higley Sept. 13, 1766, so that her life, as wife and widow, had been eighty years.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. David Perry's ministry followed the long ministry of Timothy Edwards in the First Church of East Windsor, Ct. (now

South Windsor). Mr. Edwards began preaching there in 1694, and continued till 1758, sixty-four years. Mr. Perry was pastor 1755-1783, having been colleague with Mr. Edwards three years.

<sup>3</sup> William Buel, M.D., was President of the Connecticut Medical Society, and father of the present distinguished Henry W. Buel, M.D., of Litchfield, Ct.

<sup>4</sup> Hiram P. Arms, D.D., pastor of the First Church, Norwich, 1836-1881, and of the Yale Corporation, 1866-1881.

<sup>5</sup> Timothy J. Gridley, M.D., of Amherst, who married Mrs. Henry Olmsted (Eliza Lawrence).

We had our usual meeting last evening. I now owe Mr. Brinley \$90.65, the most of what I do owe. At evening was at a small party with the Massachusetts committee.

19. Very cold morning. The mercury, by my thermometer, was about zero. Others were lower. Worked at my books. Had considerable company. Bringing my wood from the cellar is laborious. Began to write my East Windsor address.<sup>1</sup>

20. A hard snow-storm the most of the day. Mr. Yale,<sup>2</sup> of New Hartford, was here writing through the day. Dined by invitation at Mr. Wadsworth's. The storm severe. Wrote considerably. Received a kind letter from Dr. Buel, of Litchfield.

21. A great deal of sleighing. Much occupied with company. Read the Bible. Finished the long and excellent book of Jeremiah. Pacific news from England.

22. A very pleasant day. Attended worship in the morning at the Centre Church, afternoon at the Fourth. At evening wrote. Read the Bible. How great is the evil of sin in the view of God. Read a manuscript century sermon of Dr. McClure, 1795.<sup>3</sup> Very valuable.

23. Deposited in the savings bank in this city \$200.00. I hope it may continue there while I live. Wrote in the evening; cannot do much during the day. Invited out to tea. Was up late.

24. Attended to company. Went into the Consociation. A special meeting. At evening Mr. Stuart<sup>4</sup> gave a fine biographical lecture. Brother Francis at the Consociation.

25. Wrote on my address. Am much interrupted by various calls and company. Dined out. Went into the Consociation. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Carver, of Long Island, respecting the Carver family.<sup>5</sup>

26. Very cold. Mercury about 12°. A great body of snow, and good sleighing extensively. Col. Battell and other friends called on me. Difficult to warm my great room. Read the Bible.

27. Thermometer at eight and one half o'clock 7°. Had company.

<sup>1</sup> It was now nearly forty years since he first began to preach in East Windsor, and this seems to have been a kind of historical and memorial discourse which he was preparing.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Cyrus Yale, of New Hartford, is one of a few ministers twice installed over the same church. After being settled from 1814 to 1834, he was dismissed, to be installed in Ware. But three years later, in 1837, he returned to his old people, where he remained till his death in 1854.

<sup>3</sup> This sermon was preached by Dr. David McClure during his ministry at East Windsor. Before coming to East Windsor he had been pastor, 1776-1786, at North Hamp-

ton, N. H. His ministry at East Windsor as sole and colleague pastor was 1786-1820.

<sup>4</sup> Prof. Moses Stuart, of Andover.

<sup>5</sup> It is quite likely that this letter contained the old errors about the family of John Carver, the first Governor of Plymouth Colony. It used to be told, as a remarkable fact, that in one of the towns of southeastern Massachusetts there was a house, where, at one time, were living persons of five generations of the descendants of John Carver. But fuller information has shown that John Carver had no children, and that his family of eight persons that came in the Mayflower were of his kindred, but none of them were his children.

Wrote in the evening. Have to burn much wood. Wrote what I could in the evening.

28. Still very cold. A great deal of sleighing. The compilation of my address is very laborious. Wrote considerably.

#### MARCH.

1. In the morning attended the meeting at Dr. Hawes's. He desired me to assist at the sacrament. Thought it my duty to attend to my labor in the afternoon. Looked over East Windsor church records, and wrote till late in the evening. The cold abates a little. I cannot bear long study as in years past.

2. Very pleasant for cold weather. Last night was nervous, and had a poor night. Visited the Northwest School. It has improved, and does pretty well. Afternoon and evening wrote and closed my address containing sketches of the history of East Windsor. I have not finished it for want of time and documents, and because I have enough for one discourse. It thaws a little.

3. Mr. B. F. Butler<sup>1</sup> and other gentlemen of New York, called on me. Rode in a sleigh to East Windsor. Still a cold air. At evening delivered my address. Mr. Smith<sup>2</sup> and Dr. Hooker<sup>3</sup> were with me. The meeting-house very full. A pleasant evening; good sleighing, and very good crossing the ice. Brother Francis was present. Very tired.

4. Made calls. A good many aged people here. They wish me to complete my address on another occasion. Rode to Hartford. It thaws a good deal, and the sleighing is failing. Went into Mr. Gallup's excellent school for a short visit. At evening attended an elegant party at Dr. Grant's.<sup>4</sup> Received a letter from Mr. Hayden,<sup>5</sup> of Windsor Locks.

5. It thaws much. The snow wastes, though a great body. The mercury was up to 48°. Read the Bible. Worked at my room. Received a good letter from Mr. and Mrs. James Cannon, of Mattapoisett. Received of the Phoenix Bank a fine dividend of \$60.00; exceeding expectation. Wrote.

6. Worked at my room and books. Read. Paid tailor Corning, \$5.00, and balanced my account. Paid Mr. Richmond, \$20.00. Paid for D'Aubigne's *History*, \$1.00; very cheap. Had snow.

7. Worked some at my books. Read the Bible. Had much company.

<sup>1</sup> Benjamin F. Butler, a prominent lawyer and statesman, was born in Kinderhook, N. Y., in 1795. He studied law with Martin Van Buren. He began his public life as a Democrat, but before he died he became a Republican. He held many important offices. He died in Paris, France, in 1858. On his maternal side he was a direct descendant from Oliver Cromwell.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Levi Smith, the pastor.

<sup>3</sup> Edward W. Hooker, D. D., Professor

in the Connecticut Theological Institute, and successor to Mr. Smith in the ministry of this old East Windsor Church. Dr. Hooker filled the pastoral office, 1849-1856.

<sup>4</sup> Harry A. Grant, M. D.

<sup>5</sup> Jabez H. Hayden, of Windsor Locks (part of ancient Windsor), is still in the full activity of life, and one of the foremost men of the place for intelligence and business enterprise. He is also known as a public writer, especially on historical subjects.

Wrote in the evening. A horrible duel<sup>1</sup> at Richmond, Va. Had two requests to preach tomorrow.

8. In the morning preached at the Fourth Church for Mr. Patton on Rom. ix: 15. Afternoon for Mr. Hastings<sup>2</sup> at the North on 2 Cor. v: 11. At evening heard Mr. Hastings's lecture on the Poetry and Music of the Ancient Church. Quite fatigued. Thermometer 45°.

9. Visited Miss Rockwell's private school. Worked at my books. Thermometer at 47°. The snow wastes fast, but there is a heavy body. Read the Bible.

10. Visited Miss Palmer's private school. Occupied with company. Thermometer about 45°. Worked at my books. At evening heard an excellent lecture on history by Mr. Clarke.<sup>3</sup>

11. The ground is getting bare. Visited Miss Thacher's private school.<sup>4</sup> Wrote. Read the Bible. The mercury up to 50°. Dr. Hough, of Meriden, here. At evening attended a large and very respectable party at Mr. Robinson's.<sup>5</sup>

12. Visited Mr. Harris's school of lads. It appears well. Looked over books. I get fatigued easily. Paid for repairing three canes, \$2.50. The roads very muddy. Read the Bible. Thermometer near 50°. Read.

13. Visited Miss Hillyer's school of girls. A fine school. Worked at my books. Had some books given me by Mr. Brinley. Thermometer at 56°. The snow is sinking fast into the ground. Yesterday spent a short time in a distant school. Wrote. Read.

14. Last night and this forenoon we had a hard rain. It seems to have taken most of the frost from the ground. Received an interesting letter from Mr. E. T. Foote, of New Haven. Took the cars and rode to Windsor Locks, and was carried in a wagon to Suffield. Roads very muddy. Tarried at Mr. Washburn's.<sup>6</sup> The snow is mostly gone. The river is high, and the ice going out.

15. Preached for Mr. Washburn on 2 Cor. v: 11, and Heb. iv: 9; and in the evening on Ps. cxlii: 4. Took tea at Mr. Robinson's,<sup>7</sup> the Gay family.<sup>8</sup> Mr. Washburn is an intelligent man.

<sup>1</sup> The duel at Richmond, which occurred in the early days of March, 1846, was between John Hampden Pleasants, connected with the Richmond *Whig*, and young Thomas Ritchie, son of the editor of the Richmond *Union*. It was a cold-blooded affair. They first fired six rounds without effect, and then fell upon each other, one with a sword and the other with a sword-cane. Pleasants was killed.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. S. P. M. Hastings, supplying at the North Church during Dr. Bushnell's visit to Europe.

<sup>3</sup> Walter Clarke, D.D., of the South Church.

<sup>4</sup> For some reason the Hartford school committee seemed to be called upon to visit all the private schools, as well as the public.

<sup>5</sup> David F. Robinson.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Asahel C. Washburn, pastor at Suffield, 1838-1851.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Henry Robinson, born in Guilford, Ct., 1788, graduated at Yale, 1811, and at Andover, 1816, had been pastor at Suffield, 1831-1837.

<sup>8</sup> Ebenezer Gay, Sen., D.D., had been pastor at Suffield, 1742-1796. Ebenezer Gay, Jr., settled as colleague with his father, had been pastor, 1793-1837. Henry Robinson (see note above) was settled as colleague

16. Rode home early. The frost is mostly out of the ground. Worked at my room. Wrote to Mr. Washburn, Suffield.

17. Worked at my books. Read the Bible. An excellent and remarkable political change in New Hampshire.<sup>1</sup> Had a number of folios brought from the bookbinder's; much improved. Had meeting here in the evening. Paid Gleason<sup>2</sup> for the remains of my *New England Fathers*, \$4.50.

18. Had assistance about my books. Paid a joiner for work now and before, \$2.75. We have rough March wind. On Monday brother Francis was here, and three very respectable ministers from New York called on me. Afternoon spent some time in a very fine school; second department of the Centre School. Wrote late. Read.

19. Did errands. Wrote. Visited Washington Street School. Mr. Morgan is a good fellow visitor. Read. Our public affairs appear less bad than they have done.

20. Had a workman at my book-shelves. Visited the Westminster and Arsenal Schools. The roads mostly dry. A very pleasant, warm day. Mercury at 60°; dangerous to the fruit. At evening was at a small, genteel party. Read.

21. Visited Gravel Hill School. They have done well. March wind. Roads quite dusty. Afternoon had a good deal of company. Much fatigued.

22. Attended meeting at the Fourth Church. Heard Mr. Patton and Mr. Hastings. They preach pretty well, but need more study and instruction.<sup>3</sup> At evening wrote to brother James and sent him, in his feeble state, \$10.00. Read the Bible, and finished the Old Testament in my present course.

23. Mr. Morgan and I visited the Clinton Street School in the forenoon, and the one at Rocky Hill in the afternoon. The first pretty good, the latter not so good. Read.

24. I work what I can at my books, brushing and re-setting. Visited the third and second departments of the South School. In the youngest seventy-two little creatures. Get very much fatigued. Wet through the day. Read.

25. We visited and examined the first department of the South School, and had two long sessions.<sup>4</sup> We had a hard rain; very grateful to the ground. Wrote.

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with Ebenezer Gay, Jr., and in 1835 married his daughter, Mary Cushing Gay, as his second wife. Hence Dr. Robbins speaks of Mr. Robinson as in the Gay family. Mr. Robinson lived many years after his settlement at Suffield, dying in Guilford, Ct., his native town, in 1878, in his ninetieth year.

<sup>1</sup> John H. Steele, who was probably a Democrat, and who had been Governor two years, was superseded by Anthony Colby, probably a Whig, who held the office one year.

<sup>2</sup> Peter B. Gleason was the publisher of his volume on the *New England Fathers* twenty-five years before.

<sup>3</sup> A very natural criticism for an old divine to pass on young men, only a short time in the ministry: "Young folks think old folks to be fools, but old folks know young ones to be so."

<sup>4</sup> This school business used up an enormous amount of time. The schools were very numerous, especially when the private schools were added to the public.

26. We visited the first and third departments of the North School. Dined at Mr. Terry's. We had a hard shower. At evening attended a public exhibition of the South School. Much fatigued.

27. Visited the school in Pearl Street; was in the school in Front Street a short time. Mr. Morgan remained there, and I went to the North African School. It has done poorly. At evening attended the second part of the South School public exhibition. Examined a school-teacher.

28. I visited rather short, the very fine school, about one hundred and sixty, of the second department of the Centre School. Agreed with Mr. Miller to board with him when Mr. Richmond leaves his house. Worked in the afternoon at my books. Received a good letter from brother James. Sister Battell came here. Spent the evening with her. Have had a very busy week.

29. Attended the South Church in the morning with my sister. Afternoon was at the Fourth. Mr. Rockwell,<sup>1</sup> of Berlin, preached at the South. Read the Bible. At evening wrote.

30. Worked laboriously at my books. Had brought in Rymer's<sup>2</sup> *Fedora*, in nineteen heavy folios. I have paid for it \$45.00. Very cheap. It is a magnificent work, and a noble addition to my library. I have now a very fine collection of British history. All from divine mercy.

31. Walked to Lord's Hill and visited Miss Cheney's school. Not in the best state. Number thirty-one; present males twelve, females eleven. The district divided about it. Worked at my library. Much fatigued. The season for March has been remarkably favorable.

#### APRIL.

1. Occupied with company. Did errands. Visited the South Colored School. Doing well. Number forty-one; males fifteen, females twenty-six; present thirty-five. At evening attended the last part of the public exhibition of the South School. Was out late. Cool. Yesterday had a call from Prof. Silliman.<sup>3</sup>

2. Wrote. Worked brushing and re-setting books. I easily get fatigued. I find some books which I feared were lost. I have a very fine collection of periodicals.

3. Last evening I wrote to my old classmate John Bacon,<sup>4</sup> of Canterbury. This morning, before mailing my letter, I was told he died about three weeks

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Samuel Rockwell, of Berlin (now South Church in New Britain), was born in Winchester, Ct., 1803, graduated at Yale College, 1825, and at Yale Seminary, 1828, was pastor here, 1843-1858.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Rymer, historiographer royal of England. He was a native of Yorkshire, Eng., born about 1638, and died in 1713. A large part of his writings still remain in manuscript in the British Museum.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. Benjamin Silliman, Sen., of Yale College.

<sup>4</sup> In the "Triennial Catalogue" of Yale. John Bacon's name stands second, alphabetically, in a class of thirty-four. It would be fifty years, the following September, since this class graduated (1796). The dates of death are given in the catalogue with one exception. Sixteen of the class were alive at the end of fifty years from graduation.

since. Cool weather and favorable. Worked in my room. At evening was out at tea in a pleasant party.

4. Mr. Richmond has removed this week, and while the house is preparing for another family, I am kindly accommodated at Mr. Brown's. Assisted in removing my furniture to another chamber. Wrote. Read the Bible. Have had some valuable donations to our collections.

5. Preached in the morning at nine o'clock at the jail on Ps. cxlii: 4. Afternoon preached for Mr. Raymond, Baptist, in his absence, on 2 Cor. v: 11. A good congregation. The streets very dusty. At evening attended the monthly concert at the Centre.

6. The annual election. There is much excitement and solicitude. May God be our helper. Began to write a piece on the subject of the common schools in the State. I pray for divine assistance. Received a letter from Bishop & Tracy,<sup>1</sup> printers, of Windsor, Vt. Wrote in the evening. The mercury up to 63°. Yesterday 61°.

7. The result of the election yesterday, so far as ascertained, is very painful.<sup>2</sup> Democracy seems to have triumphed. Unsearchable are the ways of God. Wrote what I could. My nerves are weak. At evening we had our usual meeting here. Thermometer 65°. Very dusty. Paid for a folio, Baxter, \$1.75.

8. Wrote on my school paper. Had a good deal of company. Attended the examination of Miss Draper's school; a very good one, more than one hundred misses. Read.

9. Worked on my books. Visited the Orphan Boys' School; in fine order. Occupied with company. At evening rode in the cars to Enfield. Finely accommodated at Mr. Lusk's. Cool. The ground dry and dusty.

10. Fast. Preached for my brother, absent on a journey to the eastward, on 2 Cor. v: 11, and Matt. ix: 15. A good attendance in the afternoon, but not such as ought to be. Saw daffa blossoms. At evening came home. Much fatigued.

11. Warm. The ground much in want of rain. Wrote. Not able to write much on account of fatigue and company. Wrote in the evening. Read. Paid for my room .50.

12. Attended meeting at the Fourth. At evening we had at the Centre a good sermon from Dr. Nevin,<sup>3</sup> from New York, in behalf of the Bible Society. Read the Bible. Wrote some on my school paper.

13. Attended for a while the examination of Miss Draper's school. A very good one. Attended an extra session of our Association on the difficulties at Bristol.<sup>4</sup> Wrote. Quite cool.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Tracy, of this firm, was Rev. Ebenezer Carter Tracy, who was born in Hartford, Ct., 1796, graduated at Dartmouth College, 1819, edited the *Vermont Chronicle* from 1834 to 1862. He was editor also for a time of the *New York Journal of Commerce*, and of the *Boston Recorder*.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Isaac Toucy, a Democratic lawyer of Hartford, was elected in place of Hon. Roger S. Baldwin, a very prominent Whig lawyer.

<sup>3</sup> Probably Dr. Alfred Nevin.

<sup>4</sup> There were difficulties in Bristol, requiring the aid of councils, twenty years



14. Much interrupted by company. Wrote on my school piece. At evening visited the splendid painting of Peale's Court of Death.<sup>1</sup> The Locofocos had a most ridiculous rejoicing in the evening for their success at the late election; noise, burning barrels of tar, ringing bells, etc.<sup>2</sup>

15. Quite cool, frosty nights. Mr. Andrews,<sup>3</sup> of Kent, here seeking documents for the life of Gov. Smith. Wrote. Read the Bible. Very dry, and little progress in vegetation.

16. Went into Mr. Miller's family to board; the same house in which I have been for the past year. Wrote laboriously. Get much fatigued. Have visitors from distant States.

17. Am pretty feeble. Wrote. Cannot bear intellectual labor as I have done. Read the Bible. Get to bed late.

18. Had a pleasant visit from an old friend, J. W. Barber.<sup>4</sup> Paid for candles, \$2.28. I get good mould candles for eleven cents a pound. Had a valuable ancient chest sent in for the Historical Society from Windsor. Finished writing my long piece on schools. Have not been able to do it sooner. Thermometer up to 70°.

19. Read the Bible. Heard Dr. Hawes both parts of the day, and attended his meeting in the evening. He is much oppressed with the low state of religion here. Wrote.

20. Paid for a *History of Ireland*, in sheets, \$1.75. Wrote most of the day copying my piece on schools. Warm and dry. Had a good deal of company.

21. Saw an account of the death of Mr. Badger<sup>5</sup> in Ohio, aged eighty-nine. He was my fellow missionary in that State in 1803-1806. Yesterday ate some young asparagus. Wrote what I could. Very warm. The mercury was at 82°. In the evening had the meeting of our society here. Examined and approved of Miss Esther Thompson as a school-teacher. Much burdened with labor.

22. Rose very early. After waiting some time took the cars and rode to Windsor Locks. Attended the ordination of Mr. Allen.<sup>6</sup> Brother Francis was there, and made the ordaining prayer. I gave the charge without any

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before, in Rev. Jonathan Cone's ministry. The present difficulties did not probably appertain to the minister, who was Raymond H. Secley, D.D. He has recently passed away, dying in Haverhill, Mass., with a most pure and excellent record for wisdom and ability.

<sup>1</sup> Copies of this picture, by Rembrandt Peale, in a cheap form, are now greatly multiplied, and meet one on the walls of parlors and chambers, where they might be spared.

<sup>2</sup> According to our observations, other political parties sometimes make great and noisy demonstrations over victories gained.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William Watson Andrews (son of Rev. William Andrews, pastor at Danbury, Ct., and Cornwall, Ct.), was pastor of the

Congregational Church at Kent, Ct., 1834-1849, and is now one of the chief leaders in this country of the Catholic Apostolic Church.

<sup>4</sup> The author of many volumes of brief town histories, whose name has been frequently introduced in the diary.

<sup>5</sup> The venerable Rev. Joseph Badger, born in Wilbraham, Mass., 1757, graduated at Yale, 1785, pastor at Blandford, Mass., 1787-1800, and then went in the service of the Connecticut Missionary Society to New Connecticut (Western Reserve), Ohio.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Samuel H. Allen, pastor at Windsor Locks, 1846-1863. Since 1863, he has resided at Hartford, Ct., without charge.

writing. Mr. Allen appeared very well on examination. Rode home, late in the evening, in the cars. Much fatigued. Dr. Tyler<sup>1</sup> preached.

23. Am quite feeble. Wrote laboriously through the day, and late at night on my school paper. My nerves less affected than I expected. Paid a dyer, .94. Sent Harriet,<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Wolcott's colored girl, \$4.00. Warm and dry.

24. Finished my school paper, and gave it to Mr. Gallaudet. Went to bed in the evening very early, much to my benefit. Assisted in examining a school-teacher.

25. Wrote on a school summary for the school commissioner. Had a good deal of company. The blossoms of early trees are out and full. The first I saw was on the 23d.

26. Attended meeting at the Fourth. Mr. Clarke preached in the morning. Read the Gospel of John. At evening wrote to my cousin John Le Baron, of Mattapoisett.

27. Have a laborious task in sweeping and brushing my room. Put up books. Read. A young artist proposed to me to take my bust in plaster. The mercury at summer heat.

28. Wrote to Capt. Lumbert, of Mattapoisett. Worked on my room. Sat for my bust. Read Mr. Bushnell's long, singular, able letter to the Pope.<sup>3</sup>

29. Wrote to Messrs. Bishop & Tracy, Windsor, Vt. Received a letter from sister Battell. Sat for my bust. Was out at tea. Conversed with Gov. Toucey on the school business. Yesterday finished the returns of our schools, and gave the paper to the school commissioner.<sup>4</sup> Afternoon wet.

30. Last night we had a heavy rain. It seems I never knew one more beneficial. Wrote to my old classmate Tracy,<sup>5</sup> living, I suppose, at Griswold. Afternoon visited Miss Perry's excellent school. Worked at my room. My friend Brinley is quite sick. The apple-tree blossoms are getting out full. Dr. Cooley,<sup>6</sup> of Granville, and wife, were here. Wrote to sister Battell.

#### MAY.

1. Wrote to my old classmate Allis,<sup>7</sup> residing, I suppose, at Poughkeepsie. Afternoon rainy; very refreshing. Sat twice for my bust. Wrote to my classmate Davis,<sup>8</sup> of Clinton, New York. Read. Am quite languid.

<sup>1</sup> Bennet Tyler, D. D., of Connecticut Theological Institute.

<sup>2</sup> At Mrs. Abiel Wolcott's, East Windsor, another illustration of his thoughtful kindness toward the servants in families where he lived.

<sup>3</sup> A very good description of that remarkable letter which bore the clear impress of the author's genius.

<sup>4</sup> Commissioner for the State of Connecticut. The office of United States Commissioner of Education did not then exist. It was created in 1867, and the Hon. Henry Barnard, of Hartford, was the first commissioner under the law.

<sup>5</sup> Fanning Tracy, A. M., of the class of 1796. He lived until 1857, sixty-one years after graduation.

<sup>6</sup> Timothy Mather Cooley, D. D., graduated at Yale, 1794.

<sup>7</sup> Thomas Wells Allis, the first name in the class of 1796. This, as before suggested, was the year of the fiftieth anniversary of the graduation of this class, and Dr. Robbins, as his way was, seems to be posting himself as to the facts of the class history. Mr. Allis died in 1848.

<sup>8</sup> Henry Davis, D. D., whose name occurs frequently in the first volume of the diary, had been Professor of Greek at Union Col-

2. Wrote to my classmate Bassett,<sup>1</sup> in New York State, sending my letter to Mr. Hurlburt, of Winchester, for transmission. My cousin Chandler Robbins, of Boston, and a Mr. Frothingham called on me. Wrote to Dr. Brigham,<sup>2</sup> of the American Bible Society, New York. At evening rode to East Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott is quite feeble. Much fatigued.

3. Heard Mr. Smith in the morning. He is long in prayer. Preached for him in the afternoon on Ps. cxlii: 4. At evening attended the monthly concert. Held late. The condition of this people is manifestly improving.

4. Looked at the site and preparations for the new meeting-house. Made calls. Rode home. The vegetable world is all bursting forth. Assisted in setting out in our back-yard a fine elm which I had brought from Wapping. Am quite languid. Mercury near summer heat. Read the Bible.

5. Wrote to my classmates B. Fowler,<sup>3</sup> Pittsfield, and E. Chauncey,<sup>4</sup> Philadelphia. Received a letter from sister Battell, and one from William S. Russell, Plymouth. At evening had a meeting of our society here, and attended a meeting of the directors of the Retreat. Had a good number of visitors. Paid Mr. Richmond \$2.00, which completed my boarding bill.

6. Wrote to my classmates B. Silliman<sup>5</sup> and E. Stearns.<sup>6</sup> Had an unusual number of visitors. Many children; the old election holiday.<sup>7</sup> Walked out. Received an old election sermon, 1713, from Stonington. Yesterday and today sat for my bust.

7. This morning there was some frost. Much occupied with company. Dined at Mr. Nichols with Gov. Toucey, and the committee of the Legislature came from New Haven and informed him of his election,<sup>8</sup> and he went off in the cars with his Democratic friends. Wrote to Wilson Barstow, Jr., of Mattapoisett. Read.

8. Wrote to my classmate C. Bostwick,<sup>9</sup> of Bridgeport. Read. Assisted in examining a school-teacher. Mr. Whittlesey, of Danbury, an old friend, is here. Spent some time with him. Called on Dr. Hawes.

9. Wet. Sat for my bust. Read Gov. Toucey's message. I am disappointed. It is perfectly radical. Afternoon and evening we had a great and powerful rain. A great blessing. Could not go to Windsor on account of the rain. Dined at Mr. Brown's with Mr. Whittlesey and his son.

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lege, 1806-1809, President of Middlebury College, 1809-1817, President of Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y., 1817-1833. His home afterwards was in Clinton, where he died in 1852.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Archibald Bassett was a Presbyterian minister in the State of New York, and lived on until 1859, sixty-three years out of college.

<sup>2</sup> John C. Brigham, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Bancroft Fowler was born in Pittsfield, Mass., 1775. He was settled in the ministry in several places, and was, 1820-1825, Professor in Bangor Theological Seminary.

<sup>4</sup> Elihu Chauncey died the next year. 1847.

<sup>5</sup> Prof. Benjamin Silliman, Sen., was perhaps the most distinguished member of the class of 1796. He lived on until 1864, sixty-eight years after graduation.

<sup>6</sup> Elisha Stearns died in 1850.

<sup>7</sup> First Wednesday in May.

<sup>8</sup> He had not a majority vote of the people, and so was elected by the Legislature as the first business after organization. In Connecticut the governor is still elected by majority rule.

<sup>9</sup> Charles Bostwick, who died in 1852.

10. Last night it rained very hard. Took a carriage and rode quite early to Windsor. The ground wet, and the streams high. Preached for Mr. Leete in his absence on Isa. v: 4, and 2 Cor. v: 11. Meetings rather thin. This society improving. They have a very good house. Am quite feeble.

11. Called at Dr. Pierson's.<sup>1</sup> His family quite sick. Called on Col. Loomis. He went with me to Mr. Halsey's,<sup>2</sup> who has a great tannery. Mr. Halsey gave me some valuable old manuscripts, coins, and other valuables. Rode home. Received from the American Bible Society at New York a very fine set of their Bibles for this society.<sup>3</sup> Visited Mr. Enoch Parsons; quite sick.

12. Did errands. Sat for my bust. Wrote. Worked at my books. Received a letter from Dr. Brigham, of New York, with a list of the Bibles sent from the Bible Society. Received a good letter from Prof. Silliman. Dr. Hawes called on me.

13. A light frost this morning. Last Saturday my cousin Eliza Gridley called on me from Amherst. My new Bibles make a fine addition to my collection. We have an account of a conflict of our troops with the Mexicans.<sup>4</sup>

14. Worked at my library. Visited Miss Plato's colored school. Doing well. Prof. Silliman called on me. We had conversation about the Yale presidency.<sup>5</sup> At evening preached to Dr. Hawes's people on Acts iv: 13.

15. Warm. Wrote. Occupied with company. Sat for my bust. Wrote on an addition to a sermon for a farewell at East Windsor.

16. Worked at my books. Wrote on my addition. Wet. A very fine season for vegetation. Mr. Smith came from East Windsor and carried me up there to spend the Sabbath. Am quite feeble. Wrote a good deal in the evening.

17. Showery. Mr. Smith preached in the morning very well, in reference to leaving the present meeting-house. I preached in the afternoon on Isa. v: 4, and bid farewell to the present meeting-house. It has stood eighty-five years, and is now a good house, but it must give place to a new one. Much fatigued.

18. Rode home in a stage. Can do but little. We have news of fighting at Mexico.<sup>6</sup> A very needless war. Am very languid.

19. Wrote to Mr. John T. Norton,<sup>7</sup> a Representative at New Haven.

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<sup>1</sup> William S. Pierson, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> Philip Halsey came to Windsor from Long Island about 1776, and married there. He died at an advanced age in 1846. His son Henry, born in 1784, was then sixty years old, and carried on the tannery.

<sup>3</sup> That is, the Connecticut Historical Society.

<sup>4</sup> This was the battle of Palo Alto, fought on the 8th of May, in which our troops were victorious.

<sup>5</sup> President Jeremiah Day, D. D., was about to resign. His presidency closed at the Commencement in 1846, and Theodore Dwight Woolsey was inaugurated in his place.

<sup>6</sup> The battle of Palo Alto was followed soon by the action at Matamoras, in which the Mexicans were again defeated.

<sup>7</sup> John T. Norton, Representative from the town of Farmington, Ct., and one of the chief men of the town.

Worked at my books, and have now filled all shelves in good order. At evening visited a sick friend.

20. Received a letter from Sister Battell. Mr. Timothy Pitkin<sup>1</sup> called on me, and President Day.

21. A public day, and had a great deal of company. A great menagerie is in the town. Brother Francis was here. Wrote. Wrote to Rev. Dr. Brigham, of New York, acknowledging the late donation of the Bible Society. Have fine weather day by day.

22. Yesterday a daguerreotype<sup>2</sup> man invited me to his room, and took my likeness; a very good one. Wrote to Mr. Stuart, of New Haven. Wrote on a report of our society for annual meeting. A good deal of frost this morning. Some vegetables have suffered this week. Paid for a good hat, \$4.50. Was out at tea.

23. Wrote. Sat for my bust. The artist has been long about it. Have got my room in good order. Paid for furniture, \$1.00. Kept with Mr. Rockwell.<sup>3</sup> With him called on the aged Mrs. Meigs. She gave me for safe keeping the sword and an epaulette of her husband, Capt. John Meigs, in the Revolutionary War. Showery. This is a fine manufacturing village.

24. Preached for Mr. Rockwell on Prov. xi: 7, and Heb. iv: 9. This is a very pleasant congregation. Not very large. Rode home with Professor Andrews.<sup>4</sup> He is a laborious student, and has a good family. A good deal fatigued. Yesterday received a very kind letter from my classmate Charles Bostwick, of Bridgeport.

25. Warm. Visited a manufactory of hooks and eyes.<sup>5</sup> The machinery is very complicated. They make forty thousand pounds in a year. Rode home in the cars. Wrote. Vegetation is rapid. At evening wrote to Rev. H. G.<sup>6</sup>, of Poughkeepsie. Read. Thermometer above summer heat. Finished my report for the Historical Society.

26. I fear I have sustained a severe loss by theft. Very warm. Received a letter from Mr. Chauncey, of Philadelphia, and one from Mr. John T. Norton, at New Haven. Wrote. Afternoon rode in the cars to New Haven. Spoke with various friends. Called on Judge Daggett. He is failing with

<sup>1</sup> Timothy Pitkin, of Farmington, Ct.

<sup>2</sup> The daguerreotype process, invented by Daguerre in 1838, was comparatively a new thing in this country in 1846.

<sup>3</sup> Without much doubt Dr. Robbins is in Berlin (New Britain), but forgot to tell us that he had left Hartford. The Mr. Rockwell with whom he tarried, was probably Rev. Samuel Rockwell, pastor at New Britain, 1843-1858.

<sup>4</sup> Professor Ethan Allen Andrews, LL. D., was a native of New Britain, and was graduated at Yale in 1810. His title of Professor came from University of North Carolina,

where he had the department of the ancient languages. In company with Solomon Stoddard, Professor at Middlebury College, he made the *Latin Grammar* bearing their names, but his chief work was Andrews's *Latin Dictionary*. He died in 1858.

<sup>5</sup> The writer visited the same manufactory not far from the same time. The machinery seemed more like a living intelligence than any he had ever seen.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Henry G. Ludlow, who from 1837 to 1842 had been settled over the College Street Church at New Haven. He was a preacher of great brightness and versatility,

age. Saw my classmates Bishop<sup>1</sup> and Jones.<sup>2</sup> Kept at the Tontine.<sup>3</sup> Slept at Mr. Smith's.

27. Wet and rainy. Wrote. Yesterday Mr. William M. Smith, of Sharon, gave me thirty almanacks, with a meterological journal, and many useful observations by his father, Gov. Smith,<sup>4</sup> for the Historical Society. In the morning prayed at the opening of the Senate, and sat some time with them. Afternoon went before the committee on education, and spoke at length on the subject of the school law, wishing for a revision. The Historical Society held their annual meeting. Well attended. My report was read by the secretary. At evening our society had a fine address from Mr. Andrews,<sup>5</sup> of Kent, a eulogy on the character of Gov. Smith. Mr. Bishop<sup>6</sup> kindly asked me to stay at his house. He has a good family. Paid at the Tontine, \$1.50. A very dark evening.

28. Still wet and dark weather. Went again before the committee on education. They appear to approve of my project, but are timid about action. Went into the House of Representatives. A very bad room. Treated politely. Looked at the college library; very large and of great value, in a magnificent room.<sup>7</sup> Vegetation here is very rich. I think I never saw so much grass on the green. Called at Mr. Silliman's. Took tea at Mr. Hughes's, Mr. Bishop's son-in-law. Visited the Lancasterian School; upwards of two hundred boys. At evening was at a party at Mr. Russell's.<sup>8</sup> Paid for books, six good volumes, \$6.00.

29. Wet and dark and cool, but not much rain. Took the cars pretty early, and came home. Find all well. Much fatigued. Some showers. Read. A good number of visitors.

30. Wrote. Read the Bible. Afternoon rode to Enfield in the cars. My brother has had a hard turn of sickness, but is getting better. Am pretty feeble.

31. In the morning rainy and thin meeting. Preached on Micah vi: 8, and Matt. vi: 10. Still wet and dark. No evening meeting. Sister Priscilla<sup>9</sup> has mostly lost her mind.

#### JUNE.

1. Rode with my brother's carriage to Hartford. We have at length

<sup>1</sup> Timothy Bishop was not only the longest-lived member of the class of 1796, but Yale has had few graduates of longer life. He died in 1873, seventy-seven years out of college.

<sup>2</sup> William H. Jones died in 1861, sixty-five years after graduation.

<sup>3</sup> Tontine Hotel.

<sup>4</sup> John Cotton Smith, whose native place was Sharon. He filled high offices, State and National, was Governor of Connecticut, 1813-1818, was a member of the Society of Northern Antiquarians of Copenhagen, and other learned societies. He was born 1765, graduated at Yale, 1783, and died in Sharon, 1845.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. William Watson Andrews. It may be remembered that he was at Hartford a short time before seeking materials for this address.

<sup>6</sup> Timothy Bishop, his classmate.

<sup>7</sup> This was after the college library had been moved from the attic of the chapel into the present library building, which now greatly needs enlargement.

<sup>8</sup> William H. Russell, Esq., of the class of 1833.

<sup>9</sup> Wife of his brother, Rev. Francis Le Baron Robbins. She passed away not many months later.

clearer weather after five days without, I believe, seeing the sun. Am quite languid. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Stearns, of Tolland, and one from Mr. Ludlow, of Poughkeepsie.

2. Left off my flannel. Wrote to Mr. Merriman, of New Haven. Oppressed with debility. Occupied with company. At evening we had our usual meeting here.

3. Very warm. Vegetation is rapid. Read the Bible. Much confined in my chamber. The mercury at 83°. Received some books from New Haven. Paid a bookbinder, \$10.00; Brown & Drake. Walked out. Wrote to brother Francis.

4. Read the Bible. Wrote to Mr. James Cannon, of Mattapoisett, and to my classmate Bassett, Walton, Delaware County, New York.<sup>1</sup> Very warm. Thermometer above 80°. At evening walked out. Received a good letter from my classmate Davis, Clinton. He grows old, and is quite feeble.

5. Wrote to Dr. H. Humphrey, Pittsfield, Pres. Hopkins, Williams College, and the postmaster at Skaneateles, New York. Waited on company. Swept and brushed my room laboriously. Read the Bible. At evening walked out.

6. Wrote to sister Battell. Had donations to our collections. Received a letter of my classmate Davis from Mr. Silliman.<sup>2</sup> Occupied with company. Received a letter from Mr. Herrick, New Haven. Paid for repairing my watch, \$1.00. Read. Thermometer above 80°.

7. Attended meeting at the Fourth Church. In the evening Mr. Patton had an abolition sermon on the death of the "Martyr" Torrey<sup>3</sup> in Maryland. A small matter.<sup>4</sup> The doctrines of the gospel are preached but little.<sup>5</sup> Read the Bible.

8. Finished reading my Bible in course, begun June 23d of last year. I have read the eighty pages in each month. It has been done with much pleasure, and I hope with profit. Was out at tea. A very fine season. Visited two schools with Mr. Morgan; small, but in a good way.

9. Wrote. We visited two schools. Our out-schools are rather small. There is a war spirit in our country, foolish and not honorable. It is unpleasant to be absent from my room.

10 Visited two schools. The one in Washington Street in admirable order. A great Baptist convention in town. Attended their meeting in the evening, and they ordained a young man, a missionary for Siam. The parts

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins through his previous letter had learned the residence of his classmate Bassett.

<sup>2</sup> He had sent the letter of Dr. Davis to Prof. Silliman to read, and this was its return.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Charles T. Torrey, born in Scituate, Mass., 1813, graduated at Yale, 1833, son-in-law of Jacob Ide, D.D., of West Medway, Mass., died in the Maryland State

Prison May 9, 1846, for the crime of helping slaves to escape.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins was too ultra conservative to consider fairly both sides of the question relating to American slavery.

<sup>5</sup> Where they are preached faithfully it is a gospel of "liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." Chattel slavery is now at an end over almost all the Christian world.

were well performed. Had good company in my room. Was out late. Thermometer 80°.

11. Last night took some cold. We visited two more schools. I visited also Miss Palmer's private school. The two on Lord's Hill in a poor state. Wrote to my classmate Levi Robbins,<sup>1</sup> Rocky Hill.

12. Visited the two schools lower, in the north district. They have many changes. People come here when I am out, and feel disappointed. Our visitors lately increase. Mrs. Noah Webster<sup>2</sup> was in today. Our Legislature are doing very poorly.

13. Visited the upper school of the north district. In a very good state. This week has been very pleasant, without variation. I am burdened with constant labor. Had a fine present of strawberries. Have little time to write. A good crop of grass cut about the Atheneum. Had a good deal of company.

14. Commenced reading my Bible again. I pray for profiting whether I live to go through it or not. Attended meeting at the Fourth Church, and heard Mr. Richardson.<sup>3</sup> Afternoon at the Centre, and Charles Beecher<sup>4</sup> preached on the coming of Christ. At evening wrote.

15. Waited on a tailor. We visited the two out-schools of the south district; one a new one in a very poor state. Very warm. Thermometer about 83°. Afternoon we had a most grateful shower. Read.

16. Received a letter from Mr. McLean,<sup>5</sup> of Collinsville, one from Pres. Hopkins, and one from Thomas Robbins Foster, of Boston, a kinsman. Visited the three schools in the south school-house. Doing well. One of them has about a hundred little ones. Sultry hot. Went to the Retreat, and attended their usual evening prayers. Mr. Knight, from Washington, called on me.

17. Wrote to Pres. Hopkins. Visited two numerous primary schools. Doing well. Something unwell. Cooler than it has been. Received a letter from Dr. Mayhew, of New Bedford. Mr. Willis, of New Orleans, called on me.

18. *An important day to me.* My circumstances as to property are placed in a new condition. I have executed a contract with this Historical Society engaging to give the society my library, with all its collections, to be received

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Robbins lived twenty years after this, dying in 1866.

<sup>2</sup> Her husband, the great lexicographer, died three years before. She was a very accomplished woman, the daughter of William Greenleaf, Esq., of Boston. They were married in 1789. Mrs. Webster died in the year 1847.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Merrill Richardson, pastor at Terryville, Ct., 1841-1846, and again 1849-1858; also at Salem Street Church, Worcester, Mass., 1858-1870; New England Church,

New York, 1870-1872; Milford, Mass., 1873-1876. He died Dec. 12, 1876.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Charles Beecher, son of Dr. Lyman Beecher, was born in 1810. He was pastor at Georgetown, Mass., 1857-1882.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Charles Backus McLean, a native of Simsbury, son of Rev. Allen McLean. He was graduated at Yale, 1836, and was settled in Collinsville in February, 1844, where he remained pastor till 1866. He died in 1873. Rev. Allen McLean, the father, was a native of Vernon, Ct.



by them at my decease, on condition of their paying me a salary for my labors here of six hundred a year during my natural life.<sup>1</sup> I think it puts the society on a secure basis, and it is a great favor to me. For both which I desire to praise a holy God. The permanent salary to commence on the first of September next, two years from the beginning of my service for the society. May God assist me in my work. Visited the fourth and third departments of the Centre School. Very numerous, young, and doing well for their years. Mr. Miller's family have friends from the far West. Find it difficult to get sufficient rest.

19. Visited the second and first departments of the Centre Schools. I presume no better schools in the State. Very warm. Mercury about 84°. Had a thunder-shower, not much rain. Mr. Morgan and I, last week and this, have visited twenty-two schools. The most of them doing well. A great change of scholars in the spring past.

20. Have had green peas during the present week. Very warm. Thermometer at 85°. Went to visit the South African School, and found it suspended on account of the session of an African Methodist Conference. Paid for port, \$1.00. We had a fine shower. Attended on company. Wrote. Last evening read much of Southey's *Joan of Arc*;<sup>2</sup> a good poem.

21. Quite showery through the day. Heard Mr. Patton at the Fourth in the morning, and Dr. Hawes in the afternoon. Read the Bible. At evening preached for Dr. Hawes on Luke xxiii: 34. Have had a good present of cherries. Had yesterday a new valuable blue coat brought in.

22. Cooler. Read in Milton's *Paradise Lost*. Wrote to Mr. Thomas R. Foster, of Boston. Waited on company. Invited out to tea. Had some very fine cherries. Quite cool.

23. There was some fear of frost, but I believe there was none. Visited Miss Rockwell's school; about forty pupils; mostly females. Had a small meeting of school visitors. I fear I have sustained a severe pecuniary loss.<sup>3</sup> Read pretty late.

24. Still quite cool. Received a kind letter from Pres. Hopkins. Went into Miss Swift's school; about fifty young ladies. It was a singing day with them. Yesterday four ladies, old friends, called on me from East Windsor. Paid Mr. Brinley, \$20.00. Received of Hartford Bank a dividend of \$17.50; doing well. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. William S. Russell,<sup>4</sup> of Plymouth, Mass. We had a thunder-shower; pretty hard. At evening walked out.

<sup>1</sup> We have supposed that something like this contract had been made while Dr. Robbins was yet at Mattapoisett, and before the library had been moved. In the light of the statement here made by Dr. Robbins, we now understand that the earlier arrangement was only temporary and partial. He had been receiving a salary during the two years of his residence in Hartford. Now this was a fixed arrangement for life.

<sup>2</sup> Southey's *Joan of Arc* was one of his early poems written as far back as 1794.

<sup>3</sup> He has referred to this before, but not mentioned the particulars.

<sup>4</sup> William Shaw Russell, of Plymouth, was the son of James Russell. There were relationships by intermarriage between the Russells and Le Barons. Dr. Robbins always found a nice home in Plymouth at the house of Nathaniel Russell.

25. Visited the Hartford grammar school. Under good instruction. Had a good deal of company. At evening rode to East Windsor. Find old friends in their usual state. Trees loaded with abundant verdure. The season wet. Wrote to James Humphrey,<sup>1</sup> Brooklyn, and Thomas Lumbart, Mattapoisett.

26. Looked at the ruins of my old meeting-house. They are at work at a new one. Rode home. Occupied in my room. At evening attended a large city meeting. Much decorum and good speaking. They are alarmed at the prospect of a bridge over the Connecticut at Middletown.<sup>2</sup>

27. It has been wet and cloudy, and cool through this week. Did errands. Attended to company. Read. Retired early.

28. Heard Mr. Patton at the Fourth, and afternoon Mr. Loomis<sup>3</sup> for the seamen, an agent. He performed at the Centre very well. Read the Bible. Wrote.

29. Worked at my manuscripts. Had a good deal of company. Towards evening met about four hundred children at the City Hall to make preparation for Independence. They could not be kept in any order. Forenoon quite wet.

30. Did a good deal of sweeping and brushing. Mr. Hosmer very kindly paid me in my misfortune, \$50.00. Occupied with company. At evening heard a good lecture on the present state of Rome by the Baptist preacher, Mr. Turnbull.<sup>4</sup> Received a letter from my kinsman, Rev. Chandler Robbins, and Mr. Thomas R. Foster, both of Boston.

#### JULY.

1. Read the Bible. Rainy. We have a very wet season. Yesterday brother Francis was here; quite recovered from his late illness. I fear I have lost valuable manuscripts. Received a letter from Mr. J. Humphrey,<sup>5</sup> New York. We have a large number of our society here, and heard a statement, with samples, respecting the tumuli of the West.<sup>6</sup> At evening heard a curious lecture on Shakespeare; all imagination. We had a very rainy day.

<sup>1</sup> Hon. James Humphrey, who married Miss Urania Battell.

<sup>2</sup> Probably a needless alarm. There has been a railroad bridge there for many years, and we have heard of no serious trouble in consequence.

<sup>3</sup> Harmon Loomis, D. D., Corresponding Secretary of American Seamen's Friend Society, New York, 1845-1871. He died in Brooklyn, N. Y., 1880. He was born in Georgia, Vt., 1805, and was graduated at University of Vermont, 1832.

<sup>4</sup> Robert Turnbull, D. D., was born in Scotland in 1809, and was educated at the University of Glasgow. He came to this

country in 1833, and proved himself a man of large culture and ability. He had charge of several churches in New England, before his settlement in the First Baptist Church, Hartford, in 1845, where he continued for many years.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. James Humphrey.

<sup>6</sup> This subject was presented by Ephraim George Squier, who was yet a young man, but afterwards wrote and published largely on the antiquities of the West. He had a kind of home in Hartford. He was a native of Bethlehem, N. Y., son of a Methodist minister, and born in 1821. These mounds of the West make an interesting subject of study.

2. Wrote to Dr. Julius Mayhew, New Bedford. Afternoon quite a number of ladies were in here and attended on Mr. Squier's exhibition of the ancient curiosities of the West. Wrote to Rev. Chandler Robbins, of Boston.

3. Wrote to my sister Battell, and again to my cousin C. Robbins, of Boston. Visited Mr. Enoch Parsons. He is quite low. At evening there was a tremendous noise in the streets; crackers, bonfires,<sup>1</sup> etc.

4. Fourth of July. Attended with a large collection of children; had some speaking, singing; marched to a grove, eat cakes, etc. A little wet, but a pretty favorable day. Had many calls. Mr. Herrick, of New Haven, here. Warm and sultry.

5. Preached at nine o'clock in the jail on Luke xxiii: 24. Heard Mr. Patton in the forenoon; afternoon Dr. Hawes, and assisted some. Very warm. Thermometer at 86°. Read. Wrote. On the 3d Mr. Bartholomew<sup>2</sup> put up in my room a good bust for me, which he has made. A good likeness. Gave him a good Bible; the cost, \$3.50.<sup>3</sup> At evening a hard thunder-shower.

6. Read the Bible. Had a number of visitors. Paid John Olmsted, \$5.00, and my tailor, Mr. Stockbridge, \$5.00. At evening visited Mr. Parsons; nearly done with time. Thermometer 88°.

7. Received a good letter, a gratifying one, from my classmate Bassett,<sup>4</sup> of Walton, Delaware County, N. Y., and sent it to Mr. Silliman, New Haven. Received one from Dr. Harvey,<sup>5</sup> Thompsonville, and wrote to him in return. Paid Mr. Charles Hosmer, \$5.00. At evening we had here a meeting of our society; quite thin. Thermometer 85°.

8. Walked considerably. Read. Wrote to my classmate, Fanning Tracy. Had company; some French ladies. At evening visited Mr. Parsons. Thermometer 82°.

9. Mr. Parsons died this morning. Preparing for my journey. Fine weather for haying. The heat increasing again. Thermometer about 84° or 85°. Wrote to Mr. Levi Robbins, Rocky Hill.

10. Attended the funeral of Mr. Parsons. Mr. Bushnell prayed. We then rode in excessive heat and dust to Middletown; were met by a number of carriages at the upper houses; went in and interred the remains. After dining and staying some hours in the heat, returned to Hartford. Had to

<sup>1</sup> They began the Fourth of July earlier than at present.

<sup>2</sup> This is the first time that Dr. Robbins has given us the name of the artist that was making his bust. It was Edward Sheffield Bartholomew, a native of Colchester, Ct., who became celebrated as a sculptor. Some of the best known of his pieces are The Shepherd Boy, Youth and Old Age, Monument to Charles Carroll, etc. He died in Italy in 1858, at the age of thirty-six.

<sup>3</sup> This was given not as pay (for the work was, as we understand, gratuitous), but as a keepsake, or token of remembrance.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Archibald Bassett.

<sup>5</sup> Joseph Harvey, D. D., native of East Haddam, Ct., was graduated at Yale, 1808; pastor at Goshen, Ct., 1810-1825; in Westchester parish, Colchester, Ct., 1827-1835, and prominently connected with the Connecticut Theological Institute. He died in 1873.

ride with much dust. A severe time. At Middletown saw Dr. Jarvis's<sup>1</sup> magnificent paintings and library. Exceeding my expectations. Thermometer at my return after sundown at 89°. I conclude it must have been about 96° or 97°.

11. Rose early. Left my room under the care of young Mr. Bartholomew.<sup>2</sup> Took the cars and rode to Pittsfield; took the stage and rode to Lenox before two o'clock. Brother James is comfortable; feeble, and walks with difficulty. Much is said of the heat of yesterday, extensively. Mercury ranged from 93° to 98°. Called at Mr. Sedgwick's.<sup>3</sup> Towards sundown there was a hard thunder-shower. The mercury about 92°. People generally haying. The crops appear very finely. Not much fatigued.

12. Dr. Humphrey supplies the pulpit here in their vacancy. Preached in the morning in the Methodist church for Mr. Lindsey, a worthy man, on Acts xiii: 38. Afternoon heard Dr. H., and at five o'clock preached at the academy on Heb. iv: 9. Dr. H. was with me. At evening saw some company at my brother's. Some of the former Goodwin<sup>4</sup> family of this town. Some light showers. The heat abates. My brother attends meeting; lifted out and in the wagon.

13. Gave sister Maria,<sup>5</sup> \$5.00. Took the stage and rode to Pittsfield. Staid several hours at the hotel. Had a good opportunity to write. Cooler, and good air. Took the stage in the afternoon and rode to Williamstown. Stage slow. Had the company of Mr. Davis,<sup>6</sup> of Westfield. Staid at the Mansion House. At evening Pres. Hopkins and other college officers came in.

14. Attended to the examination of the senior class; thirty-four in number. In the languages they performed very well, and well in other studies. There are several judges of the examination, but the college officers do the most of the examining. This town is much improved. They are rearing a new building for the library. One scholar is very sick; burnt by fire-balls on the Fourth of July.

15. Quite cool. Pursued the examination with close attention. The sick scholar, Maxwell, of Claremont, died last night. His funeral was attended in the afternoon, and the remains carried by his parents to their home. He was of the sophomore class. Toward evening we closed the examination. In the senior studies they performed very well. As a whole it was good. At evening there was a good exhibition by the societies. Quite cool.

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Farmer Jarvis, D. D., was the son of Bishop Abraham Jarvis, D. D., and was born in Middletown in 1786; graduated at Yale College, 1805; was rector of St. Michael's Church, New York, 1813-1815, and of St. James's Church, New York, 1815-1819, of St. Paul's, Boston, 1820-1826; spent ten years in Europe; was professor in Trinity College, Hartford, 1835-1837; was rector of Christ Church, Middletown, 1837-1842. He was an extensive writer, and very widely known.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Sheffield Bartholomew, the young sculptor (see note July 5).

<sup>3</sup> Probably Theodore Sedgwick, Jr., who died in Stockbridge, Mass., 1859, aged forty-eight.

<sup>4</sup> Family of Joseph Goodwin, whose name occurred frequently in the first volume.

<sup>5</sup> Maria was the wife of his brother James W.

<sup>6</sup> Emerson Davis, D. D., who was on the Williams College Board of Trustees, 1833-1866, when he died.

16. Rode in a stage to Pittsfield. Took the cars and rode to Worcester. Saw Mr. Haven<sup>1</sup> and Mr. Burnside. This town looks rich and prosperous. Called at Mr. Burnside's.<sup>2</sup> My health is pretty good. Read.

17. Visited the antiquarian collection. Large and very valuable. Mr. Haven appears to manage it well. Went into a large Latin and English school. The neatest and most convenient school-house I think that I have seen. Dined with company at Mr. Burnside's. Rode about some. Took tea at Judge Washburn's.<sup>3</sup>

18. Took the cars pretty early and rode to Boston. Made calls and did errands. Called at the house of cousin Charles Robbins, and found that he is out of town. Rode to Roxbury and staid at Mr. Peter's.<sup>4</sup> Wet. It has been cool and cloudy the most of this week. We had a fire. Found, most unexpectedly, that Little & Brown are owing me over \$22.00. I thought I owed them as much as that.

19. Quite cool and wet. Cousin Peter went with me into the city, and heard Mr. Blagden at the Old South. Afternoon preached for him on Acts xiii: 19. Rode home in a pretty large circuit. Roxbury<sup>5</sup> and Cambridge<sup>6</sup> have received city corporations. This vicinity is becoming very populous and rich. Am kindly treated.

20. Rode into the city. Called on Mr. Livermore<sup>7</sup> and Mr. Stoddard.<sup>8</sup> Mr. Amos Lawrence<sup>9</sup> took me into his carriage and rode to the Bunker Hill Monument, and to other places. Did business with booksellers. Rode to Cambridge with Mr. Livermore and took tea. Mr. Pickman and Mr. Sibley<sup>10</sup> were present. His library is an admirable one, especially in rare and ancient Bibles. Returned in the evening. Much is said and felt about the fire at Nantucket.<sup>11</sup>

21. Warm. Called on a new-found kinsman, Mr. Thomas R. Foster. Paid for hosiery, \$3.75. Easily get fatigued. Wrote. Called on Mr. Ashur Adams. He and his wife have a valuable collection of ancient Wylls papers. Dined with Mr. Stoddard. Looked at Burnham's old books. Took tea with Mr. Foster. Quite warm. Many large granite buildings erecting in the city.

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Foster Haven, Librarian of the American Antiquarian Society.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel M. Burnside, Esq., a member of the American Antiquarian Society, and a graduate of Dartmouth, 1805. He received the honorary degree of A. M. from Harvard, 1817.

<sup>3</sup> Judge Emory Washburn, afterwards Governor of Massachusetts, 1854-1855.

<sup>4</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>5</sup> Roxbury was made a city March 12, 1846, and is now a part of the city of Boston.

<sup>6</sup> Cambridge was constituted a city March 17, 1846, and still retains her separate existence.

<sup>7</sup> George Livermore, the wealthy wool merchant, who made a very large and choice collection of Bibles, which he opened to the public sight.

<sup>8</sup> Charles Stoddard, Esq., of the Old South Church, Boston, from 1839 to 1872 one of the trustees of Williams College.

<sup>9</sup> So well known for his princely benevolences.

<sup>10</sup> Rev. John Langdon Sibley, Assistant Librarian of Harvard College, 1841-1856: Librarian, 1856-1877; Librarian *emeritu.*, 1877 to his death, 1886.

<sup>11</sup> A great fire at Nantucket, July 13, 1846, destroyed 300 buildings, with their contents.

22. Was prevented from taking the early cars by misinformation of the time of their departure. Have a good time to write. Walked out and viewed some of the great edifices. Treated very politely. Bought costly rare books of Little & Brown to the amount of \$110.00. Paid them \$10.00. Three ancient volumes cost \$50.00, and thirteen cost \$60.00. Deducting my credit I owe them about \$77.00. Took the car of the Old Colony Railroad<sup>1</sup> and rode to Plymouth. Many stops on the road. Forenoon very warm; afternoon wet. Staid at Mr. Russell's.<sup>2</sup> Company in.

23. Expected to have gone today to New Bedford or Mattapoissett, but it is not stage-day. In the morning a hard rain. Wrote to Mr. James B. Hosmer, Hartford. Made calls. Saw Judge Mitchell,<sup>3</sup> of Bridgewater. Called on Dr. Kendall.<sup>4</sup> Took tea at Mr. Thomas's.<sup>5</sup> Have a pleasant visit. This town improves moderately.

24. Took the stage and rode to Mattapoissett. Warm, and the ride fatiguing. Very kindly received by many friends. Saw Rev. Mr. Thacher<sup>6</sup> and others. Some have been greatly afflicted in months past. Put up at my cousin John Le Baron's. Have thus completed another stage of my journey, in much mercy.

25. Rode with Mr. Thacher to Long Plain, and saw the Spooner families; gave them some Continental money. They have given me a portrait of Commissary Trumbull.<sup>7</sup> Called at Fairhaven and saw cousins.

26. Glad of an opportunity to spend a Sabbath with my former people. Mr. Thacher is absent. Preached on Prov. xi: 7, and Ps. cxlii: 4. Attended a third meeting. Went to Mr. E. Cannon's. A full meeting. The congregation I think is not as large as in years past. Am treated with much interest and kindness. Quite cool.

27. Very busy in writing. Dined at Mr. G. Barstow's, and took tea with company at Mr. Harlow's. Rode and visited the aged Mrs. Hammond. Cousin J. Le Baron<sup>8</sup> is very attentive to my wants. Cousin Lazarus<sup>9</sup> has removed to Maine. The late burning of Esq. Meigs's ship in this harbor, with about 1,200 barrels of oil, was a great scene. The attempt to establish

<sup>1</sup> The Old Colony Railroad was opened for travel only the year before (Nov. 10, 1845). The distance from Boston to Plymouth, thirty-seven miles.

<sup>2</sup> Nathaniel Russell.

<sup>3</sup> Judge Nahum Mitchell, born in Bridgewater, 1769; graduated at Harvard College, 1789; held many important offices. He was Member of Congress, 1803-1805; was Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, 1811-1821; was Librarian and Treasurer of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and had a prominent part in the enterprise of surveying the route for the present Boston & Albany Railroad. He died in 1853.

<sup>4</sup> James Kendall, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> John B. Thomas.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Isaiah C. Thacher followed Dr. Robbins in the pastoral office, beginning his ministry at Mattapoissett, Dec. 25, 1844. He was graduated at Union College, 1841, and at Yale Theological Seminary, 1844. He was born at South Dartmouth, Mass., July 2, 1815, and died in the town of Peabody, Mass., March 16, 1880.

<sup>7</sup> Col. Joseph Trumbull, Commissary-General in the Revolutionary Army, was son of Gov. Jonathan Trumbull, and was born in Lebanon, Ct., March, 1737; graduated at Harvard, 1756, and died July 23, 1778.

<sup>8</sup> John Allen Le Baron, son of Rev. Lemuel, was born in 1782.

<sup>9</sup> Lazarus Le Baron, brother of John A., was born 1789.

a Unitarian meeting-house appears like to fail. The ship-building is doing well here. Received presents from young persons.

28. Rode and visited. Made many calls. Am under a necessity of omitting some good friends. Dined at Mr. L. Hammond's. Mr. Loren Meigs gave me a very fine large horn of the rhinoceros (unicorn), from the eastern coast of Africa.<sup>1</sup> Have had a very pleasant and gratifying visit here. Left Mattapoisett and was carried to Fairhaven. Stopped at Mr. Jenney's.<sup>2</sup> Looked at his splendid house in the midst of his elegant garden. All kinds of vegetation and fruits are very productive. My health is good.

29. Took the cars early and rode to Boston. Was detained five hours doing nothing. The former South Cove is covered with heavy brick buildings. Left Boston at four o'clock, came to Springfield, and got home after ten o'clock. Have had, through great mercy, a very prosperous journey.

30. My room has been well taken care of in my absences. Had a good deal of company. Brother Francis made me a good visit. Find a good deal to be done. Congress has passed the abominable tariff bill. Read.

31. Very warm and sultry. Read. Received a letter from Chandler Robbins, of Boston, and a very acceptable one from my classmate, B. Fowler,<sup>3</sup> now of Stockbridge. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott.<sup>4</sup> Afternoon we had a very hard thunder-shower. Wrote.

#### AUGUST.

1. Much occupied with company. My rhinoceros horn excites much attention. Received from Boston my books lately purchased—sixteen volumes; cost, \$110.00. A valuable addition. Freight, seventy-five cents.

2. Heard Mr. Patton of the Fourth Church. Better than usual. Read the Bible. Wrote.

3. Wrote. My writing is much in arrears. Much company. Wrote to Levi Robbins and to Hezekiah Belden,<sup>5</sup> classmates. Was informed by a man from Lenox that my nephew, Dr. T. Robbins,<sup>6</sup> of New York, had come to his father's quite unwell, with bleeding at the lungs. The Lord be his helper.

4. The two letters recorded for yesterday were written today. Have much trouble in getting a good pen. It has been quite warm for several days; it is now more so. Thermometer about 88°. Received a letter from Mr. Silliman.<sup>7</sup> The prospect of assembling our classmates at Commencement improves.

<sup>1</sup> Brought home, doubtless, in one of the Mattapoisett vessels.

<sup>2</sup> Levi Jenney, whose wife was the daughter of Capt. Anselm Gibbs, and her mother was Lucy Le Baron.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Fowler was not settled in the ministry at Stockbridge.

<sup>4</sup> She was at the old homestead in East Windsor, where Dr. Robbins had so long boarded, and which to the last he regarded as a home.

<sup>5</sup> Hezekiah Belden died three years later, in 1849.

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Robbins, M. D., graduate of Williams College in 1840, died 1846.

<sup>7</sup> There were two Sillimans in the class of 1796, brothers—Prof. Benjamin, and Mr. Gold Selleck Silliman—sons of Gen. Gold Selleck Silliman, a Revolutionary officer. Both of these classmates of Dr. Robbins lived to great age, Prof. Benjamin dying in 1864, and his brother in 1868.

5. Wrote to Mr. Ashur Adams,<sup>1</sup> of Boston, and to Mr. Silliman. Can do but little on account of the heat. The mercury was at 93°. Not as much company as in days past. At evening attended the college speaking, in the junior class. They did very well. We have hot nights.

6. Commencement at Trinity College. The performances were highly reputable. Was treated very politely by Pres. Totten,<sup>2</sup> and others. The mercury at seven o'clock was about 80°; late in the afternoon at 91°. Oppressed with thirst. Received a letter from Dr. Field,<sup>3</sup> of Haddam. Read.

7. Wrote. My diary has been quite in arrear for some time. My cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey, of Brooklyn, called on me. They give an alarming account of my cousin, Dr. T. Robbins. Rode to Rocky Hill; took in H. Belden at Wethersfield, and we dined with Levi Robbins; three classmates. The heat and dust very oppressive. Thermometer in the afternoon, 89°. Read. Some prospects of a peace with Mexico.<sup>4</sup> Received of sister Battell a letter with painful news about nephew Thomas. There may be no one to bear my name.<sup>5</sup>

8. Wrote. Sent sister Battell's letter of yesterday to brother Francis. Wrote to Dr. P. G. Robbins, of Roxbury. Had much company. Am enervated by the heat. At evening had a moderate and refreshing shower. Thermometer about 86°. On the 6th my classmate Bostwick, of Bridgeport, was in here, but I did not know him at all.

9. Preached in the morning for Mr. Hempsted,<sup>6</sup> at the jail, on Mark viii: 37. Forenoon and afternoon heard Mr. Richardson<sup>7</sup> at the Centre. Read the Bible. Wrote. Read.

10. Wrote to brother James. He and his family must be in deep affliction. Last night had a good deal of rain. Worked at my room. Waited on company. Two gentlemen from Liverpool called on me. Read.

11. Cooler. Wrote to Mr. McEwen,<sup>8</sup> of New London. Could not be by myself as much as I wished. I rejoice in the universal, unchanging providence of God. All for Christ. Read.

12. Received a letter from my classmate Tracy,<sup>9</sup> after long waiting.

<sup>1</sup> Ashur Adams, of Boston, was a broker, whose office was at 10 Exchange Street.

<sup>2</sup> Silas Totten, D. D., LL. D., was a graduate of Union College in 1830. From 1837 to 1848 he was President of Trinity College, Hartford. He was a man of simple tastes, much honored and beloved.

<sup>3</sup> David Dudley Field, D. D., born in Guilford, Ct., 1781, graduated at Yale College, 1802; pastor at Haddam, Ct., 1804-1818; then at Stockbridge, Mass., 1819-1837; then again at Haddam, 1837-1851; then he returned to Stockbridge, and died there 1867. He was father of Hon. David Dudley Field, LL. D., Judge Stephen Johnson Field, LL. D., Cyrus

West Field, LL. D., and Henry Martyn Field, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> There was to be no peace with Mexico as yet, but several severe battles. The peace did not come till nearly two years later.

<sup>5</sup> That is, no one of the Robbins family. His full name had been used as a *given name*.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. John A. Hempsted graduated at Yale College, 1821, preached in several places in Connecticut as pastor and stated supply, and died in 1851.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Merrill Richardson, who had left Terryville, Ct., the month before.

<sup>8</sup> Abel McEwen, D. D.

<sup>9</sup> Fanning Tracy.



Congress have adjourned, to the joy of all. Wrote to three classmates, Bishop, Tracy, and B. Silliman. Had very respectable company. At evening walked out. Thermometer 86°.

13. Met with my classmate Tucker,<sup>1</sup> not having seen him since we graduated. Wrote to Lieut.-Gov. Noyes Billings. Much occupied with company. Am a good deal nervous. Afternoon very hot. Mercury at 89°. My chamber is very warm. Read.

14. Mr. Tucker and daughter and grandson were in my room. Read the Bible. Last evening preached at the Fourth Church without notes on John x: 10. Wrote to Martin Moore,<sup>2</sup> of the Boston *Recorder*, and sent him \$4.00. The forenoon and middle of the day excessive hot. Thermometer at 86°. Afternoon we had a copious and refreshing shower. Was in at Mr. Wadsworth's<sup>3</sup> with Mr. Tucker. Read.

15. Wrote an elaborate letter to Dr. Field, of Higganum.<sup>4</sup> Received a letter from Mrs. T. Bishop, of New Haven, and one from Mr. Silliman. Wet and rainy. We have had a wet season and no drought. Paid Mr. Stoughton for my good elm-tree,<sup>5</sup> \$3.00.

16. Preached in the morning at the jail on Col. iii: 11. Afternoon rode to West Hartford, and preached for Mr. Seward<sup>6</sup> on Ps. cxix: 6. Very hot in the meeting-house. Thermometer 87° or 88°. Tired. Read the Bible.

17. Read. Very sultry. Am pretty feeble. Occupied with company.

18. We have, in divine goodness, a change of weather; a cool air. Received a letter from my nephew, James Robbins,<sup>7</sup> Ithaca, N. Y., one from N. Billings, New London, and one from Hezekiah Belden, Wethersfield. Mr. B. is sick, and will not be with his class at Commencement. Occupied with company. Afternoon left them, and went in the cars to New Haven. Levi Robbins went with me. Met Fowler and Bassett, classmates, at Mr. Bishop's, and all hospitably entertained. At Mr. Silliman's found others.

19. In the morning attended the meeting of the P. B. K. Society. After which a very interesting meeting of the society of the alumni. Our class were seated on the platform, and much noticed. Afternoon we had a very interesting class-meeting at Mr. Silliman's study—34 in the whole, 18 deceased, 16 living; 3 absent by infirmity or illness—one by sudden illness—and 13 present.<sup>8</sup> The scene was joyful and tender. Silliman and

<sup>1</sup> John Harvey Tucker, who lived twenty-two years after this, dying in 1868, seventy-two years after graduation.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Martin Moore was born in Sterling, Mass., 1790; graduated at Brown University, 1810; pastor at Natick, Mass., 1814-1833, and afterwards editor of Boston *Recorder*. He died in 1866.

<sup>3</sup> Daniel Wadsworth.

<sup>4</sup> The Indian name for Haddam, Ct.

<sup>5</sup> One which he planted in East Windsor, and which is still growing there.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Dwight M. Seward.

<sup>7</sup> James Watson Robbins, Jr., brother of Thomas, now fatally ill.

<sup>8</sup> A very remarkable gathering, brought about largely through Dr. Robbins's foresight and extended correspondence. More than one third of the class was actually present at the end of fifty years from graduation. The writer was himself present at the alumni meeting of 1846, and remembers in general the address of Dr. Robbins on that occasion. He took great interest in the college, and especially in bringing about the fuller and better way of keeping its statistics.

Bishop show great hospitality. At evening a very good oration and poem before the P. B. K. Society. Could not attend the theological performances in the afternoon.

20. Commencement. A great collection of people. The best of order in the audience and all proceedings. The day very fine. Thirty single speakers. They spoke well. Pres. Day performed for the last time. Mr. Woolsey, professor, was elected president. I think Mr. Silliman ought to have had the choice.<sup>1</sup> My nephew, Samuel Robbins,<sup>2</sup> was one of the graduates, and appears well. At evening we had our second and last class-meeting till we meet at the bar of Christ. We commended ourselves and our all to God. One only not a professor, and he a worthy, steady man. We got a master's degree for Levi Robbins. Subscribed and paid \$1.00 for a marble bust for Pres. Day. Gave Tracy, \$2.00, returned from Belden, Aug. 7th. Received a letter from young Allis,<sup>3</sup> of Skaneateles, informing that his father is living.

21. In the morning rainy. Walked out. Called on my niece, Mrs. Larned.<sup>4</sup> Her sister, Mrs. Eldridge,<sup>5</sup> was there, and informed me of the painful death of Dr. Thomas Robbins, at Lenox. A most mysterious dispensation of heaven. He was my beneficiary in college. Rode home. Much fatigued. Received a letter from my afflicted brother James.

22. Worked at my room and attended to company. Mr. Bacon, of Utica, was here. Dined with him at Judge Williams's. Wrote. Wet and cool.

23. Preached in the morning at the jail on Ps. cxxxix: 7-10. Afternoon attended at the Centre. Wrote. The morning rainy. Read the Bible.

24. Wrote, and finished a letter, begun some time since, to Capt. James Barstow, Mattapoisett. Have lately received a letter from Mr. Ashur Adams, Boston. Read. My brother Francis dined with me. Mr. Bacon, of Utica, left some very valuable articles here.

25. Cool. Wrote. Did errands. Had much company. Wrote to Prof. Silliman, with an account of our late class-meeting.<sup>6</sup> Read.

26. Rode with Mr. Hosmer in the rain, in a close carriage, to East Windsor, to attend the anniversary of the seminary.<sup>7</sup> Attended the meeting

<sup>1</sup> Prof. Silliman had made for himself a grand and honorable record in his connection with Yale College. But in 1846 he was sixty-seven years old, and none now will question the wisdom of the trustees in choosing Dr. Theodore Dwight Woolsey to be president of the college.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Robbins was the son of Samuel and Fanny Robbins, and was born in Woodbury, Ct., in 1822. In his early childhood his family removed to Onondaga County, N. Y. He became a somewhat distinguished physician, studying abroad two years. He died in Glendale, O., in 1869.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Dr. Robbins's classmate, Thomas

Wells Allis, who died two years later, in 1848.

<sup>4</sup> Wife of Prof. William A. Larned, of Yale College.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Sarah (Battell) Eldridge, wife of Joseph Eldridge, D. D., pastor at Norfolk, Ct. He was chosen the next year to be one of the trustees of Yale, which office he held till his death, in 1875.

<sup>6</sup> This mode of expression might seem to imply that Prof. Silliman was not there. He means *reviewing*, or *recalling*, the incidents of the late meeting.

<sup>7</sup> Connecticut Theological Institute at East Windsor Hill.

of the old Ministers' Annuity Society. Attended in the afternoon the meeting of the Pastoral Union. A very respectable body. At evening heard a good address from Mr. Walter Clarke.<sup>1</sup> Rode with brother F. to Mrs. Wolcott's. Very dark.

27. Was in awhile at the Ministers' Annuity Society. Attended the public performances of the students. Very good. A large number of ministers and others present. Dined at the public dinner. Was brought home. Attended awhile at my room. Received a letter from Mr. E. Brown.

28. Swept and dusted in my room. Wrote. Gave Mr. Brinley a due-bill for books of \$183.65. Visited the North School, at a collation. Very warm. Thermometer 83°.

29. Still very warm, and close air. Worked at my room. Much company. Received a letter from Mr. Silliman. Have rheumatic pains.

30. Heard Mr. Thomas,<sup>2</sup> from Ohio, at the Centre, morning and evening, and Mr. Spring,<sup>3</sup> of East Hartford, in the afternoon. Read the Bible. Very warm. Thermometer 86°. We had a pretty hard shower. Wrote to Mr. Silliman.

31. Swept, etc. Worked at my books. My rheumatism is troublesome. Hot and sultry. Occupied with company. Received some valuable donations for our society. Thermometer 87°.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. Have rheumatic pains. Am quite languid. Had good company. My cousin Ammi Robbins,<sup>4</sup> of New York, now from Lenox, called on me. Brother James's family is much broken. At evening we had a meeting of our society here. Thermometer 88°.

2. We have warm nights. My chamber became very hot in the afternoon. We have no ventilators in the upper ceiling. Had a good deal of good company. Wrote. At evening walked out. Received a letter from Mr. Silliman. Thermometer 87°.

3. Last night left my windows open. Mercury above summer heat this morning. Swept and brushed. Paid my annual taxes, \$15.00. At evening made a call. Thermometer 86°.

4. Finished and sent an important letter to Mr. Bacon,<sup>5</sup> of Litchfield. May God add his blessing. The air very hot and languid. Had intelligent company. My room has become very warm. At evening walked out. Thermometer 87°.

5. Wrote a short piece for the paper. Rode and visited a school. The roads are getting quite dusty. The warmest day of the week. The

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Walter Clarke, of the South Church, Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Thomas E. Thomas, D. D., then settled in the Presbyterian Church at Hamilton, O. He was an able theological thinker, and was professor in the seminary at New Albany, President of Hanover Col-

lege in the same connection, and was also for some years professor in Lane Seminary. He died in 1875.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Spring, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Son of Ammi Ruhamah, Jr.

<sup>5</sup> Asa Bacon, Esq., graduated at Yale in 1793, but he lived until 1857.

mercury was at 91°. We need ventilators at the top of my room. Read the Bible.

6. The mercury above summer heat in the morning. Wrote. Heard in the morning Dr. Hawes, and attended the sacrament. Very hot. The afternoon service began at four o'clock. Mr. Dobie,<sup>1</sup> of Plattsburgh, preached very well. At evening we had a very good monthly concert. The mercury in the afternoon at 92°. Read the Bible.

7. Had a restless night on account of the heat. Quite nervous. Thermometer in the morning about 77°. Chancellor Walworth,<sup>2</sup> of New York, called on me. The heat very debilitating. Was carried to the Retreat towards evening, and attended their usual daily prayers. Mr. Charles Battell,<sup>3</sup> of Indiana, was here. The mercury was 91 1-2° for two or three hours.

8. Last night a little cooler. Yet the heat continues. The mercury was at 88° in the afternoon, and was then checked by a shower. Can do but little. Am very languid. Paid for labor, fifty cents. Rode to the Retreat and attended prayers.

9. Last night we had considerable rain, and now a very different air; cool. Wrote. Attended the funeral of a man at the Retreat. Quite uncomfortably cool. About temperate. Read Henry's<sup>4</sup> *History of Great Britain*.

10. Thermometer about 50°. There were fears of a frost. Had much company. Mr. Eldridge, of Norfolk, was here. Read. The change of weather is sudden and great.

11. Wrote. Occupied with company the most of the time. The mercury got up to summer heat. At evening was at a large party.

12. Warm again. Wrote to my old classmate Allis, at Skaneateles, N. Y. Was out at tea. Read. Fatigued with company. Thermometer at 83°.

13. Attended meeting at the Fourth. Mr. Loomis,<sup>5</sup> agent for the seamen, preached in the forenoon; afternoon Mr. Patton. Attended the Centre evening meeting. An oppressive heat again.<sup>6</sup> Thermometer at 89°. Contribution, \$1.00. Read the Bible.

14. Much brushing. Last night left open the most of my windows. The heat oppressive. Thermometer at 87°. Had a very good dividend from the Phoenix Bank, \$60.00. Am quite languid.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. David Dobie was a man of choice intellect, and of excellent Christian character. He was a native of Dumfries, Scotland, born in 1812. He was graduated at Middlebury College in 1835, and at Yale Theological Seminary; was settled in Canada, in Plattsburgh, N. Y., and in St. Albans, Vt. He was cut off in the midst of his years, dying in 1857, at the age of forty-five, but having wrought much good.

<sup>2</sup> Reuben Hyde Walworth, LL. D., born in Bozrah, Ct., 1789. Without a collegiate education, he became one of the ablest lawyers and judges, and greatly distinguished

by his legal writings. He died at Saratoga, N. Y., in 1867.

<sup>3</sup> Charles Isaac Battell was the youngest brother of Joseph Battell, Sr., of Norfolk. They belonged to a family of ten, five sons and five daughters, children of William and Mary (Sherman) Battell. Charles Battell was a lawyer in Evansville, Ind.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Robert Henry, a Scotch clergyman, 1718-1790, who wrote the *History of Great Britain*.

<sup>5</sup> Harmon Loomis, D. D.

<sup>6</sup> All this was a fine sample of the old September heat.

15. Had a very warm and restless night. Thermometer this morning at summer heat. Looked at the foundation of the great depot building on the bank of the river. Paid Mr. Brinley for books, \$31.65. I still owe him a good deal. The weather changed and became quite cool. At evening our society had a poor meeting.

16. Thermometer at temperate. Wrote to Mr. Sylvester Judd,<sup>1</sup> of Northampton. Received a kind letter from Mr. Luther Terry,<sup>2</sup> the painter, with a present of a good Italian quarto.

17. Quite cool. Some frost. Visited with Mr. Morgan the Arsenal and the North Schools. My cousin, Col. Battell,<sup>3</sup> called here. Friends call when I am out. Read.

18. Wrote. The care of my room is burdensome. Visited alone the Lord's Hill School; in a very low state. Occupied with company. Warmer. Vermont and Maine seem to be doing well.

19. Visited with Mr. M. the Northwest School; passable. The roads very dry and dusty. Mercury at 78°. Dined at Mr. Hooker's.<sup>4</sup> I get much fatigued. Read.

20. Attended meeting at the North Church. Heard Mr. Bushnell, A. M.; Mr. Cowles, New York State, P. M. Evening, at the Centre, Mr. Cowles. Mercury 79°. Read the Bible. Have some dizziness.

21. Wet, and did much at sweeping. Hired Mr. Bartholomew<sup>5</sup> to assist me a few days in arranging papers, etc. Worked with him. Wrote. At evening walked out.

22. Worked at my newspapers. Prayed with the Superior Court at the opening of their session. Read in English history. Great complaint of the failure of the potato crop. A severe judgment.

23. Paid Robbins & Winship<sup>6</sup> their account for work, \$5.84. Our war prospects appear more threatening. At evening walked out and visited friends. Mercury at summer heat.

24. The annual fair commenced here yesterday, which excites much attention. Worked at my room, and had much company. Received a letter from Mr. Henry Davenport,<sup>7</sup> of Boston. Much fatigued. Thermometer at 78°.

25. Had a man to work at my papers and books. Visited two schools alone. Mr. Morgan does the same. They have done well. The ground is quite dry and dusty. Yesterday brother Francis called here, going to Norfolk. At evening went into the fair. A very fine exhibition.

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Sylvester Judd was a native of Westhampton, Mass., born in 1813 (his father, a journalist, of the same name); was graduated at Yale in 1836; became a Unitarian minister, and a popular writer. He died in Augusta, Me., in 1853.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Luther Terry was the artist before spoken of as having superior talents, whose native place was Enfield, Ct.

<sup>3</sup> He means his nephew, Col. Robbins Battell.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>5</sup> Edward S. Bartholomew, the sculptor, before noticed.

<sup>6</sup> Makers of nice furniture. The firm still remains on Main Street, Hartford.

<sup>7</sup> Henry Davenport was a clerk at No. 8 Kilby Street, Boston.

26. Wrote. Am burdened with labor. Paid J. Olmsted & Co., \$5.00. Cool. Company come in and stay too late for Saturday. Read.

27. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes preached very well. Wrote an addition to a temperance address, and delivered it in the evening before the Total Abstinence Society—Washingtonian. Quite fatigued.

28. Much troubled with dizziness. Yesterday morning a light frost. Mr. and Mrs. Banister,<sup>1</sup> of Newburyport, called here. My cousin Chandler Robbins, of Augusta, Ky., son of Isaac,<sup>2</sup> called on me—a professor in a college. Visited the second department of the Center School. Doing well.

29. Cool, but little frost. Visited two schools of the center district. I go alone, and Mr. Morgan visits others. Valuable friends call here when I am out. At evening called at Dr. Grant's. The carpet manufactory at Thompsonville suffers very much by our abominable tariff.

30. Visited two schools, the third and the first departments of the center district. Sister Battell<sup>3</sup> is quite feeble. The mercury at summer heat. Paid for work at newspapers, etc., \$2.00. At evening walked out.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Worked at my room. Am unwell with dizziness. Visited in the south district, third department; a very large school of little ones. Received a letter from Mr. Judd.<sup>4</sup> He can't come to help us.<sup>5</sup> Read.

2. The cattle-show, and the last day of the fair. The exhibition was very good.<sup>6</sup> The public dinner company was very numerous. The day favorable. Had many people in my room. Had my first fire, except for a few hours some weeks since. We have had a long summer. Worked at my coins.

3. Quite cool, but little frost. The ground is dry. Had to do much sweeping and dusting. Occupied with company. Wrote.

4. Attended meeting at the Fourth Church; heard Mr. Patton. At evening wrote to Mr. Henry Davenport, of Boston. Read the Bible.

5. Occupied with company. Worked at my books and papers. Had assistance. I find that I have lost money; stolen, it must have been, by the clandestine use of my keys. Specie and coins, I think from \$15.00 to \$20.00. Worked in the evening.

6. Did errands. Went into a school. Worked at my books and papers. Paid \$15.00 for a good set of coins, about forty, in silver, a trifle more than the intrinsic value. Had assistance. At evening had a meeting of our society.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. and Mrs. William B. Banister. Mrs. Banister was Miss Z. P. Grant, of Norfolk, Ct., who built up the well-known school for young ladies at Ipswich, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> Isaac was the Methodist preacher, and his son, Chandler Robbins, was the fifth or sixth bearing that honored name.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Battell was two years younger than himself.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Sylvester Judd.

<sup>5</sup> Precisely what help he wanted of Mr. Judd does not appear.

<sup>6</sup> Hartford County was so rich in its farming lands, with cattle, and horses, and all other natural accompaniments, that the annual cattle-show and fair at Hartford, in October, was an important event, and was largely attended.

7. The leaves are falling without frost. Went into a school. Brother Francis called here. At evening was at a large party. Was out late. Quite warm.

8. Visited the first and second departments of the South School; in a very good state. Oppressed with the heat. Mercury above 80°. At evening walked out.

9. Visited with Mr. Morgan two schools; one very good, one middling. The mercury at 80°. Mr. Bartholomew gave me a bust, which he made, and I gave him \$5.00. Wrote.

10. Last evening was a moderate thunder-shower, and we now have cool weather. The ground is very dry. Worked at my newspapers and letters, with help. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Bacon,<sup>1</sup> of Utica, and one from Rev. Theron Baldwin,<sup>2</sup> of New York. This evening one from J. Kempt Boyd, of Boston. Wrote.

11. We had this morning a pretty hard frost. There has been none before to stop vegetation. I think this will. Read the Bible. The Book of Deuteronomy is very excellent. Heard Dr. Hawes. At evening attended the South Church. Preacher, Mr. Cole.<sup>3</sup>

12. Did sweeping and brushing. Sister Battell is here. Worked at pamphlets. At evening was out.

13. Sister Battell went to Norfolk. The Mexicans have surrendered the town of Monterey to our army, after four days of hard fighting.<sup>4</sup> At evening we had a very violent storm of wind and rain. I spent the night at my neighbor Mr. Brainerd's. Read. The board of school visitors had a meeting here.

14. The rain of last night was very salutary. Paid the bank, \$1.80. Paid for a book, \$1.00. The railroad bridge at Enfield was blown down last night.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Miller's<sup>6</sup> family had a considerable party. Worked at books.

15. Received a letter from "W. B.," confessing that he has stolen money from me. He has a good deal. There has been a horrid murder and suicide here. Attended to company and arranging old books. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Ezekiel Bacon, LL. D. (son of Rev. John Bacon, a native of Canterbury, Ct., who from 1771 to 1775 was pastor of the Old South Church, Boston; afterwards lawyer and Member of Congress). Ezekiel Bacon was born in Stockbridge, Mass., in 1776; graduated at Yale, 1794, and died in Utica, N. Y., 1870. For a time before his death he was the oldest living graduate of Yale College.

<sup>2</sup> Theron Baldwin, D. D. From 1843 to 1870 (when he died) he was Secretary of the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education. He was a quiet man, of clear and penetrating intellect, and of strong Christian character.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Erastus Cole. From 1830 to 1837

he was pastor of the church in Bethel, Ct., in which connection he is spoken of as an able and faithful pastor. He received an honorary degree of A. M. from Yale College in 1834. About the time of his leaving Bethel he was commissioned by the Connecticut Missionary Society for service on the Western Reserve. He died in 1862.

<sup>4</sup> The battle of Monterey ended on the 24th of September, 1846.

<sup>5</sup> This was the first railroad bridge on the New Haven, Hartford & Springfield, built across the river, a mile above Warehouse Point, at the foot of Enfield Falls. The present bridge is expected to endure.

<sup>6</sup> The family where he was now staying.

16. I get quite tired in looking over and brushing old books. Visited a colored school. Doing well for them. Quite pleasant. We have a favorable account of the elections. At evening attended a meeting of the directors of the Retreat. Received an excellent letter from Mr. Henry Davenport, of Boston.

17. Wrote. Worked at my books, dusting and changing positions. Have help in arranging papers and pamphlets. Attended to company.

18. Wet. In the morning heard Mr. Bushnell, at the Fourth Church. Afternoon I preached at the same place on Gal. iii: 8. At evening heard a good lecture from Gov. Ellsworth,<sup>1</sup> and went into a temperance meeting.

19. Worked at my library. The excellent Mrs. Wadsworth<sup>2</sup> died this morning. A great loss. At evening was at Mr. Wadsworth's; he is greatly afflicted. This morning there is a heavy frost.

20. We had a cold night. My sleeping chamber was cold. Labored at my books, and attended to company. The secretary is absent, and our society had no meeting. Had a new good great coat brought in, made for me. Get much fatigued.

21. Took the cars and rode to New Haven. Attended the ordination of Mr. Woolsey in the forenoon. Got in late. Dr. Bacon preached an able and very good sermon. The other services were good. Dined with the ministers of the corporation. Had several invitations. Afternoon Mr. Woolsey was inaugurated president. Pres. Day performed the official act. Mr. W. delivered an excellent address.<sup>3</sup> About 550 walked in the procession. At evening the front of all the college buildings was illuminated. Quite cool. Very kindly treated by my good friend Mr. Bishop, and his family.

22. A pretty hard frost. Rode about with Mr. Bishop. Looked at the college libraries. They are in fine order. Kindly treated by Mr. Herrick.<sup>4</sup> Took the cars and came home. Much fatigued. Read. Mrs. Wadsworth's funeral was attended yesterday by great numbers.

23. Worked at my library. Had assistance. The School Society have had their annual meeting, and appointed their visitors much the same as last year. This evening attended an adjourned meeting they had about the colored schools. Paid for foreign missions, with the Fourth Church, \$5.00.

24. Much employed in looking over, brushing, and arranging books. Pleasant, with pretty hard frosts. Afternoon Mr. Parker,<sup>5</sup> of Wapping, came and carried me to his house to spend the Sabbath. Examined a school-master. Had a good deal of company.

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<sup>1</sup> Hon. William W. Ellsworth, who for many years had a large adult Bible class in Dr. Hawes's church, and was equal to an excellent Sunday evening lecture.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Daniel Wadsworth.

<sup>3</sup> This was in 1846. This very year, 1886, the same thing transpired during Commencement. The persons were changed, but the forms remained.

<sup>4</sup> Edward Claudius Herrick, A. M., many times before named from 1843 to 1858 treasurer of the college.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Oscar F. Parker, born in Rodman, N. Y., 1811; a graduate of Yale Theological School, 1840. As stated supply and settled pastor he was at Wapping, 1842-1848. He afterward became a business man in New York.



25. Mr. Parker, having been unwell some months, is apparently recovering. Preached for him on Col. iii: 11, and Prov. xi: 7. He performed some parts. At evening we attended a thin meeting. A good society and church has grown up here since I left East Windsor.

26. Rode home with Mr. Parker by way of East Windsor Street. Looked at the new meeting-house; nearly completed. Stopped at Mrs. Wolcott's. Much complaint of drought through the country. Worked at my library. Our society had an extra meeting here.

27. Visited a colored school. Doing poorly. Waited on company. Wrote diary. Yesterday brother Frank was here. He got a hurt, but was preserved from material injury. Purchased books of Mr. Brinley, a folio and four quartos, one folio printed in 1492. At evening called on Mr. Wadsworth.

28. Rainy. A great drought prevails through the country, and streams are very low. Worked at my books. On the 27th received a letter from Augustus Fitch,<sup>1</sup> of Columbia, S. C., with a present of a valuable folio. At evening wrote.

29. A very large and respectable temperance meeting was held here. Delegates from all parts of the State. I was called to open the meeting. Worked at my books. Ursula Wolcott and Eveline<sup>2</sup> were here. Get tired with labor. At evening went again into the temperance meeting. Very full.

30. Yesterday took some cold. Read late. Worked at my books. Wrote to brother Francis, and to sister Battell. We have favorable political news.

31. Wrote to my kinsman, Dr. Chandler R. Gilman,<sup>3</sup> of New York, in answer to a letter received from him last evening. Am burdened with my cold. Attended to company. Wrote. Read my Bible.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Dr. Woods,<sup>4</sup> of Andover, preached for Dr. Hawes both parts of the day. Attended the sacrament. At evening wrote. Last evening received a letter from David A. Wells,<sup>5</sup> of Williams College. Wrote late.

2. Wrote the date of the death of several alumni in Yale College catalogue. Worked at books. Received a letter from Mr. Bacon, of Utica. A troublesome business.<sup>6</sup> Read.

3. Wrote for the catalogue. Wet and rainy. Received a letter from

<sup>1</sup> Augustus Fitch, M. D., a distinguished physician, was a native of East Windsor, and of the same general family with John Fitch, the inventor of the steamboat.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Edgar (Wolcott) Bissell.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. Chandler Robbins Gilman, M. D., son of Benjamin Ives and Hannah (Robbins) Gilman.

<sup>4</sup> Leonard Woods, D. D., Abbot Professor of Christian Theology at Andover, 1808-1846. He had just resigned his office at Andover, and gave himself to literary work.

He died in 1854. He was graduated at Harvard College in 1796, and was pastor at West Newbury, Mass., 1798-1808.

<sup>5</sup> David Ames Wells was at that time a member of the junior class in Williams College. He was graduated in 1847, and has since made himself a distinguished name, and earned a good reputation as a writer and man of science. He was a native of Springfield, Mass., born in 1828.

<sup>6</sup> He has not yet revealed the subject of this correspondence.

sister Battell. At evening had a meeting of our society here. Yesterday gave Mr. Linsley,<sup>1</sup> for the cause of religion in the West, \$5.00.

4. The Whig State Convention are sitting here. Several of the members were in here. Wrote to Mr. E. Bacon, of Utica, and to sister Battell.

5. Had a very uncomfortable night, and am quite unwell. Mr. Miller sent for my physician, Dr. Rogers, and I took physic largely. Quite ill through the day. Kindly taken care of.

6. Last night was very sick. Mr. Miller was up with me the most of the night. The physician was called in the night. Am in a measure relieved, through mercy, and hope not to have a course of fever. Am weak.

7. Had a better night, and was relieved. Can hardly sit up at all. We have most grateful news from elections in New York and New Jersey. All of divine mercy.

8. I meditate on the things of God so far as I am able; hope and pray that this sickness may be for my soul's good. Have very kind attentions and calls from friends.

9. Get some strength, but slowly. Read a little. Have much kindness from this family. At evening received a kind and favorable letter from Mrs. Bacon, of Utica.<sup>2</sup> Have a little appetite.

10. Am still oppressed with headache and dizziness. Sent for my physician. Took physic. Can read but very little. On the 4th wrote to Dr. Mackie,<sup>3</sup> of New Bedford.

11. Dr. Rogers<sup>4</sup> gave me a ride in his carriage. The first time I have been out since the 4th. Wrote these seven days of diary. Massachusetts has done remarkably well in its election.<sup>5</sup> Great are the divine mercies. We have had a long spell of dark and wet weather. Read late.

12. Still rainy and wet. Read Pres. Hopkins's funeral sermon for Prof. Kellogg.<sup>6</sup> Wrote to sister Battell, and to brother Francis. I gain strength slowly. Have calls from friends.

13. Yesterday spent the most of the day at Mrs. Brown's. Dark and chilly weather. Read. My head is easily affected with dizziness. A great change in the political state of our country.

14. Wrote. In the afternoon I walked to my room and returned, through divine mercy; quite fatigued. Read. Heard from brother F.; his wife is quite feeble.

<sup>1</sup> Joel H. Linsley, D. D., had been President of Marietta College, Ohio, 1835-1845. But before going West he had been pastor of the South Church, Hartford, 1824-1832, and of Park Street Church, Boston, 1832-1835, and had left behind him an excellent name and reputation. From 1847 to his death, in 1868, he was pastor at Greenwich, Ct.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Ezekiel Bacon, taking a part in the correspondence which had been going on between Dr. Robbins and Mr. Bacon, serves to sharpen the curiosity of the reader.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Andrew Mackie, of New Bedford, his old physician in special cases when he was in Mattapoisett.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Rogers was a Hartford physician.

<sup>5</sup> She reelected Gov. George N. Briggs, as she did every year from 1844 to 1851.

<sup>6</sup> Ebenezer Kellogg, a graduate of Yale College, 1810; had been Professor of Latin and Greek in Williams College, 1815-1844, when he retired from office. He died in 1846, at the age of fifty-seven, and Dr. Hopkins had preached a memorial sermon.

15. Read the Bible. Walked abroad considerably. Went into the Baptist meeting, near by, both parts of the day. Mr. Raymond is a good preacher. Have appetite, but get strength slowly.

16. Last night and this forenoon we had a hard rain. Very useful. Read. Afternoon went to my room. Get tired, but I believe no injury. Sleep well.

17. A pleasant day, after long, dark, and wet weather. Changed my clothes and put on my flannel. Wrote.

18. Went into the Teachers' Convention. Could stay but a short time. Am very weak. Brother F. was here and dined with me. Wrote some on my obituaries.<sup>1</sup>

19. Wet and rainy. At evening a violent storm. Wrote to sister Battell and informed her that I cannot be there at Thanksgiving, which I had hoped for. Take medicine daily. Was in at the Convention. Did something at examining a school-master.

20. Am very weak and feeble. Holy is the Lord. The ground has become very wet. Went to my room once. Many visitors from the Convention. Received a letter from Mr. Kitchell,<sup>2</sup> of Plymouth. Wrote.

21. Am better than yesterday, through mercy. I think I cannot bear stimulants. Went into the Convention. They closed this forenoon, and all speak favorably of the proceeding. Had a good deal of company.

22. Attended meeting at the South Church both parts of the day. Heard Mr. Clarke<sup>3</sup> and Mr. Hooker.<sup>4</sup> Got quite fatigued. Read the Bible.

23. Am better, in divine mercy, and feel more like returning health. Worked some at my room. Assisted in examining a school-teacher—colored. A very blustering wind all day.

24. Worked considerably at my room. Got much fatigued. Occupied with company. Not able to attend an evening lecture on the Waldenses, to which I was invited. Read. Received a letter from N. H. Griffin,<sup>5</sup> of Williams College.

25. We had a hard snow-storm all the day. Wrote. The first snow of the season. Can bear but little labor.

26. Thanksgiving. It is said that sixteen States have the same day<sup>6</sup> today. Mr. Miller had considerable company at an excellent dinner. Dr. Hawes preached remarkably well. He spoke of slavery and the Mexican War. Looked for obituaries.

<sup>1</sup> These obituaries were of his classmates who had died, and of many other alumni.

<sup>2</sup> Harvey Dennison Kitchell, D. D., born in Whitehall, N. Y., 1812; graduated at Middlebury College in 1835, and from Yale Theological Seminary in 1838; was first settled in Plymouth Hollow (now Thomaston), Ct., 1839-1848, and afterwards at Detroit, Mich., and Chicago, Ill. He was President of Middlebury College, 1866-1873, and is now living in Milwaukee, Wis.

<sup>3</sup> Walter Clarke, D. D., the pastor.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>5</sup> Nathaniel Herrick Griffin, D. D., Professor of the Latin and Greek Languages at Williams College, 1846-1853, and Librarian from 1856 to his death in 1876. He was born in Southampton, L. I., 1814.

<sup>6</sup> The last Thursday in November, which is now the day for the whole country. This universality was brought about during the years of the war, and will probably remain.

27. Winter weather; sleighs move considerably. Worked at my room. Walked out. I gain strength gradually. Read.

28. The snow wastes. Worked some. My headache and dizziness are easily brought on. Received a kind letter from Nahum Mitchell,<sup>1</sup> Esq., of Bridgewater, Mass., with a copy of his excellent history of that town. Attended to obituaries.

29. The streets very wet. Heard two very good sermons from Dr. Hawes. We have an account of a terrible disaster, the wreck of the steamboat Atlantic,<sup>2</sup> a very fine ship, with the loss of many lives. Read the Bible. At evening wrote.

30. Worked at my obituaries. On the 27th received a letter from Mr. Kitchell, of Plymouth, and sent to him, on loan, five volumes. Not able to bring up my wood. Paid a barber \$1.00, for assistance in my sickness.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Last evening called on Mr. Wadsworth. About forty lives were lost in the wreck of the Atlantic. Worked on obituaries. Read. Our society had their usual meeting here. Went into a special meeting of our Consociation.

2. Brother Francis was in this morning. His wife fails. Sister Battell came here from Norfolk. Very bad traveling. At evening attended a lecture on the Waldenses. Rain and ice and very bad walking. Labored on my obituaries. Wrote.

3. On the 1st received a letter from Mr. Harlow, of Mattapoisett. Walked out. The streets are very wet and muddy. Sister Battell went to Enfield. Read.

4. Last night I was considerably unwell. I believe I took some cold. Visited my good friend, Mr. Parsons. He is very low, and I fear will not live. Wrote to Dr. Thomas H. Webb, Boston.

5. Received of Mr. J. B. Hosmer, \$65.00—\$45.00 for the current year, beginning Sept. 1st last, and \$20.00 on the account of the year preceding. Paid Mr. Miller on my boarding-bill, \$20.00. Rode in the cars to Enfield. My sister-in-law is very feeble. In the mercy of God I am able to get out. Quite fatigued.

6. Pleasant, but the ground hard frozen. Preached for my brother on Luke xxiii: 44, and Rev. xxii: 11. My brother performed part of the services. Not so much fatigued as I expected. Did not go out in the evening. The congregation here is a very good one.

7. A very cold morning. Wrote. Took the cars at Thompsonville, after dinner, and rode home. The mercury this morning at Springfield was at

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<sup>1</sup> Judge Nahum Mitchell, who was before noticed.

<sup>2</sup> That terrible destruction took place on the night before Thanksgiving—the night of Nov. 25. The Atlantic left New London with a full load of passengers, many of them going to spend Thanksgiving at their homes

or with their kindred. Many lives were lost, and among the rest William Jessup Armstrong, D.D., one of the secretaries of the American Board. Dr. Armstrong was born in Mendham, N. J., Oct. 29, 1796. He served as Secretary of the American Board, 1834–1846, and was greatly esteemed.

14°. Wrote to Mr. Horatio Seymour,<sup>1</sup> of Middlebury, Vt. My dizziness is tedious. Paid for labor, \$2.00.

8. Had a man to bring up wood for me. Worked at books. The ground very muddy at the surface. Wrote to my classmate Charles Bostwick, of Bridgeport.

9. Quite cold. The President's Message came. It is a quibbling, foolish thing.<sup>2</sup> At evening heard a lecture on the Character of Cromwell.<sup>3</sup> Have some cold. On the 7th examined a school-teacher. Paid for washing, eighty-one cents.

10. My head is much oppressed with a cold. Had help in working at my books. Mrs. Battell was in here. Paid Mr. Brinley, \$25.00. Wrote to M. B. Whittlesey, Esq., of Danbury.

11. I am very unwell with my cold. Mrs. Battell went off in the stage for Norfolk. Wrote. At noon left my room, not expecting to return for the day. It snowed the most of the day. Kept my bed most of the afternoon and evening.

12. Very unwell; had a physician. Have much pain in the head, and internal fever. A good deal of snow and sleighing.

13. Cold and clear. Am wholly confined. Last night was very sick. Can read very little. The Lord is most holy in his unsearchable dealings.

14. I suppose I took a cold sleeping in a cold chamber at Enfield, on a cold night after the 5th, and perhaps have taken some additions afterwards, which brought me down.

15. Am very feeble. Sat up but little. Wrote. Received a letter from sister Battell.

16. Very cold. Thermometer this morning at 14°. Wrote to sister Battell. Had a good letter from brother James, and one from Bristol, Kendall County, Ill., from my cousin William B. Le Baron. He is there a farmer. Read.

17. Steady, severe cold. Wrote. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott, East Windsor. Received a letter from Mr. Stillman L. Lathrop, Lexington, Mass. Afternoon and evening we had a hard snow-storm.

18. There is a good deal of snow, but the cold is much abated. Went out of the house, in divine mercy; spent most of the day at Mr. Brown's. Read. The proceedings of the President about the war are strongly censured. Read the Bible.

19. I have a steady internal fever, and gain but very little. Brother

<sup>1</sup> Horatio Seymour, LL. D., born in Litchfield, Ct., May 31, 1778; graduated at Yale College, 1797; studied law at the Litchfield Law School, and established himself as a lawyer in Middlebury, Vt., in 1799. From 1809 to 1817 he was a member of the Governor's Council, and from 1821 to 1833 he was United States Senator. Philip Battell, Esq., of Middlebury, married his daughter.

<sup>2</sup> Can any good thing come out of a Democrat?

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Carlyle published his *Life and Letters of Cromwell* in 1845. That work wrought a revolution in the minds of men about Cromwell. Before that time the kingly and aristocratic classes in England had acted as Cromwell's interpreters, and had given a very false idea of the man.

Francis called on me. He thinks his wife will hardly continue through the year. Received a letter from Ursula Wolcott. Walked out a little. A great abundance of sleighing.

20. Hope, through mercy, I am a little improving. Read the precious Bible. Walked a short distance, and sat a little while in the Baptist meeting. Wrote.

21. An abundance of sleighing. Mr. S. T. Wolcott called on me. They have sold the pews in their new meeting-house with great success. Wrote a scrap for the newspaper. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott. Have a good deal of headache. Had a number of calls. Read.

22. Am very weak with the operation of medicine. Wrote to J. Humphrey, Esq., Brooklyn, N. Y. A good day for the Plymouth anniversary.<sup>1</sup> Can write but little.

23. The new meeting-house in East Windsor is to be dedicated today. A great disappointment that I cannot be with them. Walked out a little, but found it too cold. Wrote to Rev. Dr. Crane,<sup>2</sup> of Middletown. Read a valuable number of a new religious periodical<sup>3</sup> from Boston.

24. Very cold. The mercury said to be at 6°. Dr. Rogers carried me out in a sleigh. Very good sleighing. Had company. My kinsman, William Lawrence, of Norfolk, called on me. My convalescence is slow. Holy is the Lord.

25. Much attention is paid to Christmas. Presents are abundant. The cold much moderated. Rode to the Retreat. Wrote. Gideon Alden<sup>4</sup> has just come in, and informs me that my brother's wife deceased last evening. May God give him divine support. Our family are wasting away. At evening rainy.

26. Have a watcher nightly. Very cold. Went to my room at the Athenaeum. My good friend, Dr. Whitman, who has been my companion the most of the time since I came here, died last night, aged eighty-six.<sup>5</sup> Yesterday wrote to Rev. Jonathan Lee, of Salisbury. My appetite returns.

27. Read the Bible. In the morning attended meeting at the South Church, and heard young Mr. Buckley.<sup>6</sup> Wrote to my brother Francis in his affliction.

28. Wet, and the snow thaws. I could not attend the funeral of Dr. Whitman. Wrote to T. J. Oakley and to Mr. Isaac Lewis, both of New York.

<sup>1</sup> Forefathers' Day. Dr. Robbins never forgot the day of the landing.

<sup>2</sup> John R. Crane, D. D., was pastor of the First Church in Middletown, 1818-1856. He was born in Newark, N. J., 1787, and was graduated at the College of New Jersey in 1805. He was a member of the first class in Andover, 1810. He died in Middletown, August, 1856. His son, Rev. James B. Crane, was colleague with him, 1854-1856.

<sup>3</sup> Probably the *Christian Observatory*, which continued three years, edited and

conducted by Alexander Wilson McClure, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Son of Mrs. Francis Le Baron Robbins by her former marriage with Gideon S. Alden. Mrs. Robbins was Priscilla Le Baron, daughter of William Le Baron, of Fairhaven, Mass. She was born in 1781.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. William Whitman, son of Rev. El-nathan Whitman, of the South Church, Hartford.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. C. H. A. Buckley, pastor at West Winsted, 1854-1859.

Mr. Eldridge, of Norfolk, called here. Had company. Attended to obituaries.

29. Cold again. Walked twice to my historical rooms, through divine mercy, but my strength is weakness. Wrote. Yesterday morning dismissed my watcher. They have a favorable day for the funeral of my sister at Enfield. Had company.

30. Wet and rainy the most of the day. Did not go out. Wrote to three classmates, E. Stearns, T. Bishop, and H. Belden,<sup>1</sup> for assistance in my collection of obituaries. I gain some strength from divine mercy.

31. Walked out. The mercury above 40°. Did a few errands. The sleighing is about gone; continued more than a month. Got quite fatigued. Had company. At evening sister Battell and daughter called on me, returning from Enfield. Looked for obituaries. Infinite wisdom has afflicted me with disease about two months; otherwise I have had a very pleasant and prosperous year. Though unprofitable, I yet am the subject of sparing mercy.

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<sup>1</sup> Elisha Stearns, Timothy Bishop, and Heskiah Belden.

## 1847.

### JANUARY.

1. The first time that I have written this date. How sure and solemn is the progress of time! If I am preserved through this year, I shall pass my three-score and ten.<sup>1</sup> Have endeavored to review the past year with humility, and to consecrate myself anew to the disposal of a holy God. Warm for the season. My sister went off for home. Saw President Hopkins. Not able to attend his lecture in the evening. Walked out. Had calls. There is a great deal of visiting and giving gifts here. Could not attend Dr. Hawes's fast exercise.<sup>2</sup> Sent a request for remembrance in their prayers. Read the Bible.

2. Last evening received a letter from George W. Howland, of New Bedford. Looked over obituaries. A little labor fatigues me. Streets very muddy. Walked considerably.

3. Attended Dr. Hawes's morning meeting and the sacrament. His performances were excellent. At evening wrote. Read the Bible.

4. Went to my room. Made this almanack. I have gone through fifty-one. Wrote. My debility affects my writing.

5. Warm. Mercury at 50°. Walked out. Received of Hartford Bank, \$17.50. Paid for candles, etc., \$3.33. Received a letter from Little & Brown, Boston. At evening attended a short time at the meeting of our society.

6. Had a poor night. Last evening brother Francis came here and spent the night. He appears well after his affliction. Warm. Read. Paid a bill of \$1.98. Received a letter from Mr. Herrick,<sup>3</sup> of New Haven. Went to my room. Looked over obituaries.

7. Rainy. Walked out and got a little wet. Wrote. In great mercy my strength gains.

8. Cold again. Paid a bill for horse-hire, \$6.00. Paid a merchant's bill, \$2.33. Paid John Olmsted, \$5.00. Received of the town treasurer, for visiting schools, \$52.00.<sup>4</sup> Wrote. Received a letter from Asa Coombs, of New Bedford.

9. Walked out. Mercury below 20°. Wrote. Read Bible. On the 7th wrote to Prof. Goodrich,<sup>5</sup> of New Haven. Received a letter from Dr. Webb, of Boston.

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<sup>1</sup> He would be seventy years old on the 11th of the following August.

<sup>2</sup> This first day of the year seems to have been set apart, by the Centre Church (and perhaps the other churches in Hartford) as a day of fasting and prayer.

<sup>3</sup> Edward Claudius Herrick, Treasurer of Yale College.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins well earned the money which he received for his labors among the schools.

<sup>5</sup> Prof. Chauncey A. Goodrich, D. D.



10. In the morning heard Mr. Cook<sup>1</sup> at the Centre Church. Afternoon and evening it snowed some and I did not go out. Read the Bible. Wrote.
11. It snowed the most of the day. Did not go out. Worked at my obituaries. It is a laborious business. Read.
12. Rode out in a sleigh. Dined with Mr. Cook and Mr. Eastman,<sup>2</sup> of the Tract Society, at Governor Ellsworth's.<sup>3</sup> My cousin Robbins Battell called on me.
13. Wrote to Thomas B. Osborne,<sup>4</sup> Esq., of Fairfield. Severe cold. Worked at obituaries. This family had company. Am able, through mercy, to increase my labor in a degree. Walked out and did errands.
14. Our Mexican War is conducted most miserably.<sup>5</sup> Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston, and sent them a draft of \$30.00. Paid my shoemaker, \$8.00. Gave Mr. Eastman, for Tract Society, \$4.00. Walked a good deal. Snow thaws. Thermometer 40°.
15. Wrote. Read Bible. Received of Mr. Hosmer, \$44.00. Paid Mr. Miller, \$50.00. Paid for tailor work, .75. Worked a little at my room, and I think I took some cold. The Lord be my helper. Was out at tea.
16. Wrote. Troubled with tremor. Warm, and the streets very wet. Walked out. Am quite weak. Received a very good letter about obituaries from Rev. Jonathan Lee,<sup>6</sup> of Salisbury. Have some headache.
17. Cold again. Oppressed with my cold. Read my Bible and the *Recorder*. In the afternoon went out and heard Prof. Fitch,<sup>7</sup> who preached for Dr. Hawes. Can do but little.
18. Burdened with my cold. Worked at obituaries. Received a letter from Mr. Jared Sparks,<sup>8</sup> of Salem; and one from Little & Brown, Boston; and one from Burnham & Sons, Boston.
19. Had a poor night. Slept but little. My head very full. Spent some time at my room. Cold, and did not go to my room in the evening to attend the usual meeting of our society. Had some old wine of Lee & Butler.
20. Renewed my note at bank. Received \$47.40. Paid Mr. Brinley, \$25.00. Cold. Spent some time at my room. Received a letter from T. B. Osborne, of Fairfield. Worked at obituaries.

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Russell S. Cook, Secretary of American Tract Society, a graduate of Williams College, 1838.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Ornan Eastman, Secretary of American Tract Society, a graduate of Yale, 1821.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Wm. W. Ellsworth.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Burr Osborne, LL. D., a graduate of Yale College, 1817, had been a Member of Congress.

<sup>5</sup> Perhaps the *conduct* of the war was better than the *war itself*.

<sup>6</sup> The first minister of Salisbury, Ct., was Rev. Jonathan Lee, who was graduated at Yale, 1742, and was pastor at Salisbury, 1744-

1788. The Rev. Jonathan Lee here mentioned was not a pastor at Salisbury, but was graduated at Yale, 1809.

<sup>7</sup> Eleazar T. Fitch, D. D., Professor of Divinity at Yale College, and preacher at the College Chapel, 1817-1852.

<sup>8</sup> Jared Sparks, LL. D., was born in Willington, Ct., 1789. Graduated at Harvard College, 1815. At the time of this entry Mr. Sparks was McLean Professor of History in the college, which office he held 1839-1849. He was President of the college, 1849-1852. As an author and prolific historical writer he is far more widely known than by his official connection with the college.

21. Cold. Made a fire in my room and spent some time there. Received an excellent letter, with obituaries, from H. Belden, Esq., of Wethersfield. Another from George G. Webster, Yale College. Read and wrote.

22. The mercury at 13°. Went to my room, but found the cold injurious. Have some pain at my left side. Wrote. Worked at obituaries. On the 19th received a letter from Charles Bostwick, Bridgeport.

23. Still clear and cold. Did a few errands. Afternoon rode in a close carriage to East Windsor. Mrs. Miller went with me and returned. I think I have not gained this week in health. Righteous is the Lord. At my old home.

24. Attended meeting in their neat, commodious new meeting-house. Mr. Smith preaches well. Did not go in the afternoon. The cold abates. Am quite feeble. Read Bible.

25. Remarkably pleasant for the season. Walked out considerably. Am kindly accommodated here. Read. Wrote.

26. Walked out. I hope I am improving. The ground is bare and hard frozen. Looked over old newspapers. Read.

27. Walked out in a cold and tedious wind. Worked at obituaries. Mr. Smith<sup>1</sup> called on me. Mrs. Wolcott<sup>2</sup> is quite feeble. Very cold. Yesterday wrote to Asa Coombs, of New Bedford.

28. We had a very cold morning. Wrote. Walked out. Afternoon went to the meeting of the church, which had a day of fast. There appear hopeful tokens of divine influences. The Lord be their helper. Visited old friends.

29. The cold abates. Have had a pleasant visit here. Through divine mercy, I think my health is improved. Took the stage and rode home.<sup>3</sup> Made a fire in my room. Read. At evening we had a hard rain.

30. Wrote. Have a good deal of pain in my side. Spent some time at my room. Wrote to Mr. Leonard Hammond, of Mattapoisett.

31. My pain at my side is such that I sent for my physician. He made prescriptions. Attended meeting at the Centre and the South.<sup>4</sup> Severe cold. Read the Bible. We have had a cold wintry month.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Very cold and rough weather. Am better than I was yesterday. Worked at obituaries. Read. Was out considerably. Was up late.

2. Walked out and at my room. Attended at evening the usual meeting of our society. Paid \$2.00 for my annual *Courant*. Weather moderates.

3. A steady rain; at evening violent. Worked diligently at obituaries. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott. Am able, through mercy, to do more than I have done. Read.

4. Cold again and windy. Yesterday's rain has broken up the river.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Levi Smith, of East Windsor.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Abiel Wolcott.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins evidently was at East Windsor at the time covered by the last two en-

tries, so that his whole visit there was not far from a week.

<sup>4</sup> Went to church all day after the visit of his physician.

Wrote to brother Francis. Was out some in the cold. Worked at my obituaries and made considerable progress. It is a long business.

5. Very cold. Cannot make my room warm enough to render it safe for me to continue in it. Paid Mr. Andrus,<sup>1</sup> for books and bindings, \$6.00, and balances account. Received a letter from Mr. Hamlin, of Boston. Wrote. Walked considerably.

6. Did errands. Cold abates some. Afternoon took the cars and rode to Windsor Locks. Kindly entertained at Mr. Haskell's.<sup>2</sup> I hope the excursion may be beneficial to me.

7. Attended meeting. Mr. Allen<sup>3</sup> is a good preacher. Assisted at the sacrament. A young and respectable congregation. They meet in the basement of their new meeting-house. A very pleasant day. Read Bible.

8. Rode with Thomas R. Haskell<sup>4</sup> to Enfield and called on brother Francis. He has lately been to Lenox, and says that brother James is very feeble. We fear that he has nearly done with the present life. Good traveling. Wrote to Governor Tomlinson,<sup>5</sup> of Greenfield.<sup>6</sup> Read.

9. Moderate weather. The ground thaws. Wrote to the postmaster of Hallowell, Maine;<sup>7</sup> and to the postmaster in Manchester, Vermont.<sup>8</sup> Looked at some of their manufactories here. They are great. Called on Mr. Allen.

10. Wrote. Rode home in the cars. Think I am improving by my excursion. Spent some time in my room. The ground thaws.

11. Received letter from A. H. Seabury, of New Bedford, and wrote to him. Wrote to Azariah Eldridge,<sup>9</sup> Yale College. Kept considerably in my room.

12. I bless God that I may again occupy my chamber, though I am weak and have internal pains. Wrote to Edwin Hall,<sup>10</sup> minister at Norwalk. The Massachusetts Delegation to the Asylum called on me. The streets muddy.

13. Had a good deal of company. Had a pleasant visit from my nephew, Ammi Robbins, of New York. Difficult to get a good temperature in my room. Read Mr. Calhoun's excellent speech in the Senate.

<sup>1</sup> Silas Andrus, one of the old standard printers and book-publishers of Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> Harris Haskell.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel H. Allen, who was ordained pastor of this infant church the year before.

<sup>4</sup> His namesake, Thomas Robbins Haskell, had then grown to be a young man of twenty years. His mother, it will be remembered, was Frances Wolcott.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. Gideon Tomlinson, Governor of Connecticut, 1827-1831.

<sup>6</sup> Greenfield was a parish of Fairfield, Ct., where Timothy Dwight, D. D., was settled when he was called to the presidency of Yale College in 1795.

<sup>7</sup> Hallowell, Me., was the place where

Chandler Robbins, Jr., oldest child of Chandler Robbins, D. D., of Plymouth, had lived and been Judge of Probate. He died in 1834, and doubtless Dr. Robbins was making inquiries about him and his family.

<sup>8</sup> Manchester, Vermont, had been the old home of his Uncle and Aunt Gould.

<sup>9</sup> Azariah Eldridge, D. D., was tutor at Yale, 1845-1847. He afterwards married Ellen Battell. He and his brother, Joseph Eldridge, D. D., married sisters.

<sup>10</sup> Edwin Hall, D. D., was pastor at Norwalk, Ct., 1832-1855. He was a graduate of Middlebury College in 1826. He was afterwards professor in Auburn Theological Seminary, and known as an able writer. He wrote the *History of the Town of Norwalk, Ct.*

14. Attended at the Fourth both parts of the day. Afternoon Mr. Patton preached on the distresses of Ireland, and we had a contribution with all the societies at the desire of the Common Council. Read Bible. Wrote.

15. Last evening wrote to Rev. Edwin Hall, of Norwalk. Attended at my room. Took tea at Mr. Brinley's. Have my wood brought to my chamber.

16. Much occupied with company. At evening heard a part of a lecture by Mr. Upham,<sup>1</sup> on Roger Williams.<sup>2</sup> Our society had a meeting here.

17. Wrote. Paid a merchant's bill of \$1.75. Wrote to Dr. Field,<sup>3</sup> of Haddam, and Mr. Sparks,<sup>4</sup> of Salem. Was out at tea. Have internal pains. Congress has passed a noble vote against slavery.

18. Worked at my obituaries. Occupied with company. Read the Bible. Wet and thawing.

19. It snowed considerably. Wrote some articles for the newspaper. Received a letter from Mr. Hall, of Norwalk. Was out at tea. Bought good letter paper at \$2.00 per ream.

20. Read. Wrote to Mr. Simeon Hart, of Farmington. Had a good deal of company.

21. It snowed steadily through the day. Did not go out of the house. Read the Bible. Wrote to my brother James. At evening wrote to Rev. Dr. Todd,<sup>5</sup> of Pittsfield. Am wearing a large plaster on my side.

22. The snow is nine or ten inches; the largest of the winter. Last week wrote to R. D. Smith,<sup>6</sup> Esq., Guilford. It continued to snow through the day. As much as yesterday. The committee of the school visitors met here. Wrote to Rev. Z. Swift,<sup>7</sup> of Derby. Read.

23. People shoveling snow. Brother Francis here. He says that brother James has had a poor turn and is quite low. I fear he is near the close of life. Wrote on obituaries. Our God is infinitely wise and holy.

24. A very cold morning. The mercury I saw at 8°. I conclude it must have been at 5°. Received a letter from sister Battell. Last evening received a kind letter from the postmaster in Hallowell. Difficult to get my chamber well warmed. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Bacon, of New Haven, one from Judge Oakley,<sup>8</sup> of New York, and a very valuable one from R. D. Smith, Esq., of Guilford. Am fatigued.

25. Thermometer about 20°. Good sleighing. Had a good deal of com-

<sup>1</sup> This may have been Prof. Thomas C. Upham, of Bowdoin College, a very choice thinker and writer.

<sup>2</sup> Roger Williams was in his life-time a debater, and he has been a fruitful subject of debate through all the years of our New England history.

<sup>3</sup> David Dudley Field, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Jared Sparks, LL. D.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. John Todd, Sr.

<sup>6</sup> Ralph Dunning Smyth, who made large and valuable collections toward an obituary history of Yale College. The material thus

gathered has aided greatly in the recent history of the early Yale graduates by Franklin B. Dexter, A. M., Secretary of Yale College.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Zephaniah Swift, pastor at Derby from 1813 to his death in 1848. He was graduated at Dartmouth College, 1795.

<sup>8</sup> Hon. Thomas Jackson Oakley, LL. D., graduated at Yale College, 1801. He was born in Dutchess County, in 1783, and died in New York City, 1857. He was a Member of Congress and Chief-Justice of the Superior Court of New York.

pany. Worked at my obituaries. Had a good number sent me by Dr. Chapin.<sup>1</sup> Read.

26. Very cold morning. Mercury at 8° at eight o'clock. My internal pains continue. Writing affects me. Walked considerably. Wrote on obituaries.

27. Wrote. Had considerable company. Afternoon and evening we had a hard rain. Cold, and snow did not fall much. Mercury in the morning about 25°. Our army in Mexico have misfortunes.<sup>2</sup> A most wicked war.

28. Cold wind. Much water on the ground. Heard Mr. Clarke at the South Church both parts of the day. Have a good deal of internal pains. Read the Bible. Took medicine.

#### MARCH.

1. Very cold and tedious. Rode with Mr. Morgan and visited Gravel Hill School. Went to the northwest district and found that school was closed last Saturday. Last evening wrote to Eben Learned,<sup>3</sup> Esq., New London. Received a very good letter from Capt. Allen Dexter, of Mattapoisett. There is a good deal of grace among my people there. *Laus Deo.*

2. It is still pretty good sleighing. Wrote on obituaries. Had a good deal of company. Received a kind letter from Dr. Crane,<sup>4</sup> of Middletown. At evening our society had their regular meeting here, and voted to remove my portrait to this room.<sup>5</sup> Heard a part of a lecture from Mr. Farrington, on the partition of Poland.<sup>6</sup>

3. I exercise a good deal; but my lungs appear to be affected. Wrote considerably. The cold abates. Made a call. Read late.

4. Wrote. Paid my merchant tailor, \$10.00. Wrote on my obituaries. Pleasant, and the snow settles gradually. Attended at a funeral.

5. Took some cold, I believe, last night, and am unwell. Rode and visited the North School. The sleighing is about done. Congress has closed most miserably. Wrote.

6. Have a good deal of internal pain. Occupied with company. Wrote on obituaries. Have to hire my wood brought up from the cellar. Read.

7. Heard Dr. Hawes both parts of the day. Attended the sacrament. Wet, and the snow wastes. Read Bible. Kept mostly in my own room. At evening wrote to Rev. H. P. Arms,<sup>7</sup> Norwich.

8. On the 6th Mr. and Mrs. Robinson,<sup>8</sup> of Suffield, were here. Very

<sup>1</sup> Calvin Chapin, D. D., of Rocky Hill, Ct.

<sup>2</sup> The war may have been unjust, but the Mexicans had far greater misfortunes than the Americans.

<sup>3</sup> Ebenezer Learned, A. M., a prominent citizen and magistrate of New London, was graduated at Yale College in 1798, and died in 1858. Ebenezer Learned, Jr., was graduated at Yale in 1831.

<sup>4</sup> John R. Crane, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> At his boarding-place. But now the

picture hangs on the walls of the Wadsworth Atheneum, where his library is to be found.

<sup>6</sup> It was in 1847, after various breaks and divisions, that Poland was made a Russian province. Who this Mr. Farrington was that gave the lecture we have not been able to find.

<sup>7</sup> Hiram P. Arms, D. D., pastor of First Church, Norwich, from 1836 to his recent death.

<sup>8</sup> Mrs. Robinson, as before explained, was

pleasant. Mercury up to 50°. Sister Battell came here. Brother James is very low. Sat for a daguerreotype likeness. On the 6th my valuable painted portrait was brought up from the picture gallery to my room. Wrote to Francis Bacon, Esq., Litchfield, to Mr. John Witter, of Plainfield, and to Rev. Mr. Gillett,<sup>1</sup> of Branford. Sat a while in the court room. Was up late and fatigued. Read.

9. Sister Battell spent most of the day at the Retreat. Worked at obituaries. Occupied with company. At evening, with my sister Battell, heard a very fine lecture from Dr. Tyng,<sup>2</sup> of New York. He gave an excellent account of the four great monarchies,<sup>3</sup> but was weak on the fifth.<sup>4</sup> The sleighing is about gone.

10. Wet. My sister went off for Lenox. Am disappointed of having half of my salary at the middle of the year. Have to borrow at the bank. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Learned, of New London. Wrote to Nathaniel Smith, of Woodbury.

11. Paid Mr. Miller, for board and store bill, \$100.00. At evening was at Mr. Wadsworth's. Wrote on my obituary.

12. Last night received a letter from cousin Ammi, at Lenox. His father was a little more comfortable. Wrote to Dr. Chapin, Rocky Hill, Rev. Mr. Crocker,<sup>5</sup> Upper Middletown,<sup>6</sup> and Rev. E. Hall, Norwalk. Examined Miss Susan Tuttle as a school-teacher. At evening walked out. Cold. Read.

13. Visited Washington Street School. Had a good deal of company. Wrote to Mr. Theophilus Smith, of New Canaan. Received a letter from sister Battell, and one from Mr. Allen,<sup>7</sup> Windsor Locks. On the 11th received a very kind letter from Dr. Field, of Haddam, with many names for my obituary,<sup>8</sup> and one from Mr. S. Swift, of Manchester, Vermont.

14. Attended meeting at the Fourth Church, and heard Mr. Patton. Kept at my own room. Read. At evening wrote to Capt. Allen Dexter, of Mattapoisett. Yesterday had my physician again. He speaks favorably of my case.

15. Wrote to Ralph D. Smith,<sup>9</sup> Esq., of Guilford, Dr. Dow,<sup>10</sup> of Thompson,

the daughter of Rev. Ebenezer Gay, Jr., and her husband, Rev. Henry Robinson, had been settled, 1831-1837, as colleague with Mr. Gay.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Timothy Phelps Gillett, who had been settled at Branford since 1808.

<sup>2</sup> Stephen H. Tyng, D. D., born in Newburyport in 1800, graduated at Harvard College, 1817. A very popular preacher and writer.

<sup>3</sup> Assyrian, Persian (or Medo-Persian), Grecian, and Roman.

<sup>4</sup> Whether he here means the real kingdom of Christ, which is the fifth monarchy in the true Scriptural sense, or the mongrel "fifth

monarchy," does not appear. In English history, two hundred and fifty years ago, there are frequent references to the fifth-monarchy men. They were the radicals of the Commonwealth period in England. They expected the immediate second coming of Christ.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Zebulon Crocker.

<sup>6</sup> Now Cromwell, Ct.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Samuel H. Allen.

<sup>8</sup> Dr. Robbins's obituaries are far more extensive than we at first supposed.

<sup>9</sup> Ralph Dunning Smyth, before noticed.

<sup>10</sup> Daniel Dow, D. D., pastor at Thompson, Ct., 1796-1849.

Mr. Booth,<sup>1</sup> of Coventry, Rev. Edwin R. Gilbert,<sup>2</sup> of Wallingford, and Mr. David Hamblen,<sup>3</sup> of Boston. Quite cold.

16. Went with Mr. Morgan and visited the third department of the South School; ninety-two little scholars. Wrote. At evening heard a good lecture from Gov. Cass.<sup>4</sup> A great collection of people. Our society had no meeting. A smart squall of snow. Received a good letter from Mr. Simeon Hart, of Farmington.

17. Have returned to my chamber at Mr. Miller's from my sick room below. Walked out. Last night very cold. Rev. Mr. Smith,<sup>5</sup> of Worcester, made me a good call. Afternoon rode with others in the cars to Windsor Locks, and assisted in dedicating their new meeting-house. A pleasant occasion. Ten ministers were present. Returned in the evening. Mr. and Mrs. Miller had an elegant party.

18. I think, through great mercy, my health is improved. Visited the first department of the South School; a very long exercise. A fine school. The cold abates. Received of the Phoenix Bank a dividend of \$60.00. A very good one. Received a letter from Dr. Chapin, one from Francis Bacon, Litchfield, and one from Serenus Swift, of Manchester, Vermont.

19. Visited a small school and gave a certificate to the teacher. Worked at my obituaries. Yesterday wrote to John Wattles, Esq., Lebanon. Paid Brown & Drake, bookbinders, \$20.00. Paid E. Gleason, for obituary names, \$3.00. Wrote. Paid today, \$23.00. Wrote in the evening.

20. Visited the Orphan School. Had a good deal of company. I get much fatigued. Read.

21. Wet and rainy. Heard Dr. Tucker<sup>6</sup> both parts of the day. At evening wrote to D. S. Boardman,<sup>7</sup> of New Milford, Thomas Gray,<sup>8</sup> of Windham, and J. O. Pettibone,<sup>9</sup> of Simsbury.

22. Rainy and cold. Worked at my obituary. I think I have taken some cold and am more unwell. Mr. Miller went off for New York.

23. Wet and rainy and snow. Worked at my obituary. Am more unwell

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Chauncey Booth, pastor at South Coventry, Ct., 1815-1844.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Edwin Randolph Gilbert, pastor at Wallingford, Ct., 1832, to his death in 1874. He was a graduate of Yale, 1829, and on the Yale Board of Trustees, 1849-1874.

<sup>3</sup> David Hamblen was partner with John Benson, Commission Merchants, 8 City Wharf, Boston.

<sup>4</sup> Lewis Cass, a very prominent politician and statesman, was born in Exeter, N. H., in 1782, and died in Detroit, Mich., 1866. Few men have held more offices, State and national, civil and military, than he.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. George Phillips Smith was born in Salem, 1814, graduated at Amherst, 1835, and at Andover, 1840, pastor at Winchester,

Mass., 1841-1845, and at the First Church, Worcester, 1845, to his death, 1852.

<sup>6</sup> Mark Tucker, D. D., who was pastor of the church in Wethersfield, 1845-1856. He was a graduate of Union College in 1814.

<sup>7</sup> David Sherman Boardman was a graduate of Yale College in 1793. He lived to old age, dying in 1864, seventy-one years out of college.

<sup>8</sup> Thomas Gray was a graduate of Yale in 1815. These letters probably were sent by Dr. Robbins to gain information for his obituaries. Mr. Gray died in 1860.

<sup>9</sup> John Owen Pettibone was graduated at Yale, 1805, and lived till 1876, seventy-one years from his graduation. He died last in a class of forty-two.

than last week. Our Mexican army have a hard time. The divine judgments may be justly upon us.

24. Worked at my library. Wrote. Had a good deal of company. Received a good letter from Mr. Stearns, of Tolland; and a poor one from John Wattles, of Lebanon. Had Mr. Gleason<sup>1</sup> to assist me on my obituary.

25. Visited two schools; one colored. Pleasant, after the long equinoctial storm. Mercury about 50°. Gave a certificate to a school-teacher. On the 23d Mr. R. D. Smith, of Guilford, called on me. Wrote in the evening.

26. Worked at my obituary. Occupied with company. Afternoon and evening a very heavy rain. In the evening had a letter from my nephew, at Lenox, Ammi Robbins, announcing the death of my dear brother James, at two o'clock last night. Holy, holy is the Lord. Just one half of our family now sleep.<sup>2</sup> I shall, mostly likely, next follow. He, I trust, has entered into an eternal rest. May God help us all to profit by this visitation.

27. A violent squall of snow. Wrote to Dr. Chapin. Received a very good letter from David S. Boardman, Esq., New Milford. Preparing for my journey. The waters are high. Wrote.

28. Very cold and tedious wind. Heard Dr. Hawes. Have pain in my side. Wrote. Fitted my room to be left. Had two requests to preach today, which I was obliged to decline.

29. Took the cars early for my mournful journey. At Thompsonville, brother Francis joined me. It snowed a little, which much increased as we ascended the high lands after leaving Springfield. At Washington we had a long hindrance. Went on to Pittsfield, thence to Lenox in a public sleigh. Brother James's remains retain his countenance. A house of mourning. Found sister Battell here, and three of James's sons. Mr. Eggleston, from New York, and Mr. Eldridge and wife, R. Battell and his sister, and Anna Grant, from Norfolk.<sup>3</sup> The family appear well, solemn and composed. I am fatigued.

30. A mournful day. Walked out. The snow is nearly a foot deep. People move in sleighs. Mr. Clarke and his wife,<sup>4</sup> our cousins, came from Richmond. In the afternoon we buried my good brother; Mr. Eldridge<sup>5</sup> preached very well, and gave a good biographical sketch of him. Mr. Clarke and Mr. Neill,<sup>6</sup> the new minister here, took part in the services. I spoke a little at the grave. The people here universally speak of brother James with great respect, as a friend and neighbor, and especially as an exemplary

<sup>1</sup> P. B. Gleason, the Hartford publisher.

<sup>2</sup> In this estimate Dr. Robbins does not include the children dying in infancy. In his family there were thirteen children, of whom five died in very early life. Eight lived to manhood and womanhood. Of these the dead were his brother Ammi Ruhamah, Jr., who died in 1843, his sister Elizabeth who died in 1815, his brother Nathaniel who died in 1841, and his brother James Watson whose

death was just reported. The living were his brothers Samuel and Francis Le Baron, his sister, Mrs. Battell, and himself.

<sup>3</sup> The strong family feeling appears in this gathering of the kindred, in the wintry weather, from places so far away.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Eber L. and Sally (Lawrence) Clarke.

<sup>5</sup> Joseph Eldridge, D. D., of Norfolk.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Henry Neill, D. D., before noticed.



and active Christian. I shall, most probably, be the next to be removed from our family circle. Be it as God pleases. We have been preserved many years.

31. It snowed pretty fast in the morning. I concluded to go with brother Francis. We had a solemn separation. Was carried to Pittsfield, and took the cars. Came to Springfield, and the Hartford cars had been gone an hour. We had to wait till evening. Called on Mr. Oliver B. Morris.<sup>1</sup> An interesting visit. At evening took the cars and came home. Had a prosperous journey. A good deal of snow here. It fell mostly this morning. My health has been mercifully preserved.

APRIL.

1. Last evening received a long and valuable letter from Rev. Theophilus Smith,<sup>2</sup> of New Canaan, and one from Mr. Jared Sparks, of Salem. Had much to do in regulating my room. Attended to company. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Hall,<sup>3</sup> of Norwalk. A good deal of snow here.

2. Fast. Dr. Bacon, of New Haven, preached, on exchange with Dr. Hawes. Read the Bible. Wrote on diary. Have pain in my side. The Fast pretty well observed. Great excitement on the subject of the approaching election.

3. Wrote on my obituary. Had assistance from Mr. Gleason. Waited on company. The mercury was above 50°, and the snow is mostly gone.

4. Heard Mr. Patton, and afternoon, Mr. Oakley, Methodist, at the Fourth Church. The ground is very wet. At evening attended monthly concert. Dr. Bacon performed the service. Read the Bible.

5. The State election. A favorable day. I feel a great anxiety about the issue, but do not go to the polls. Worked at my obituary. Received a good letter from Rev. Mr. Arms,<sup>4</sup> of Norwich. Walked a good deal.

6. Wrote. We have most pleasing news; through God's mercy our State election has issued in the most favorable manner, even exceeding sanguine expectation.<sup>5</sup> Gen. Taylor has obtained a decided victory over the Mexicans, in a hard fought battle;<sup>6</sup> honorable to our arms, but a most unjust war on our part. Worked at my obituary with help. At evening rainy. Our society had a small meeting. Was out late.

7. Wrote on my obituary the most of the day. I bless God that I am able to do so much. Received a letter from Mr. Albro, of Cambridge.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Oliver Bliss Morris was a graduate of Williams College in 1801. He died in 1871.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Theophilus Smith was pastor at New Canaan, Ct., 1831, to his death, 1853. He was born in Halifax, Vt., February 17, 1800, graduated at Yale, 1824. He was a Trustee of Yale, 1846-1853.

<sup>3</sup> Edwin Hall, D. D., pastor at Norwalk, Ct., 1832-1855.

<sup>4</sup> Hiram P. Arms, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. Clark Bissell, a native of Lebanon, Ct., resident at Norwalk, was elected Governor in place of Hon. Isaac Toucey, and was reelected in the following year, a most excellent chief magistrate.

<sup>6</sup> This relates to the battle of Buena Vista, which lasted two days, and ended, with great loss to the Mexicans, February 22, 1847.

<sup>7</sup> John A. Albro, D. D., pastor at Cambridge, Mass., from 1835 to his death in 1866.

At evening there was a brilliant arc across the celestial hemisphere, nearly through the zenith; very bright, about four or five feet wide in appearance. There was an indecent display of bonfires, etc., in the streets, on account of the late election. The mercury was at temperate.

8. Wrote. Worked at my obituary. Have four hundred and thirty names arranged and completed. Have been much prospered in arduous labor. Took tea at Mr. Nichols. The mercury at 58°. My cousin Robbins Battell called here. Had much company.

9. Wrote on my obituary. Am able through divine mercy to perform a good deal of labor. Sat for Mr. Flagg, who wishes to put my likeness on a complicated painting.<sup>1</sup> The spring advances. Read.

10. Visited the new depot on the bank of the river. It is a great work. The river is high. They take shad. Had a good deal of company. Wrote. We have the news, not unexpected, of the surrender of the town and fortress of Vera Cruz to our army, after a severe bombardment and a great loss of life.<sup>2</sup> A painful event. I have hoped they would fail in this wicked war, but God has so suffered it. It may be made a means of good to oppressed Mexico.

11. Dr. Hawes preached exceeding well. Read the Bible. A very high wind. Wrote. Attended and conducted the evening meeting. Dr. Hawes unwell.

12. Wrote and labored assiduously on my obituary. Hope to be thankful that I can perform so much. We have news of additional successes in Mexico. Scott and Taylor are able generals. There was firing of cannon at the news. For the success of iniquity.<sup>3</sup>

13. Attended to company. Wrote. Mr. Silliman called here. Our worthy classmate, Mr. Chauncey,<sup>4</sup> of Philadelphia, has lately deceased. Attended an examination of Miss Parker's Female Seminary morning and afternoon. They performed very well. At evening our society had a meeting here.

14. Our streets have become dusty. Wrote. Am much occupied with my obituary. It increases unexpectedly. Attended to company.

15. Wrote with little interruption the most of the day. Good is the Lord that enables me to do it. Took medicine for my internal complaints.

16. Walked and did errands. Am pretty feeble. At evening attended a meeting of the directors of the Retreat. Mr. Porter,<sup>5</sup> of Farmington, gave me a large number of names for my obituary, which he has been recording for many years. Received a letter from Dr. Field, of Haddam, with many names, a large portion of which I had previously. Walked a good deal. Cold.

<sup>1</sup> That is, as we understand the expression, a painting in which his head would be one of several grouped together.

<sup>2</sup> This was not a true report. Gen. Scott brought his army into the region of Vera Cruz March 9, 1847, but it was not until June of that year that the place was taken.

<sup>3</sup> The war, on our part, was not altogether so unjust and wicked as the diary would make it appear, though we cannot regard it as a war just and necessary. The Southern States expected political advantages from it.

<sup>4</sup> Elihu Chauncey.

<sup>5</sup> Noah Porter, Sr., D. D.

17. Still employed in recording names from Mr. Porter's record. I have now more names of deceased alumni<sup>1</sup> than I expected to obtain at all. Am quite feeble. Quite cold for the season. Attended to company.

18. Cold and high wind. Attended meeting at Dr. Hawes's. Read the Bible. Attended the evening meeting. Dr. Hawes labors with great earnestness, in hope of some revival. The Lord grant it. Yesterday I had to sit again for the painter.

19. Wrote on my obituary. The principal part, I hope, is done. Attended to company. This morning the ground was hard frozen. Had to sit for a daguerreotype.

20. Wrote. Walked a good deal. Wrote to Mr. Williams,<sup>2</sup> Representative, at Stonington. Still cold and the season quite backward. Our society met here in the evening.

21. Our first warm, spring day. The mercury up to 70°. Much debilitated. Received a good letter from Mr. Booth,<sup>3</sup> of Coventry, with a large number of names for my obituary.

22. Made some change of clothing. Mr. Hosmer set out a fine large elm, in front of the Atheneum. The mercury rose to 80°. The warm weather is very debilitating.

23. Took a long walk in the morning. The river is high. Last evening received a letter from Rev. Mr. Hall, of Norwalk. A rainy day; very grateful to the ground. My friends, Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge and their brother,<sup>4</sup> are here. Am quite languid. Can do but little in the evening. Gave Mr. Gleason, for help on my obituary, \$5.00.

24. Walked to the river depot, etc. I think I have never seen the river here so high. It has risen very rapidly. Sister Battell came here on a return from a journey to Boston and New Bedford, with brother Francis. Had a very kind message from Professor Kingsley,<sup>5</sup> of New Haven. Wrote.

25. The water still rises. Heard Dr. Hawes in the forenoon; afternoon went with Mr. Gallaudet to the Retreat, and preached for him on Luke xxiii: 34. The first time I have preached since my long sickness. The long walk and preaching fatigued me. Sister Battell was with us.

26. Am pretty feeble, particularly at the lungs. Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston, and sent them a draft of \$30.00; requesting them to pay \$10.00 of it to Burnham & Sons, of the Antique Bookstore. Paid Mr. Miller, at his store, \$16.00. Paid my merchant tailor, \$5.00. The school visitors had a meeting here. Sister Battell and Irene Larned were here. Got home late. Mr. Silliman called here.

27. Walked a distance. Yesterday wrote to the Secretary of the State of

<sup>1</sup> This marks the nature of his work. He was preparing brief obituary notices of deceased alumni of Yale College.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas W. Williams, a native of Stonington, Ct., was a merchant, but 1839-1843 was a Member of Congress, and in 1846 was Representative to the State Legislature.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Chauncey Booth, born in East Windsor, Ct., March 15, 1783, son of Capt. Caleb and Anne (Bartlett) Booth. He was graduated at Yale, 1810. Pastor at South Coventry, Ct., 1815-1844.

<sup>4</sup> Azariah Eldridge, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Prof. James Luce Kingsley, LL. D.

Maine. Received a letter from Francis Bacon, Esq., Litchfield. Wrote on my obituary. Sister Battell remains here, having lost her trunk, as it appears, in the cars.<sup>1</sup> At evening walked out. Quite cool.

28. Am quite feeble and unwell. Think I have taken cold. Read the Bible. Paid the bank, \$2.61; renewed my note. Occupied with company. Read.

29. I fear sister Battell has lost her trunk from the cars. She hears nothing of it. Wrote to Mr. Bishop,<sup>2</sup> and Prof. Kingsley, of New Haven. Received a letter from Little & Brown, of Boston. Had a rack made to hang up articles in my room. Paid the joiner, \$4.00. My lungs are weak. Read Bible.

30. I walk a good deal in the morning. Had a good deal of company. Received a good letter from cousin J. Le Baron,<sup>3</sup> Mattapoisett. Wrote to Mr. Andrews, of Kent.<sup>4</sup> Examined and approved a school-teacher. Wrote.

#### MAY.

1. Am quite feeble. Worked at my room. Had a cleaner. Rode to South Windsor.<sup>5</sup> The season is quite late. People just beginning to plow. Rode out to look for a tree, or trees, to set out. Quite cool. Mrs. Wolcott much as she has been for years. Virginia has done well in her late election.

2. Attended meeting in the morning. Mr. Smith preached. A good congregation. Afternoon rainy, and I did not go out. Wrote. Read the Bible. This house and family appear more like home to me than any other.

3. Went into the woods with Mr. Bissell<sup>6</sup> to get a fine elm which we had found for a shade-tree. Much disappointed in finding it defective at the root. Took up a handsome shagbark walnut. Returned to Hartford. Mr. Bissell brought my tree. Mr. Hosmer set it out well. Hope, with doubts, that it may live. Quite cool. Much preparation for election. Mr. Wadsworth gave me two fine pictures to be my own.

4. Had much company. Worked at my obituary. Brother Francis made me a good call. There was a brilliant parade at the entrance of the Governor<sup>7</sup> into town. A good deal fatigued.

5. Election day. It has lost much of its interest by the absence of religious worship. My room almost filled with visitors. Dined at Mr. Brinley's. Went into the Representatives' Chamber and heard the most of Gov. Bissell's speech. A very good one. Yesterday received a letter from Prof.

<sup>1</sup> That was before the days of railroad checks, and a trunk which had gone astray was often hard to trace.

<sup>2</sup> Timothy Bishop, of New Haven.

<sup>3</sup> John Allen Le Baron.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William Watson Andrews, pastor in Kent, 1834-1849.

<sup>5</sup> This is the first time, if we mistake not, that Dr. Robbins, in his diary, has written *South Windsor*. The town of East Windsor had recently been divided, and as the petition-

ers were chiefly from the south part of the large township, the northern portion kept the name, and the old parish where Mr. Robbins was settled and had his home so long was now South Windsor. It was made a separate town in 1845.

<sup>6</sup> Edgar Bissell married Eveline Wolcott, and they were living in the old Abiel Wolcott house, and they are both living there yet in this summer of 1886.

<sup>7</sup> Hon. Clark Bissell, of Norwalk.

Kingsley, and one from Mr. Herrick, of New Haven. Today a very good one from Mr. Bishop, of New Haven, and his grandson, Master Edward Hughes, with a very valuable number of names for my obituary. Much fatigued. Cool.

6. Read. Much occupied with company. Had a fine visit from Mr. Morris,<sup>1</sup> of Springfield. The Governor and many Senators and Representatives were in my room. Am feeble and have internal pains.

7. Wrote. My time is much occupied. Visitors appear to be much pleased with our collection. At evening had a meeting of the school visitors in my room.

8. Wet. Had last night a grateful shower. Opened the two houses of the Legislature with prayer. Many members came to my room. Examined and approved a school-teacher. Wrote to Dr. Gridley,<sup>2</sup> of Amherst. Am much fatigued. We have news of a great and sanguinary battle in Mexico.<sup>3</sup> Gen. Scott appears to have gained a great victory over Santa Aña.

9. Warm; the mercury was near 70°. I first saw blossoms on the fruit-trees; garden blossoms on the 5th. Read the Bible. In the morning was at the Fourth Church; afternoon at the Centre. I think Dr. Hawes is the most profitable, useful preacher that I have known.<sup>4</sup> The mercury was up to summer heat. At evening heard Mr. Beckwith<sup>5</sup> preach on peace.

10. Worked on my obituary. Much occupied with company. Quite warm. Get much fatigued.

11. Saw the first apple-tree blossoms. Mr. Herrick, of New Haven, spent the most of the day here. At evening addressed the Committee on Education of the Legislature, at the State House. After which was at a party at Gov. Toucey's.<sup>6</sup> The mercury above summer heat. Vegetation advances very rapidly.

12. Am fatigued with labor. My cousin R. Battell called here. He cannot find anything of his mother's lost trunk. Cooler.

13. Have much company. Numbers are gone to the anniversaries at New York.<sup>7</sup> Worked at my obituary. It has become laborious to find any new names. Wrote to Dr. Arnold, of Hebron. Quite cool.

14. Our Legislature have adjourned for near five days. Wrote to Mr. Plant,<sup>8</sup> of Stratford, and to the postmaster of Alna, in Maine. Received a

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Oliver Bliss Morris.

<sup>2</sup> Timothy J. Gridley, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> There were minor and preparatory operations going on, but the decisive capture of Vera Cruz was not effected till June, 1847.

<sup>4</sup> That sentence describes Dr. Joel Hawes very exactly. Without great learning, without grace of manner, he yet held firm control over one of the most wealthy and cultivated churches in New England between forty and fifty years.

<sup>5</sup> George C. Beckwith, D. D., of Boston,

for more than thirty years Secretary of the American Peace Society.

<sup>6</sup> Hon. Isaac Toucey.

<sup>7</sup> Anniversary week in New York was the second week in May, and in Boston the last week, and in those years the attendance was large in both places.

<sup>8</sup> Hon. David Plant graduated at Yale, 1804. He served in both houses of the State Legislature, from 1823 to 1827 was Lieutenant-Governor of Connecticut, and 1827-1829, Member of Congress. He died in 1851.

letter and a bundle of periodicals from Mr. Samuel G. Drake,<sup>1</sup> of Boston. Yesterday received a kind visit from Dr. Chapin, with a good number of names. Was out at tea. Quite cool, but I believe no frosts.

15. Received a good letter from my friend, T. Bishop, of New Haven, and one from a Mr. Steele, of Middletown, designed, I believe, for some other person. Wrote to Mr. Drake, of Boston, and to Judge Morris, of Springfield. Had a good deal of company and am much fatigued.

16. Attended meeting at the South Church. Mr. Hopkins, of Buffalo, preached A. M., Mr. Clarke P. M. Read the Bible. Wrote. Attended the evening meeting. Wrote.

17. Still quite cool. I believe I took cold yesterday by going to meeting without an out-coat. Visited a school. Am quite feeble. Wrote letters to Ebenezer Learned, New London, Freeman Starr, Goshen, and Mr. Kirkland,<sup>2</sup> Utica. A few days since received a good letter from my classmate Bishop.

18. Am quite feeble. Wrote to the postmaster of Schoharie, New York. Yesterday brother Francis called on me. Received two letters with some documents from Mr. Herrick, New Haven. Mr. Livermore, of Boston, and Messrs. Huntington and Strong, of Norwich, called on me. Received a letter from Mr. W. Sidney Thayer, of Northampton, with a present of a good volume on genealogy. Wrote to sister Battell.

19. We had last night a grateful rain, but not large. The ground is dry, though we still have high water. Received a letter from Rev. E. R. Gilbert, of Wallingford, containing names for my obituary. Gov. Young<sup>3</sup> and wife, of New York, were here. The Historical Society held their annual meeting here, and in the evening Dr. Hooker,<sup>4</sup> of East Windsor, delivered a very good address in the Centre Church.

20. Fine weather. Waited on company. Visited a school. Received a letter from Mr. Bishop, of New Haven. Wrote to Mr. John Witter,<sup>5</sup> of Plainfield.

21. Walked out. There is a good blowth on the fruit-trees. Visited a school. Had in my room many members of the Legislature and others. I get additions to my obituary almost daily. At evening heard Mr. Whittlesey's interesting address on his railroad to Oregon.

22. Am very weak at my breast. Wrote to Hon. Francis Granger,<sup>6</sup> Canandaigua, Dr. Sill,<sup>7</sup> of Windsor, and Mr. Simeon Hart,<sup>8</sup> of Farmington.

<sup>1</sup> The well-known antiquarian writer, author of history and many other valuable works.

<sup>2</sup> Some descendant probably of Rev. Samuel Kirkland, the missionary, who died at Clinton, N. Y., in 1808.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. John Young, who, that very year, had been elected Governor of New York. He held the office two years. He was a native of Chelsea, Vt., born in 1802, and died in New York City, 1852.

<sup>4</sup> Edward W. Hooker, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> John Witter was a graduate of Yale in the class of 1812. He was tutor at Yale, 1815-1817.

<sup>6</sup> Francis Granger was Postmaster-General. He was graduated at Yale, 1811. He was the son of Gideon Granger.

<sup>7</sup> Elisha N. Sill, M. D., graduated at Yale, 1820. He is still living.

<sup>8</sup> Simeon Hart was graduated at Yale, 1823.

Had many visitors. Am not able to wait on them very fully. Have paid lately, for labor on my obituary, \$1.50. The season is getting dry.

23. Read the Bible. At the Centre Church heard Dr. Hawes in the morning, and Gordon Hall<sup>1</sup> in the afternoon. At evening attended a temperance meeting and heard a good address. Warm.

24. Showery. Received a good letter from Mr. Learned, of New London, and a good one from Mr. Annable, of Hebron, and one from Mr. Kirkland, of Utica. Received two letters from sister Battell, one informing me that my sister-in-law, Salome,<sup>2</sup> was very sick, the other that she is dead. A holy God is calling off our family in frequent succession. Wrote to Mr. Wm. Deming, of Litchfield.

25. The ground is greatly refreshed by the showers. Wrote to Esquire Ely,<sup>3</sup> of Simsbury. Quite warm. At noon brother Francis called on me, and we rode in a small wagon and got to Colebrook at nine o'clock. My sister-in-law died on the 22d. She has long been an exemplary Christian. Am fatigued, but bore the journey better than I expected. Vegetation appears in all its beauties. Winsted has become a flourishing village.

26. We attended the funeral of Mrs. Robbins. Her son<sup>4</sup> at Uxbridge was not present. She was buried at Norfolk, by the side of her husband, and near my father. Mr. Ives<sup>5</sup> preached well, at the house. Norfolk is improved. Mr. Eldredge has a very fine place. Much fatigued.

27. This morning there was a little frost. Wrote. Have got a few good names for my obituary. Walked, and made calls on old acquaintances. The town has much improved in buildings. A good deal of manufacturing here. Took tea at Mr. Eldredge's. Quite cool.

28. The people here have renovated the meeting-house, with much improvement. We rode in our little wagon. Made a call at Mr. Allen's, late brother Ammi's. Afternoon very hot and dusty. Quite fatigued. I hope the ride will be salutary.

29. Am quite feeble. Last evening received a kind letter from Miss Laura A. Stebbins, Alna, Maine. Had a good many visitors. Worked at my obituary. Mercury at summer heat; yesterday higher.

30. Last night and this morning favorable showers. At the Centre Church heard Dr. Hawes and Mr. Clarke. Read the Prophet Jeremiah. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Brace,<sup>6</sup> of Newington.

31. Read. Wrote to Judge Waite,<sup>7</sup> of Lyme, and Martin Rockwell, Esq.,

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Gordon Hall, D. D., son of Rev. Gordon Hall, missionary to India, was graduated at Yale in 1843, and was just closing his theological studies at the Yale Seminary when he preached in Hartford. He was first settled in Wilton, Ct., 1848-1852, and in Northampton from 1852 to his death in 1879.

<sup>2</sup> Widow of his brother, Ammi Ruhamah, Jr.

<sup>3</sup> Benjamin Ely, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> James Watson Robbins, M. D., son of

Ammi Ruhumah, of Colebrook, who died in 1843. The son was graduated at Yale in 1822, and practiced medicine in Uxbridge, Mass. He died in 1879.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Alfred E. Ives, pastor at Colebrook, Ct., 1838-1848. He was born in New Haven, Ct., 1809. Graduated at Yale, 1837.

<sup>6</sup> Joab Brace, pastor at Newington since 1805.

<sup>7</sup> Henry Matson Waite, LL. D., born in Lynn in 1787, graduated at Yale, 1809, judge

of Colebrook. Mr. Whittlesey, of Danbury, called on me and brought me a good number of names for my obituary.

## JUNE.

1. Dark and wet weather. Worked at my room sweeping, etc. Worked at my obituary. Had a good deal of company. Received a letter from Mr. Witter, of Plainfield. Took tea at Mr. Brown's, with Mr. and Mrs. Whittlesey, Gov. Bissell, and others. At evening our society held here their usual meeting. Was up late.

2. Read Bible. Wrote to Mr. Merwin,<sup>1</sup> of New Haven. Have kind assistance in my obituary from Mr. Strong,<sup>2</sup> of Norwich. Wrote to Mr. Chester, of Norwich. Read. Brother Francis was here.

3. Warm. Have much to do. Received a good letter from Mr. John Manning, of Lebanon. Dr. Cooley,<sup>3</sup> of Granville, was here. Have considerable pain. Had many visitors. Read.

4. Prayed at the opening of the two Houses of Legislature. Wet and rainy. Vegetation is very powerful. Was out at tea. Am quite feeble and nervous. A great rise in the price of bread-stuffs, already high, from the great scarcity in Europe. Wrote to Mr. D. H. Parmelee. Received a letter from Mr. William Deming, of Litchfield.

5. Took a long walk. Wrote to Dr. Cooley, of Granville. Am quite feeble, and can do but little. Col. S. T. Wolcott called on me and I rode with him to Windsor.<sup>4</sup> Mrs. Wolcott is very well for her age.

6. Walked to meeting. A student of the Seminary<sup>5</sup> preached in the morning, and Mr. Smith in the afternoon. I assisted a little. The new meeting-house is a very good one, well finished and *well filled*. Mr. Smith is a useful minister. Vegetation here is very rich and vigorous.

7. Walked out. It seems like my old home. Rode to Hartford in the stage. Am quite feeble, and am nervous. Received a letter from Dr. Sill, of Windsor, and one from Esquire Ely, of Bloomfield. Walked out. Cool. Worked some at pamphlets. At evening received a letter from Mr. Boltwood,<sup>6</sup> of Andover, Mass. Read.

8. Can do but little. Have a good deal of company. Am informed very unexpectedly that I am appointed a delegate to the General Association to meet next week. Wrote to E. S. Bartholomew, at New Haven. Received a kind letter from Mr. Plant,<sup>7</sup> of Stratford. Have pain at the breast. Wrote.

of the Superior Court and Court of Errors, 1834-1854.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Samuel Merwin.

<sup>2</sup> Probably of the family of Joseph Strong, D. D., who had been pastor of First Church, Norwich, 1778-1834.

<sup>3</sup> Timothy M. Cooley, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> South Windsor.

<sup>5</sup> Connecticut Theological Institute, two miles above.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Lucius Manlius Boltwood was born in Amherst, Mass., 1825. His father was Lu-

cus Boltwood, graduated at Williams College in 1814, a lawyer and secretary of Amherst College. The son was graduated at Amherst in 1843, and was closing his theological studies at Andover, when he wrote the letter to Dr. Robbins, having previously studied two years at Connecticut Theological Institute. He has never been settled in the ministry, but has served as librarian in several libraries.

<sup>7</sup> Hon. David Plant, a graduate of Yale, 1804, was M. C. 1827-1829.



9. Wrote. Have numerous visits from very respectable people. Received a letter from Judge Waite,<sup>1</sup> of Lyme, and a very good one from Mr. Lot Norton,<sup>2</sup> of Salisbury. Wrote to my classmate Bostwick,<sup>3</sup> Col. Green, of South Windsor, postmaster in Pelham, and brother Francis. I get very tired.

10. Worked at my obituary. Quite warm. Received a letter from Dr. Cooley, of Granville, and one from Mr. Learned, of New London. Took a long walk.

11. Wet and rainy. A fine season for vegetation. Laboring to get some rare names for my obituary. Received a letter from Rev. D. L. Parmelee,<sup>4</sup> of Litchfield, and one from G. C. Whittlesey, of New Preston. Wrote laboriously, copying my obituary.

12. Warm. The General Assembly are laborious in their business. Wrote. Occupied with my visitors. I get much fatigued, though I hope gaining in strength.

13. Attended at the Fourth Church and heard Mr. Patton. Read. At evening wrote to Miss Jerusha Treat, of Windsor.

14. Sat a short time in the House of Representatives. Wet. Wrote to Mr. Timothy Bishop, of New Haven, and to Mr. Knapp,<sup>5</sup> of Westfield. Cool.

15. Prayed in the two Houses of the General Assembly. Very cold for the season. Took the cars at the new depot, with President Day and others, and rode to Suffield, to General Association. Wagons came from Suffield to Windsor Locks and carried us there gratuitously.<sup>6</sup> General Association was opened; Dr. Day was moderator. He and I are kindly received at Mr. Ives's,<sup>7</sup> the Baptist minister. Mr. Tillotson<sup>8</sup> preached the Associational sermon. At evening we had a missionary meeting.

16. It is said there was no frost this morning, though it was much feared. The Association very attentive to business. The subjects of Slavery and War<sup>9</sup> were got over pretty easy. In the afternoon we had the sacrament: a solemn occasion. Without a sermon. At evening Dr. Hewitt,<sup>10</sup> spoke on Temperance. Wrote. Called at Mr. Loomis's.

17. Attended the morning meeting. Walked with Mr. Ives and called at

<sup>1</sup> Judge Henry Matson Waite, LL. D.

<sup>2</sup> Lot Norton was graduated at Yale in 1822, and died in 1880.

<sup>3</sup> Charles Bostwick.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. David L. Parmelee was settled in Morris, Ct. (Litchfield South Farms), from 1841 to his death, June 27, 1865.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Isaac Knapp was graduated at Williams College in 1800, and was settled in Westfield, Mass., in 1803. Here he remained till his death in 1847, at the age of seventy-three. He was a native of Norfolk, Ct. He was tutor at Williams, 1802-3, and was trustee, 1822-1826.

<sup>6</sup> Four or five miles.

<sup>7</sup> Dwight Ives, D. D. The Baptist inter-

est was strong in Suffield. There were two Baptist churches there, but the special point of interest was the Connecticut Literary Institution, a Baptist school, chartered in 1835 and still doing a large educational work.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. George G. Tillotson was born in Farmington, Ct., in 1805, graduated at Yale, 1825, and from Yale Theological Seminary, 1830, was pastor at Brooklyn, Ct., 1831-1853, and acting pastor at Putnam, Ct., 1853-1870. He is one of the Yale Board of Trustees, having served since 1849.

<sup>9</sup> American slavery and the Mexican War were apt to be disturbing questions in the ministers' meetings of that period.

<sup>10</sup> Nathaniel Hewitt, D. D.

Mr. Gray's old place; looked at the Baptist meeting-house and the buildings of their literary institution here. The Association finished their business about three o'clock. After dinner we were carried to the Locks. Waited an hour for the cars. Rode home. Much fatigued. Received a letter from Mr. Bostwick, one from Dr. Field, and one from the postmaster of Pelham. Had a good deal of company in my room. At evening attended a public singing exhibition of the Centre School.

18. Mr. Gleason and I worked, finishing off my long obituary. It has been a great work. Paid him \$2.00, making \$10.00 which I have given him for his work. He expects more. Attended to company. Have little time to read.

19. I think, through divine mercy, my disease gradually abates, but I am still feeble. Mr. Sparks,<sup>1</sup> of Boston, called here, and Mr. Davidson, from New Jersey. The society of our Atheneum held their annual meeting here. Read.

20. Heard Mr. Davidson<sup>2</sup> in the North Church, and Mr. Thacher<sup>3</sup> at the Centre. Wet and rainy. Read. Wrote.

21. We have had a pretty hard rain. Worked at my obituary. Have fire almost daily. Received a good letter from Mr. Robinson, of Plainfield.

22. Took a long walk. Wrote. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Andrews, of Kent, and a bundle of books which I lent him more than a year ago. Finished for the present my long obituary, containing near two thousand names. A great work.

23. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Herrick, of New Haven. Paid a poor minister for a book of poetry, \$1.00. I get very tired with the labor of the long days. Walked a distance. We have had much wet and dark weather. Finished my obituary, and gave it to Mr. Russell,<sup>4</sup> Representative, with a letter, to be carried to Mr. Herrick, of New Haven, containing the names of seventeen hundred and seventy-five alumni and over two hundred of honorary degrees. Paid Mr. Norton, of Suffield, \$1.00, for the name and death of Seth Phelps,<sup>5</sup> a classmate of my father. Warm.

24. Prayed at the opening of the House of Representatives. Sat in their chamber till the close of the session, about two hours or more. The Governor and all concerned performed their parts remarkably well. They have had a laborious and honorable session. My cousin, Mrs. Larned, from New Haven, was here. Mercury above 80°. Received a letter from Benj. Ely, of Bloomfield, and one from Mr. Leete, of Windsor. Received a letter from Mr.

<sup>1</sup> Jared Sparks, LL. D.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Rev. Robert Davidson, who was graduated at Dickinson College, Pa., in 1828.

<sup>3</sup> George Thacher, D. D., native of Hartford, and brother of the late Prof. Thomas C. Thacher, of Yale, was graduated at Yale, 1840, and from the Yale Divinity School, 1843. After settlement in several parishes, East and West, he was chosen in 1871 Presi-

dent of Iowa State University. He died in 1878.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Russell, as we understand, was a member from Hartford to the Legislature, which that year met at New Haven. The letter entrusted to his care was an important one, containing the results of long and patient labor.

<sup>5</sup> Seth Phelps, of the class of 1760 at Yale, died two years after graduation.

Herrick, with a proof-sheet of the new catalogue.<sup>1</sup> Retired early. Yesterday wrote to Miss Frances Caulkins,<sup>2</sup> of New London.

25. Wrote to Dr. Chapin, to Rev. Mr. Arnold,<sup>3</sup> of Colchester, and to Miss U. Wolcott, of South Windsor. Left off my flannel. Revised my proof-sheet. Mercury about 85°. Received a very good letter from Mr. Merwin, of New Haven.

26. Wrote. Am much relaxed. Wrote to Mr. William Smith, of Sharon, and to the postmaster of Whitesborough. Thermometer at 87°. Have had peas yesterday and today. Have much to do.

27. Heard Dr. Hawes. People are much oppressed with the heat. Thermometer at 88°. At evening wrote to Mr. William Smith, Sharon. Read the wonderful prophecies of Ezekiel.

28. Walked a good deal. Much occupied with company. The heat still more oppressive. Thermometer at 90°. President Polk visited this town on his way to the eastward. I invited him to visit the Atheneum, but his stay was so short that he could not; not more than three or four hours. He looks feeble, and much oppressed with care and toil. Received a good letter from Mr. Timothy Bishop.

29. We have very warm nights. Wrote to the postmaster in Herkimer, N. Y. Received a good letter, with several new names, from Judge Morris, of Springfield. Paid for books, \$1.25. At evening received a letter from S. A. Peters,<sup>4</sup> Esq., Colchester, one from Elisha Whittlesey, Southington, one from N. Brewster, Goshen, and one from Mr. Herrick. Afternoon and night wet. At evening was at a very respectable party at Alfred Smith's.

30. Did much sweeping and brushing. Occupied with company. Cooler. The season for vegetation very fine. Worked at my obituary. Received a letter from brother Francis. Read.

#### JULY.

1. Visited Miss Draper's school. They perform well. Dr. Chapin

<sup>1</sup> The object of Dr. Robbins's long and laborious search for obituaries now definitely appears. Edward C. Herrick was preparing for the press the Triennial Catalogue of Yale for the year 1847. What Dr. Robbins calls an *obituary*, in this connection, is simply the date of death. The Triennial Catalogue has been brought to its present state of exactness by the labor of many persons, through a long course of years, and Dr. Robbins made a very important contribution to this result, when he sent in one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five death dates of alumni, and two hundred honorary titles conferred.

<sup>2</sup> Frances Manwaring Caulkins, born in New London in 1795. She showed marked ability as a historical scholar and writer in her histories of New London, Ct., and Norwich, Ct.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Joel Ranney Arnold, though he received the honorary degree of A. M. from Dartmouth and Middlebury Colleges, was not a college graduate. He was a native of Westminster, Vt., born in 1794. As a preacher he was remarkable for his strong and original thought. He was ordained pastor at Chester, N. H., in 1820, was pastor in Waterbury, Ct., 1831-1836, and in Colchester, Ct., 1839-1849. He died in 1865.

<sup>4</sup> Samuel Andrew Peters, a graduate of Yale in the class of 1794. He was named from Samuel Andrew Peters, D. D., LL. D., the author of the false *History of Connecticut*, who was once chosen Episcopal Bishop of Vermont. The S. A. Peters, of Colchester, was a worthy and honorable man, and died in 1854. The name Peters was common in Hebron, which joined Colchester.

called here, and gave me \$5.00 for the expenses of my obituary, and I gave the same to Mr. Gleason. Wrote to Mr. Herrick. Was weighed; only one hundred and twelve.<sup>1</sup> Cool.

2. Wrote to M. N. Butler, Esq., Plymouth. Looked over another proof-sheet of my obituary. Read. Had a good many visitors. Visited and addressed Miss Draper's school. It is Episcopal. Sister Battell came here. Spent the evening with her.

3. Did errands. Find it difficult to leave my room. Took the cars at one o'clock and rode to Enfield. My brother and his family are in a quiet and well-regulated state. The family is small.

4. Wrote a little. My brother preached in the forenoon. We attended the sacrament. I performed a part. Afternoon I preached on Ps. cxxxix: 7-10. It is of God's great mercy that I am again permitted to preach the Word. Much fatigued, but hope not to have any material injury. This congregation is not so great as it has been. Very warm.

5. Rode with my brother and visited the graveyard. He brought me to Windsor Locks. Took the cars and came home. It is Independence,<sup>2</sup> and I had many visitors. The mercury at 90°. Am quite feeble. Received a good letter from Gov. Tomlinson,<sup>3</sup> and a kind one from the postmaster of Herkimer. Oppressed with the heat.

6. Put on linen dress. Wrote. Yesterday revised a proof-sheet. Did errands. Have had new tops put on my best boots; very good ones. Took the cars and rode to New Haven. Very dusty and hot. Rode in a hack to my classmate Mr. Bishop's, and was kindly received. He has his third wife; a very good one.<sup>4</sup> Went to the college library. Attended with Mr. Herrick to my obituary. They had a great celebration of independence here yesterday. Took tea at Mr. Merwin's.<sup>5</sup>

7. Walked with Mr. Bishop and made calls. Attended the public services of the "presentation day." The seniors' examination was closed yesterday. There was a poem, and a very good oration, and excellent vocal music. The class to be graduated, one hundred and twenty-four, is the largest, we suppose, ever graduated in this country. We had a good public dinner in the hall. Was busy in the library. Called at Dr. Croswell's.<sup>6</sup> Drank tea at President Day's. Walked a distance. Very warm, and the streets exceeding dry and dusty.

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins was never a large or heavy man, but this weight was below his average. It was midsummer, when most people weigh less than in winter.

<sup>2</sup> Monday, the 5th, as in this passing year, 1886.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. Gideon Tomlinson, LL. D., of Greenfield parish, Fairfield, Ct.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Timothy Bishop was at that time seventy years old, but was destined to live on yet until 1873.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Samuel Merwin.

<sup>6</sup> Harry Croswell, D.D., was born in West Hartford, Ct., in 1778, and began his public life as an editor, in which he had some trying experiences in suits for libel. In 1814 he took orders in the Episcopal church, and in 1815 was put in charge of Trinity Church, New Haven, which place he held till his death in 1858. He was a man of large stature, and in his robes made a dignified and imposing appearance.

8. Spent the most of the forenoon with Mr. Cleaveland,<sup>1</sup> preparing a schedule for the General Association by the appointment of that body. The heat very oppressive. Visited my niece, Mrs. Larned; her sisters Urania and Ellen with her. Dined with Mr. Bishop at his son's, Mr. Hughes. Mr. Bishop carried me to the cars, and I rode home in the severe heat and dust. The crops look well, but saw no harvesting. Am much fatigued, but, by divine favor, my health has been pretty good. Received a letter from Mr. Butler, of Plymouth. The ground has become very dry. Small expense.

9. Had a number of visitors from abroad. Attended to my obituary, adding and correcting. The hay crop is said to be very good, and there is a fine season for the ingathering. I am very languid with the heat. The price of breadstuffs is much fallen. Accounts from Europe are favorable. May God in mercy save from famine. Thermometer 98°.

10. Revised another proof-sheet of my obituary. The ground is very dry, and vegetation begins to suffer. We have very warm nights. I retire early. Read. The sheriff paid me \$3.85 for my service as chaplain to the late Legislature. The mercury this week has ranged every day from 85° to 90°. Received a kind letter from Mr. Crane,<sup>2</sup> of Middletown. Wrote to Mr. Mills Bardwell, of Kent.

11. Yesterday wrote to brother Francis. Mr. Smith, from the State of New York,<sup>3</sup> preached for Dr. Hawes. Read and finished Ezekiel. Wrote. Mercury at 85°. Last night we had a light shower upon the dry ground.

12. Mr. Knapp, of Westfield, my townsman, is dead. Wrote to Mr. Mills Bardwell, of Kent, and to the postmaster of Vergennes, Vt. Wrote a report for the General Association, and sent it to Mr. Cleaveland, of New Haven. Brother Francis and our cousin Eudora Alden<sup>4</sup> were here. We had some very refreshing showers.

13. My internal complaints seem to continue. Received a proof-sheet. Mercury at 85°. Afternoon had a hard shower, with much thunder. Am quite weak. Received a good letter from Miss Caulkins,<sup>5</sup> of New London. Wrote to Mr. Peters,<sup>6</sup> of Colchester. Took tea at Mr. Watkinson's.<sup>7</sup>

14. Took a long walk. We have a cooler air. The business of this city near the river much increases. New Hampshire has done remarkably well at its late congressional election. Wrote to Mr. Isaac Parsons,<sup>8</sup> of East Haddam. Thermometer about 80°. Am quite unwell.

15. Weather very fine. Am quite weak. Yesterday drank tea at Dr. Hawes's; the first time. Revised a proof-sheet. A good deal of company.

<sup>1</sup> Elisha Lord Cleaveland, D. D., pastor of the Third Church, New Haven, from 1833 to his death in 1866.

<sup>2</sup> John R. Crane, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> "Mr. Smith from the State of New York," is too much of a generality to be traceable.

<sup>4</sup> Eudora (Sampson) Alden was the wife

of Francis L. Alden. They were married in 1828.

<sup>5</sup> Miss Frances M. Caulkins.

<sup>6</sup> Samuel Andrew Peters.

<sup>7</sup> David Watkinson, founder of the Watkinson Library, Hartford.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Isaac Parsons, pastor at East Haddam, Ct., 1816-1856.

Read. A very important convention is holding at Chicago. Wrote to the postmaster at North Canaan.

16. Worked at my rooms. Received a good note from Mr. Park, of Colchester. Am oppressed with debility. Did errands.

17. Worked at my books. Paid Dr. Rogers for medical labor, \$10.00. Rode to South Windsor. Very dry and dusty. Mercury about 86°.

18. Mr. Smith preached in the morning. The meeting-house is all finished, with a large and good yard. I preached in the afternoon on Ps. cxxxix: 7-10. The heat very oppressive. Much fatigued and oppressed at my lungs.

19. Am a good deal affected by my preaching yesterday. Had a restless night. The nights are very warm. The crops here are very good, and the corn is very rich. Rode home. It was very hot here yesterday. Mercury not less than 92°. Am quite feeble, but able to work some at my books. Thermometer 91°. Retired early.

20. A very hot night. Mercury at 80° before eight o'clock. Wrote. Worked at my books. Had some assistance. At evening our society had a meeting here. Mercury at 89°.

21. Work at my library. Occupied with company. Saw new corn and green apples in the market. We had a light shower. Read. Thermometer at 88°. Can do but little. The heat is very enervating.

22. No abatement in the oppressiveness of the heat. Wrote. Afternoon showery. Read Bible. Received a letter from Mr. William Mather Smith,<sup>1</sup> of Sharon, and one from Dr. Field.<sup>2</sup> Read. Thermometer at 87°.

23. We have had a good deal of rain; very grateful to the dry ground. Worked arranging my books. Wrote. Can do but little labor. Received a letter from Dr. Dow,<sup>3</sup> of Thompson. Thermometer at 85°.

24. Had a good deal of company; some strangers, very respectable. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Mills Bardwell, of Kent. Troubled with tremor. Thermometer 87°.

25. Read. Forenoon heard Dr. Hawes, after Mr. Baldwin,<sup>4</sup> evening Rev. Van Renssellaer,<sup>5</sup> New Jersey. Read. Sultry. The past week has been very hot.

26. Wrote on a piece for the newspaper. Occupied with company. Afternoon we had a heavy, long thunder-shower. A great benefit. Paid for manure, \$3.00; paid for a book, .25.

27. Quite cool after the rain. Had to change dress. Wrote. Much company; strangers mostly. Received a letter from Prof. Larned.<sup>6</sup> Get much fatigued.

28. Took a long and good walk. Yesterday received a letter from

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<sup>1</sup> A son probably of Gov. John Cotton Smith. William M. was graduated at Yale in 1808.

<sup>2</sup> David Dudley Field, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Daniel Dow, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Theron Baldwin, D. D., the able Secretary of the Western College Society.

<sup>5</sup> Cortland Van Renssellaer, D. D.

<sup>6</sup> Prof. William A. Larned, his nephew by marriage.

Mr. Josiah Hunt, of Northampton. Received a catalogue for Prof. Larned, of New Haven, and wrote to him. My nephew, Francis Robbins, was here from Enfield. Mr. Hosmer paid me \$54.50. I paid a subscription for the East Windsor chapel, \$10.00, and one for the portrait of Mr. Day in this room, \$5.00. Of what he paid me \$34.50 is for the current year. Read.

29. Worked at my books. Attended on company. Read. Paid a woman for work, \$1.00. Yesterday received a letter from Francis Granger, Esq., Canandaigua. Quite cool. Had a little fire.

30. Am feeble, and can do but little work. Have a good deal of company. My piece is published exposing the historical errors of Secretary Buchanan. Received a letter from Mr. Chester Whittlesey, of Southington.

31. Wrote to Mr. Hunt, of Northampton, to Ursula Wolcott, and to brother Francis. Occupied with company. It is the traveling season for strangers. We have frequent showers. Wrote to Prof. Larned. Yesterday paid Mr. Gleason for work, \$5.00. On the 30th wrote to Gov. Bissell.

#### AUGUST.

1. Attended meeting at the Fourth Church. At evening heard a Mr. Bissell<sup>1</sup> on the education of the Indians. Warm and showery. Finished Malachi in course. Am affected with debility.

2. Had a long walk. Worked at my books. Wrote. Troubled with a rising of my lungs. At evening attended an exhibition of a society of a college.<sup>2</sup> Was out quite late. Received a letter from Tutor Larned,<sup>3</sup> of Yale College.

3. Am very feeble, and can do but little. Received a letter from Gov. Bissell. Worked some at my books.

4. Wrote. Much occupied with company. Read. Wrote to Prof. Kingsley. Am quite weak. Renewed my note at the bank.

5. Trinity College Commencement. The performances were good. The college is evidently improving. Dined with them. Kindly treated. Much fatigued. Yesterday attended the public Episcopal convocation.

6. Worked at my library. Read. Have a pain in my side. I fear I have lost some books.

7. A steady rainy day; some of the time very hard. Worked at my books. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott.

8. Wet and showery. Heard Dr. Hawes. His preaching was very impressive and solemn. Read the first half of Matthew. Cool.

9. I think that, through God's great mercy, my health is slowly improving. Had a new curtain put up in my library. Had much company.

10. Wrote. We have the news, not pleasant, that Gen. Scott has taken the City of Mexico. Had much company. Received a letter from Mr. Herrick.

<sup>1</sup> Lewis Bissell, a teacher and farmer who had been connected with the Choctaw Mission at the station known as Pine Ridge.

<sup>2</sup> A society of Trinity College, Hartford.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Gay Eaton Larned, half-brother of Prof. William A. Larned. He was tutor at Yale, 1842-1847. He was graduated at Yale in 1839, and died in 1870.

11. A solemn day. My seventy years of life and probation are closed. I go on extra ground, by divine permission.<sup>1</sup> Ursula Wolcott came down and sat for her bust portrait. Wrote to Mr. Herrick. Thermometer at 86°.

12. A fine season for crops. Worked at my books. The weather is very debilitating. Wrote in the evening. Thermometer 85°.

13. Had some long visits. Received a good letter from Mr. Watson, P. M. of Canaan. Very hot. Mercury at 86°. Wrote to Mr. Silliman, Yale College. Fruit is becoming very plenty.

14. Worked at my books. Many accounts of great crops. Preparing for my journey. Wrote. Mercury at 85°. My cousins W. Lawrence and R. Battell<sup>2</sup> were here a short time.

15. Heard Mr. Baldwin<sup>3</sup> at the Fourth; P. M., Pres. Sturtevant<sup>4</sup> in behalf of the Western colleges. Prepared for my journey. Thermometer 82°.

16. Took the cars and rode to Springfield, Pittsfield, North Adams; a new railroad from Pittsfield. Dined and took the stage, five miles, to Williamstown. Much fatigued. Visited the new library building; a very fine one. It has a new noble portrait of Mr. Lawrence,<sup>5</sup> the donor of the building. A warm day and much dust.

17. Met with the corporation. The most of them present. Had two laborious sittings. The funds are in a good state. A new building is erecting. Fatigued, and did not attend at the evening speaking.

18. Commencement. A favorable day. A great number of people. Graduates thirty-seven. The performances very good. Had two exercises, and got through in good season. Wrote. Had no evening meeting.

19. Rode early; by stage to Adams, by cars to Pittsfield, and to Albany. This is a fine old city. Walked about. Visited the great capitol. Treated politely. Took tea with Dr. Sprague.<sup>6</sup> Stayed at the great Delavan House. Attended evening prayers.

20. Took the steamboat, amid a great rush of people, for New York. I never sailed up or down this river before. The lands not as good, nor the towns as I expected. The scenery at the Highlands is great. Got to New York about four o'clock. Went to Mr. Hoffman's.<sup>7</sup> Very kindly received. Quite cool. Am much fatigued.

<sup>1</sup> See Psalm ninetyeth, tenth verse.

<sup>2</sup> William Lawrence and Robbins Battell, of Norfolk, Ct.

<sup>3</sup> Theron Baldwin, D. D., was born in Goshen, Ct., 1801, and was graduated at Yale College in 1827, and at Yale Theological Seminary in 1830. His life work was the organizing and conducting the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education. He died in 1870.

<sup>4</sup> Julian Monson Sturtevant, D. D., who has just died (Feb. 11, 1886), after his long connection with Illinois College, was in the same class with Dr. Baldwin at the Yale

Seminary, and they were fellow-workers at the West. Dr. Sturtevant was born in Warren, Ct., 1805, and was graduated at Yale College, 1826. They were marked men in the Congregational denomination.

<sup>5</sup> Amos Lawrence, of Boston, who did such an immense amount of public good with his money. He was brother of Abbott Lawrence, LL. D., and was born in Groton, Mass., April 20, 1786, and died in Boston, December 31, 1852.

<sup>6</sup> William B. Sprague, D. D., his old anti-quarian friend and fellow-worker.

<sup>7</sup> Martin Hoffman.



21. Rode down town in the omnibus. Attended morning prayers in Trinity Church. Walked in Wall Street. Very civilly treated. Was in some of the banks and the exchange. At Mr. Hoffman's auction room, and cousin Battell's<sup>1</sup> store. An immense mass of people all busy. Cousin Ammi<sup>2</sup> walked with me. The Park water-works most splendid. Trinity Church magnificent, but too large for use. Towards evening a diarrhœa came on me, at first not severe. Had cousins in to see me.

22. Had a very sick night. My complaint is severe. Sent for my cousin Dr. Gilman.<sup>3</sup> His energetic applications had a divine blessing. Had friends in to see me. The ways of the Lord are holy and good.

23. Am very weak, but not much pain. Dr. Gilman is very judicious and attentive. He keeps me in my bed. Have every attention in this family.

24. Am able to read a little. Keep my chamber. The noise in the street tedious. My mind is debilitated.

25. Had a poor night. My stomach will bear but little. Got some better. The Mexican news is a primary topic.

26. I think I have much light and cheerful submission with God. Wrote Mr. Miller at Hartford. On Monday Dr. Gilman wrote for me to Mr. J. B. Hosmer.

27. Walked some in the street. The population here is very great. Wrote some. Have a good deal of internal pain. My gain is slow. Read. Can do but little mental or muscular labor.

28. Am quite feeble. Walked out. The wet prevented an expected ride. Read. At evening my cousin Winthrop Gilman,<sup>4</sup> of St. Louis, came here with his family. He is an excellent man. Steady warm and fine weather.

29. Went to Grace Church with Mr. Hoffman. Their morning service very long. Mr. Taylor, from South Carolina, performed. The church is exceedingly splendid and gorgeous. Most of the ministers are out of town. Went to another Episcopal church. Dr. Hawks<sup>5</sup> preached pretty well. He is now Bishop of Louisiana. Got fatigued, but glad of the exercise. I believe there is a good deal of godliness in this great, corrupt city.

30. Rode down town. Went into Mr. Stewart's magnificent store, and Bartlett & Welford's. They have some very valuable books. Quite warm. Have to be very careful of my small strength. Meet with very kind treatment. Afternoon my very kind friends carried me to the steamboat for Hartford, and I parted with them. May God reward them for all they have done for me. Very fine weather. We have very favorable accounts of the crops in Europe. A good Providence, I hope, will turn their captivity.

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Battell, Jr., firm of Eggleston & Battell, iron trade.

<sup>2</sup> Son of his brother James Watson, who had recently died.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. Chandler Robbins Gilman, M. D.

<sup>4</sup> Winthrop Sargent Gilman, youngest brother of Dr. Chandler R., was a merchant in St. Louis.

<sup>5</sup> Francis Lister Hawks, D. D., born in New Berne, N. C., 1798, died in New York, 1866. A man of large historical learning and a prolific writer. He filled many important positions, and his public career was very notable. One of his most valuable works is his *History of North Carolina*, in two volumes, which was published in 1857.

31. Our steamboat left New York yesterday P. M., at four o'clock, and arrived at Hartford this morning at five. Have had in most respects a very prosperous journey; a great preservation from severe disease. It is of the Lord's mercies that I may again come to my own room. Quite feeble, but able to receive company. We had a remarkably pleasant passage from New York. Many people have been here in my absence, and a few have been let into the library. An uncommon number of visitors. A steamboat came here from New London with hundreds of passengers on an excursion. Toward evening rode out quite a distance with Col. Ward. Received a letter from Mr. Davis, of Westfield, Mr. Swift, of Derby, Mr. N. H. Dering, of Utica, and E. C. Herrick, of New Haven. Received some valuable pamphlets, and Mr. Sprague, of Albany, gave me some good ones. Expenses of my journey, \$13.00. I close this summer.

## SEPTEMBER.

1. Able to attend at my room, but the numerous visitors make it quite fatiguing. Received a letter from Mr. Bacon,<sup>1</sup> of Utica. Read.

2. Warm dog-day's heat. Thermometer above 80°. Wrote and finished my last month's diary. Very favorable accounts of crops in Europe. Am not able to take much exercise. The ground is very dry and dusty.

3. My room is quite warm. Thermometer near 85°. Occupied with company. Looked over college catalogues.

4. Walked in the morning considerably. Wrote. Went to the exhibition of Tom Thumb.<sup>2</sup> He is a very great curiosity. It excites great attention. Wrote to sister Battell. Taken up with company. The heat is oppressive. Mercury at 86°.

5. A messenger came from East Hartford to have me go there and preach. The case was peculiar, and I thought it my duty to go.<sup>3</sup> Preached on Luke xxiii: 34, and administered the sacrament. Spoke feebly, with short exercises. Returned. Much fatigued, but was carried through the exercises beyond expectation. The streets very dry and dusty. Read.

6. I believe I got no injury by preaching yesterday. Had much company. Mr. Hosmer paid me \$150.00, and I paid \$100.00 to Mr. Miller. Wrote. We had a very favorable shower last night. A better air.

7. Walked considerably. Wrote. Occupied with company. Fatiguing in my debility. I now have \$100.00 in bills. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott. At evening our society had a meeting here.

8. The ground is very dry, cisterns dry, and the rivers are unusually low. Warm. Mercury at 80°. Wrote to brother Francis.

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Ezekiel Bacon, who, when he died in 1870, seventy-six years out of college, had been for six years the oldest living graduate of Yale.

<sup>2</sup> Charles S. Stratton, born in Bridgeport, Ct., 1832. He was first introduced to the public by Mr. P. T. Barnum in 1842, and went

with him to Europe in 1844. He was married to Lavinia Warren in 1863. She was born in Middleborough, Mass., in 1842.

<sup>3</sup> This was to assist Samuel Spring, D. D., who had then been fourteen years pastor of the East Hartford church, and was probably unable to preach through illness.

9. Wrote. Much occupied with company. My nervous system is feeble. Wrote to Mr. Hoffman,<sup>1</sup> of New York. Thermometer above 80°. At evening rainy; most acceptable. Read.

10. It rained through the night and most of the forenoon; a great benefit. Mr. Hosmer paid me \$200.00, and I took up a note due to the Phoenix Bank of the same amount, \$200.00. Paid a bill for horse and carriage hire, \$7.00. Paid an apothecary's bill, \$1.33. Wrote to Mr. Leonard Hammond, of Mattapoissett.

11. Walked a distance. Read the Bible. Wrote to A. H. Seabury, Esq., New Bedford. Attended at an Episcopal funeral. Wet. Quite cool; had a fire.

12. Wet and rainy; towards night very hard. In the morning was at meeting at the Fourth; afternoon heard Prof. Tatlock<sup>2</sup> at the Centre. He preached very well. Thin audience. My cousin R. Battell is here. At evening wrote to Mr. Arnold,<sup>3</sup> of New Bedford. Read the most of Mark.

13. We have had a great rain. Walked out. Read. Wrote to my old classmate Thomas Romeyn,<sup>4</sup> of Amsterdam, Montgomery County, N. Y. Have a steady fire.

14. Wrote. Occupied with company. At evening attended with Mr. Clarke the dedication of the South Church lecture-room; a very fine one. Quite cool.

15. Took a long walk. Read. Much fatigued in waiting on company. My health improves, through mercy, but I cannot perform much labor.

16. This morning there was some frost, but not hard; the first of the season. We have had a pretty long and warm summer. Wrote. Sister Battell and brother Francis were here.

17. A light frost, but thought not to be sufficient to have much effect on vegetation. We have the painful account of a great sanguinary battle near the City of Mexico, with a great defeat of the unoffending Mexicans. Wrote to Henry Coolidge, of Middletown. Read. Occupied with company.

18. Sister Battell in my room a good deal. Wrote. Read the *Miscellanies of Governor Smith*.<sup>5</sup> Paid my shoemaker a bill of \$5.46. Paid a subscription of \$5.00 for the Fourth Church lecture-room. I think I gain some strength; all from the grace of God.

19. Heard Dr. Hawes in the morning, and Mr. Bond,<sup>6</sup> of Norwich, afternoon and evening. Quite cool. Finished Luke.

<sup>1</sup> Martin Hoffman.

<sup>2</sup> Prof. John Tatlock, LL. D., who, in 1838, was elected Professor of Mathematics at Williams College. In 1845 he was made Professor of Latin and Greek, but in the year following was restored to the department of mathematics. He was graduated at Williams College in 1836. He was a licensed preacher, but never ordained. He was of Welsh origin, and was born on the Island of Anglesey in 1808.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. James Arnold.

<sup>4</sup> There were two of this family name in Dr. Robbins's class at Williams, Thomas, and Benjamin. Benjamin died in the year of his graduation. Thomas died at the age of eighty, in 1857.

<sup>5</sup> John Cotton Smith.

<sup>6</sup> Alvan Bond, D. D., pastor of the Second Church in Norwich, 1835-1864. Before his settlement in Norwich he had been Professor of Sacred Literature, 1831-1835, in Bangor

20. Wet. Had a good deal of company. Read Bishop Newton on prophecy. Sister Battell went off for Norfolk.

21. Paid my merchant tailor, \$6.25. Received of Hartford Bank an extra dividend of \$10.00. At evening our society had a meeting here. Troubled with what I suppose is called the rising of the lungs.

22. There is a great Democratic Convention here, and I have a good share of them.<sup>1</sup> Wrote to Little & Brown, and sent them \$30.00. Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge, of Norfolk, were here.

23. Worked at my room. Took a long walk. A large and expensive sewer is making in the streets. Had much company. Have but little time for myself.

24. Read the Bible. Paid Olmsted's bill, \$7.88; for *Genealogical Register*, \$2.00, and to Lawrence, \$1.50. Wrote.

25. Worked, sweeping and brushing. We have a pretty hard rain. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Cleaveland,<sup>2</sup> of New Haven. Read.

26. Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, preached for Dr. Hawes. Cool. At evening wet. Read.

27. Paid my annual tax, \$17.70. Paid a bookbinder, \$1.50. Did errands. The late storm very severe to the south of us. Received a letter from Little & Brown, Boston. Wrote.

28. Rode in the stage to Farmington, and met with the Consociation. A large body, but quite a number of members are absent. Kept at Dr. Porter's.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Bushnell preached in the evening an able and singular sermon.<sup>4</sup>

29. Attended diligently to the business of Consociation, and concluded at noon. We had a solemn season in view of the low state of religion. Mr. Seward,<sup>5</sup> of West Hartford, kindly brought me home. Had a good number of visitors. Much fatigued.

30. Worked at pamphlets. Wrote. The yellow fever at New Orleans is very mortal. Am too feeble for much study. Read.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Worked at my room. Procured a saw, .57. This morning a good deal of frost. We have an account of the breach of negotiation at Mexico, and renewal of the fighting.<sup>6</sup> Visitors from a distance.

Seminary. He was a native of Sutton, Mass., born in 1793, graduated at Brown University, 1815, and at Andover Seminary, 1818. Died in Norwich, 1882, in his ninetieth year. Had been without charge since 1864.

<sup>1</sup> It helped to reconcile him to Democrats, that they felt an interest to come in and see his nice library.

<sup>2</sup> Elisha Lord Cleaveland, D. D., pastor of the Third Church, New Haven, from 1833 to his death, 1866.

<sup>3</sup> Noah Porter, Sr., then in the forty-first year of his ministry at Farmington.

<sup>4</sup> That was what was often said of Dr. Bushnell, in those days, "able and singular." Now that he is gone we have to acknowledge that he was one of the most remarkable thinkers and writers that New England has ever produced. Perhaps no one man since the days of Jonathan Edwards has added more to the volume of theological thought.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Dwight M. Seward, pastor at West Hartford, 1845-1850.

<sup>6</sup> There was no great battle fought after this, but the final peace was not concluded until May, 1848.

2. Have a prospect of changing my boarding-place. Quite cool. Had thirty-three young women in my room who are preparing to go to the West to be teachers.<sup>1</sup> Received a letter from Mr. Cleaveland, of New Haven. Much occupied. Was out at tea. Read. Get little time for myself.

3. Heard at the Fourth Mr. Hovey,<sup>2</sup> a missionary from Jamaica. That island is improving. Afternoon heard Dr. Hawes, and at the monthly concert in the Fourth Mr. Hovey again.

4. Wrote to brother Francis. Had a long labor in cleaning my room. Had a short ill turn of colic. Occupied with company.

5. Pleasant fall weather. Accounts from our army are much confused. Many lives are lost. Was out in the evening.

6. Had a good walk. Visited a school; in a very good state. Visitors are disappointed when I am out. Wrote to Mr. Burt,<sup>3</sup> of Canton. Read.

7. Had company early, and the most of the day. Our war is bringing an immense debt on the country. Wrote.

8. Read. Walked a good distance. Worked at my room. Afternoon and evening a very great rain.

9. Read Bible. Wrote. Towards evening rode to South Windsor. Quite cool. Crops good, and the most of them well secured.

10. Mr. Smith preached well. He received three women into his church. I did not feel able to preach, but assisted at the sacrament. Did not go out afternoon, but attended the Sabbath-school concert at evening. They have a fine lecture-room here; a school is taught in it.

11. Rode home in the stage. Gave Ursula Wolcott \$5.00. Paid for making and putting up a curtain, \$1.00. At evening was at Mr. Wadsworth's. We have a good account of a very important election in Maryland. The late rain-storm has been very extensive and heavy.

12. A pretty hard frost. Worked at my room. Had a present to the library from New York.

13. Last night a heavy rain and wind; a bad time on the Sound. Had a good deal of company. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Swan,<sup>4</sup> of Litchfield. Went to the fair in the evening, but there was such a crowd I could not enter.<sup>5</sup>

14. Went into the fair. The collection is very extensive and fine of the

<sup>1</sup> This was under an organization known as the National Board of Popular Education, of which Gov. William Slade, of Middlebury, Vt., was secretary, 1846-1858. It was a very useful organization, opening the way for a large number of the well educated young women of New England to go West as teachers where they were greatly needed. Since the War of the Rebellion the American Missionary Association has performed the same work essentially for the South, and that, too, under more adverse circumstances.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. George L. Hovey, for many years

agent and Secretary of the American and Foreign Christian Union.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Jarius Burt, pastor at Canton Center, 1826-1857. He was graduated at Amherst in 1824. He was born in Southampton in 1795, and died in Canton, 1857.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Benjamin Lincoln Swan, pastor at Litchfield, Ct., 1846-1856. He received the honorary degree of A. M. from Yale College in 1844. He afterwards became a Presbyterian minister, and is still (1886) living.

<sup>5</sup> Annual Cattle Show and Fair for Hartford County.

agricultural and mechanical articles. It exceeds any preceding one. My visitors very numerous.

15. Walked nearly three miles. Read Bible. Occupied with much and varied company. Wrote. Troubled with rising of the lungs. Quite cool.

16. A hard frost. Vegetation is mostly finished. Am pretty feeble. Read. My old friend, Mr. Whittlesey,<sup>1</sup> of Danbury, is dead. Col. Battell was here. At evening wrote. Heard from my relatives at Onondaga.<sup>2</sup> Received a letter from Mr. J. M. Scribner, of Schoharie County, N. Y.

17. In the morning, nine o'clock, preached at the gaol on Acts iv: 13. Went into a Baptist meeting. Afternoon heard Mr. Hale<sup>3</sup> at the Centre. At evening attended a great meeting for schools at the West. Gov. Slade<sup>4</sup> made an able address.

18. Had a long work at sweeping and brushing. The school visitors had a meeting here. At evening attended a prayer-meeting. It is a time of great religious declension. Wrote.

19. Walked a distance. Attended to company. Received a donation of a large volume, the first volume of Postlethwayte's<sup>5</sup> great *Commercial Dictionary*, from Wilson H. Clark, Esq.,<sup>6</sup> an attorney at New Haven. One of my largest volumes. At evening our society had a meeting here.

20. Warm for the season, and very pleasant. Wrote. I easily get fatigued. Read.

21. Wrote to Mr. Kinney, of Newark, N. J., and to Ursula Wolcott. We have the account that Gen. Scott has the full possession of Mexico. A painful fact. Warm.

22. I have difficulty in getting a place to live. Wrote to Mr. Swan, of Litchfield. At evening walked out.

23. Worked at my books. Wrote to Mr. David H. Little, of Cherry Valley, N. Y. Attended to company. Our army are brave conquerors, like Alexander's. Wrote.

24. Heard Mr. Patton both parts of the day. Read. At evening rainy. Gave for the A. B. C. of Foreign Missions, \$5.00. My health, through great mercy, is, I think, gradually improving.

25. Worked "cleaning house." Have to go to the rooms below. Received a good letter from Mr. Leonard Hammond, of Mattapoissett. Wrote.

<sup>1</sup> With whom he boarded when teaching at Danbury at the beginning of the century.

<sup>2</sup> His brother, Samuel Robbins, and his family.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Albert Hale, born in Glastonbury, 1799, graduated at Yale College, 1827, and at Yale Seminary, 1831, pastor of Second Presbyterian Church, Springfield, Ill., 1839-1867. Still living (1886).

<sup>4</sup> Hon. William Slade. See entry October 2. He was Governor of Vermont, 1844-1846

but before that time had had many high offices, State and national.

<sup>5</sup> Michael Postlethwayte, London, 1707-1767. Besides his *Dictionary of Trade and Commerce* he wrote several other large works of kindred character.

<sup>6</sup> Wilson Hart Clark was a graduate of the Yale Law School in 1845, and was afterwards, for a time, *ex officio* member of the Yale Corporation (one of the six State Senators).

26. Wrote. Find but little time for myself. Our Mexican war is very sanguinary. At evening was at Judge Ellsworth's.

27. Quite cold. Wrote to Mr. Seward, of West Hartford. Worked at my chamber. Feel the cold. Received a letter from Mr. James M. Cook,<sup>1</sup> of Ballston Spa, and wrote to him. Received a newspaper from William B. Kinney, Esq., Newark. Paid for work at my room, .55. Read late.

28. We had a cold night. The ground much frozen. Examined and approved a school-teacher. Wrote. At evening preached in the Centre lecture-room a preparatory lecture on Col. iii: 11. A cold day.

29. Very frosty. Had a good walk. Examined and gave a certificate to Mr. Giddings as principal of our new High School. His credentials are very ample. At evening attended the annual school society meeting. Full and important. Considerable change in the board of visitors. The room was quite cold, and I took a sudden cold. The teacher examined yesterday was Ralph H. Maine, North School, on Windsor road.

30. Have a bad headache. Consulted my physician. Examined and approved a teacher for Washington Street, Geo. F. Barrows. Took pills, and at evening was quite sick. Have visitors from a distance. Received a letter and a donation from Dr. Sprague.

31. Am much reduced by medicine, but I hope benefited in my illness. I am wholly helpless and dependent on a holy God. Though feeble, I attended meeting at the Centre; heard Mr. Hooker and Mr. Rogers, of Northampton. Read some. In a great parade here Dr. Burgess<sup>2</sup> was consecrated Bishop of Maine by four or five bishops. High churchism, I think, is increasing. Kept considerably at my room. Wrote.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Am, through mercy, much better than for two days past. Bishop Chase<sup>3</sup> and others were in my room. Wrote. Lent Mrs. Marshall \$2.00. At evening was at a party at Mr. Nichols's.

2. Fine weather. Brother Francis was here. He is much afflicted with his nervous headache. At evening had a meeting of our society. Read.

3. Worked at my room. Had a good portrait of Ursula Wolcott brought in here, which I gave her; cost \$20.00.<sup>4</sup> Worked at my books. Received a letter from Mr. Burt, of Canton.

4. Took a long walk. Have a good deal to do about school business. Uncommonly warm. Mercury at 70°. We have remarkable news from the

<sup>1</sup> James M. Cook was a graduate of Waterville College, Maine, in the class of 1831.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. George Burgess, D. D., born in Providence, R. I., and graduated at Brown University, 1826, had been from 1834 to 1847 the very popular rector of Christ Church, Hartford. While Bishop of Maine, 1847-1866, he was also rector of Christ Church, Gardiner, Me. He died suddenly in 1866.

<sup>3</sup> Philander Chase, D. D., born in Cornish, N. H., 1775, and died at Peoria, Ill., 1852. He was graduated at Dartmouth College in 1796. In his earlier ministry, 1811-1817, he was rector of Christ Church, Hartford. In 1819 he was made Bishop of Ohio, and in 1835 Bishop of Illinois.

<sup>4</sup> This was a testimony to the life-long friendship which existed between him and Miss Ursula Wolcott.

election in New York. All Whig by a great majority. New Jersey has done well. All from the mercy of a good Providence. Read. Received a letter from Dr. Sprague.

5. Visited the great manufactory. A great establishment; steam power, sixty operatives, nine hundred gross of screws per day. The invention of machinery is great. Occupied with company. The board of school visitors met here and organized for the year. There is much to be done.

6. Worked at my books; had some assistance. Cannot leave my room till near dark.

7. On Friday evening heard a good preparatory lecture from a Scotchman. Dr. Hawes preached both parts of the day. We had the sacrament. Full meetings. Read. At evening wet, and did not come to my room.

8. Mr. Murdoch,<sup>1</sup> the Scotch minister, now of Catskill, called on me and dined. An interesting man. Occupied with company. At evening heard a very good public lecture from Mr. Marsh,<sup>2</sup> of Vermont. Am unable to get a place to board. Wrote.

9. Read Holinshed's<sup>3</sup> *British History*. Received a good letter from D. H. Little, Esq., of Cherry Valley, N. Y. Am pretty feeble.

10. Renewed my note at the bank of \$150.00. Received of Mr. Hosmer on my salary, \$170.00. Paid Mr. Miller, \$75.00. Received of the town treasurer my bill as school visitor for the past year, \$15.00. Paid the bank, \$2.45. Have now in bills, \$110.00. We have good accounts of the Massachusetts election.<sup>4</sup>

11. We have fine fall weather. Worked at my books. Received a kind letter from Rev. Mr. Merwin, of New Haven. Wrote.

12. Looked at the school-house for the large public school; a noble building. Mr. Tillinghast, of New Bedford, called on me. Paid Mr. Brinley, \$25.00. Had a good deal of company. At evening heard a good lecture on India from Mr. Ward.<sup>5</sup>

13. Looked at the foundation of a large manufactory. Worked at my books. Towards evening rode to South Windsor. Carried up Ursula's portrait. Quite cold.

14. Last night a pretty hard rain. The ground had got very dry. Quite wet, and I did not go out. Read the Bible. Wrote. Mrs. Wolcott holds out well in her old age.

15. Rode home in the stage. Cool. Received a letter from Wilson H. Clark, Esq., New Haven, and one from Mr. Peter Lanman, of Norwich, with a good obituary.

<sup>1</sup> David Murdoch, Jr., afterwards settled, 1850-1869, in New Milford, Ct., and 1869-1874, over the Third Church in New Haven.

<sup>2</sup> Charles Marsh, LL. D., born in Lebanon, Ct., 1765, died in Woodstock, Vt., 1849, a most excellent and able man.

<sup>3</sup> Raphael Holinshed, who died not far from 1580. His *Chronicles* contain the history of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and

the work was published only two or three years before his death. His writings have the flavor of a remote antiquity.

<sup>4</sup> Massachusetts, that year, very easily continued Hon. George N. Briggs in his office of Governor.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Ferdinand D. W. Ward, missionary in Madras, India, then at home on a furlough.



16. Am able, through divine goodness, to carry up some of my wood. Paid for books, \$2.00. We have had a pleasant fall.

17. We are like to have a good House of Representatives in the next Congress. A great mercy of heaven. Worked at my books. My visitors not as numerous as they have been. Read.

18. Walked a distance. Have cares about the new High School. Very mild weather. Wrote to Dr. Gillette,<sup>1</sup> South Windsor, Mr. Brockway,<sup>2</sup> of Ellington, and brother Francis.

19. Rainy. Worked at my books. Hindered by company. Wrote to Mr. Peter Lanman, of Norwich, and to Miss Wolcott. Read late.

20. Cold. Walked a distance. Ursula Wolcott was here. Paid her \$1.00.<sup>3</sup> A good deal of company. Wrote. Get easily fatigued.

21. Have some cold. Attended meeting at the Fourth. Afternoon a Mr. Seymour<sup>4</sup> preached. At evening wrote to brother Francis.

22. Have a good deal of cough. There is an increasing prospect of manufactures here. Attended to company. At evening heard Mr. Baird's<sup>5</sup> public lecture.

23. Wrote to Mr. Waterman,<sup>6</sup> of Providence. Wet and rainy. Wrote the most of a letter to Mrs. Whittlesey, of Danbury. Brother Francis came here.

24. Sat out early with my brother for Norfolk. Wet and showery. The roads wet and muddy. Afternoon it rained very hard. Got to New Hartford with difficulty, and stayed over night.

25. Thanksgiving. It is said that twenty-one States observe this day as such. We rode at four o'clock in the morning. Roads very wet. Broke our carriage twice. Got to Norfolk after eight o'clock.<sup>7</sup> Mr. Eldridge preached well. Had a good congregation. We have a fine family circle, thirteen men and women. I was much fatigued. We had excellent vocal and instrumental music.

26. Walked over the grounds of my childhood. Went with others to the burying-ground. It is a quite respectable cemetery, with a number of good monuments. Read the most of Mr. Clay's<sup>8</sup> noble speech at Lexington. We had a very pleasant evening circle at sister Battell's, with excellent music. We may never have another similar meeting.

27. Slept the two last nights at Mr. Eldridge's. He has a fine place and a pleasant young family. We rode early. The ground is frozen and the

<sup>1</sup> Horace C. Gillette, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Diodate Brockway, of Ellington, was yet living, but it was his son probably, Hon. John H. Brockway, to whom Dr. Robbins was writing.

<sup>3</sup> The fee probably for the use of the library.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Charles N. Seymour, a native of Hartford, graduated at Trinity College, 1841, and at Yale Theological Seminary, 1843, now settled, since 1874, in Tolland, Ct.

<sup>5</sup> Robert Baird, D. D., founder of the Foreign Evangelical Society in 1849. He spent his time, 1835-1843, in Europe, laboring in behalf of the Protestant interest. He was an able and learned scholar.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Thomas T. Waterman.

<sup>7</sup> Going to the home of their childhood to spend Thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup> Hon. Henry Clay had then been twice nominated for President, and twice defeated.

riding good. Stopped at Mr. Allen's in Colebrook. Got to Hartford before sundown. Brother Francis went to East Hartford to preach tomorrow. Some visitors in my absence, but not many. Not greatly fatigued.

28. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes preached in the forenoon, and Dr. Bushnell a singular sermon in the afternoon. At evening wrote. Last evening approved of a school-mistress. Read.

29. A cold day. The first winter day of the season. The mercury at sundown 21°. Wrote. Mr. Gibbs,<sup>1</sup> of New York, here. Finished my letter to Mrs. Whittlesey. Examined and approved a school-teacher.

30. The sudden cold is oppressive. The mercury this morning about 15°. Looked at the new house for the High School. It is large, convenient, and elegant. At evening visited the Misses Patten, aged and venerable women.<sup>2</sup> They gave me the cane of Dr. Hopkins.<sup>3</sup> A valuable relic.

#### DECEMBER.

1. The cold abates. Read. Afternoon we had the dedication of the building of the High School. A very fine house. At evening attended one of Mr. Baird's<sup>4</sup> lectures on Europe. Read late. Our country is much agitated.

2. Rainy and wet through the day. Thermometer at 60°. Sister Battell here. The late cold much spoken of in the papers. Wrote. Have difficulty in getting a boarding-place. Spent the evening with sister Battell. My health, through divine mercy and strength, is evidently improving. Received a letter from William J. Annable, of Hebron.

3. Another rainy day. Spent much time in sweeping and brushing. Wrote. The first men in the nation come out against the present war.<sup>5</sup> Assisted Mr. Gibbs<sup>6</sup> in his researches for the Wolcott family.<sup>7</sup> Visited.

4. Pleasant. Cooler. Yesterday received a letter from George T. Wolcott,<sup>8</sup> of Providence College, that they have made me an honorable member of their United Brothers' Society. Attended an Episcopal funeral. Towards nine o'clock in the evening my sister called in and wished me to go to New Haven with her. We took the cars and went down soon. Put up with Mr. Larned at the Tontine. Cousin Irene's health is poor. We were up quite late.

<sup>1</sup> George Gibbs, Esq., historian, grandson of the first Governor Oliver Wolcott, of Connecticut. He wrote the history of the administrations of Washington and John Adams, and edited the *Judicial Chronicle*, from the Wolcott papers.

<sup>2</sup> Their father, William Patten, was pastor of the Second Congregational Church of Newport, R. I., 1786-1833.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Hopkins, D. D., was pastor of the old Congregational church of Newport, 1769-1803, and his cane, at his death, seems to have passed to his brother minister.

<sup>4</sup> Robert Baird, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> The war with Mexico at that time may properly be pronounced wrong. Wicked motives prompted it. But "God makes the wrath of man praise him."

<sup>6</sup> George Gibbs, Esq., before noticed.

<sup>7</sup> These papers are now carefully gathered up and preserved in the superb *Wolcott Memorial* volume.

<sup>8</sup> George Theodore Wolcott does not seem to have been nearly related to the East Windsor and Litchfield Wolcotts. His name does not appear in the *Wolcott Memorial*, though doubtless he was descended from Henry Wolcott of Windsor, Ct.

5. Attended meeting with Prof. Larned at the chapel. Prof. Fitch<sup>1</sup> preached and administered the sacrament. Afternoon we went to the Centre Church with Gov. Bissell. Mr. Dutton<sup>2</sup> preached. Went to Mr. Bishop's. At Mr. Larned's in the evening. Rainy. Slept at my good friend Mr. Bishop's. Something unwell.

6. Walked out with Mr. Bishop, and called on Mr. Brewster and Judge Daggett.<sup>3</sup> Have been very kindly treated. Took the cars with sister Battell, and rode to Hartford. Had a large quantity of wood brought up. The school visitors met here. Mild for winter. Attended Mr. Gough's temperance lecture.

7. Did errands. Looking for a boarding-place. An unexpected difficulty. Mr. Winthrop,<sup>4</sup> of Boston, is chosen speaker at Congress; a great gain. Had a stated meeting of our society here. There are various evening meetings in the town. My time is much occupied. My health is easily affected. Sister Battell went off for Norfolk this morning.

8. Occupied with company. Dr. Bethune,<sup>5</sup> of Philadelphia, called here. Wrote to Mr. Henry Watson,<sup>6</sup> of South Windsor.

9. Warm for the season. Found unexpectedly and easily a place for boarding quite near Mr. Gleason's. Received a letter from sister Battell. Last evening heard Mr. Gough again, and opened the meeting. Read the President's Message; very long and a poor thing. Mercury at 60°.

10. Wet and rainy through the day. The mercury above temperate. Wrote to Prof. Kingsley in answer to a letter received from him last evening. Congress is doing pretty well.

11. Last evening heard a good lecture from Mr. Baird. Brought up wood; a great mercy that I am able to do it. Last evening was informed that I am elected president of the P. B. K. Society, of Yale College.<sup>7</sup> Wholly unexpected. On the 9th dined with a company at Mr. C. Hosmer's. Wrote to Mr. George T. Wolcott, of Providence College. Read the Bible. Wrote.

12. Attended meeting at the Centre. Heard Mr. Gallaudet in the

<sup>1</sup> Eleazer T. Fitch, D. D., Professor of Divinity and pastor at College Chapel, 1817-1863.

<sup>2</sup> S. W. S. Dutton, D. D., pastor of the North Church, New Haven, from 1838 to his death, 1866. Born in Guilford, 1814, graduated at Yale, 1833, and at Yale Seminary, 1838.

<sup>3</sup> David Daggett, L.L. D.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. Robert C. Winthrop was a member of the House of Representatives at Washington, 1840-1850, except for a brief period in 1842. He was Speaker, 1847-1848, and was United States Senator, to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Webster, 1850-1851.

<sup>5</sup> George Washington Bethune, D. D.,

was born in New York City, 1805, and died in Italy in 1862. He was graduated at Dickinson College, 1822, and at Princeton Seminary, 1825. After preaching for a time in Rhinebeck and Utica, he was settled, 1834-1849, in Philadelphia, over a Dutch Reformed church, and was in the same connection in New York City, 1849-1859. He was among the foremost American preachers of his time.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Henry Watson lived at East Windsor Hill, which still bears that name, though within the bounds of South Windsor.

<sup>7</sup> For many years this society was kept in dignity by an annual oration and poem during Commencement week; but since 1871 these public exercises have ceased.

morning, and Mr. Spring in the afternoon. Wet, and at evening quite rainy. Read the Bible. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Mercury at temperate. Put on my winter flannels. Have some pains.

13. Moving. Left Mr. Miller's and came to Col. Gleason's.<sup>1</sup> About twenty rods from the Atheneum. Great are the mercies of God, who has never forsaken me. Had very little labor in the work. Had to pay \$1.00 for Wheaton's<sup>2</sup> *Election Sermon* to fill out my set. My company diminishes. Thermometer at 60°. Had a fine head put on Dr. Hopkins's cane.

14. Warm and wet. Swept a good deal. Purchased a fine medical dictionary, Parr's.<sup>3</sup> Two large quartos. Read in Holmes's *American Annals*.<sup>4</sup> A great collection of facts. Mercury at 60°. At evening heard a good lecture from Mr. Baird.

15. Warm, and the ground very wet. Mercury at temperate in the morning. The river is very high. Wrote on the life of Dr. Strong. At evening heard a good lecture from Mr. Baird. Thermometer 60°.

16. Gave the Misses Patten, \$2.00. Received a letter from James Hadley, of Yale College, stating my election as president of the P. B. K. Society for the coming year. Dined at Mr. Brinley's. Took tea at Mr. Miller's.

17. Rainy, with snow. The first time the ground has been whitened this season. Wrote on a biographical sketch of Dr. Strong.<sup>5</sup> Have but little company. The traveling is said to be very bad.

18. We have four or five inches of snow; very wet and soft ground. Received twenty seven volumes of the family library. A good addition. Wrote to Mr. Hadley,<sup>6</sup> tutor, Yale College. Mr. Timothy Pitkin<sup>7</sup> is dead. Thermometer 30°.

19. Had quite a poor night; a toothache and pain in my jaw. Did not go out in the forenoon. The snow remains, but very little freezing. Afternoon heard Dr. Hawes. Evening wrote on the life of Dr. Strong. Read the Bible. Am very well accommodated at my new boarding-house.

20. Still the mercury continues about at freezing. Visited the South School; in fine order. The school visitors met in my room. Wrote.

<sup>1</sup> Col. Nelson Gleason.

<sup>2</sup> Nathaniel Sheldon Wheaton, D. D., born in Washington, Ct., 1792, graduated at Yale, 1814, rector of Christ Church, Hartford, 1818-1831, President of Trinity College, 1831-1837. His election sermon was preached in 1828.

<sup>3</sup> Bartholomew Parr, M. D. His work was the *London Medical Dictionary*, two volumes, 1809.

<sup>4</sup> Abiel Holmes, D. D., pastor at Cambridge, Mass., 1792-1832, published his *American Annals* in two volumes in 1805, and a second enlarged edition in 1829.

<sup>5</sup> This was, without much doubt, the letter which he furnished Dr. William B.

Sprague for his *Annals of the American Pulpit*, and may be found in the second volume, *Trinitarian Congregationalists*, p. 37, in connection with the sketch of Nathan Strong, D. D., of Hartford.

<sup>6</sup> James Hadley, LL. D., tutor at Yale, 1845-1848, and afterwards Professor of the Greek Language and Literature till his death in 1872, a man of great and various learning.

<sup>7</sup> Timothy Pitkin, LL. D., a learned lawyer and author, born in Farmington, Ct., 1766, graduated at Yale, 1785, died in New Haven, Ct., December 18, 1847. He was a Member of Congress, 1806-1820. He was the author of the *Political and Civil History of the United States*, two volumes, 1828.

21. It snowed considerably. Brother Francis was here. I conclude I cannot go with him to Danvers to attend his expected marriage. Wrote. Had company. At evening our society met here. Thermometer about 24° through the day.

22. Winter cold. The ground is frozen and very rough. Can do but little in a day. Attended on company. At evening was at Mr. Miller's at a fine party. Read. Anniversary of the Pilgrims.

23. The river full of floating ice. Wrote. There are many evening meetings here of various kinds. It snows some. Worked at my books.

24. Can write but little during the day. Wrote on the biography of Dr. Strong. Sleighs move a little, but poor moving.

25. Attended the Christmas meeting at the North Episcopal Church. President Totten<sup>1</sup> performed well. Joined in the communion. Wrote.

26. A cold, tedious day. Thermometer about 24°. Heard Dr. Hawes. Afternoon attended at the funeral of Mrs. Samuel Tudor.<sup>2</sup> At evening heard a lecture from Dr. Bushnell on the Pilgrims. Finished my long biographical sketch of Dr. Strong for Dr. Sprague.<sup>3</sup> A part of it is an obituary that I wrote at the time of his death.

27. We had a cold night. My thermometer about 12°. Other instruments were lower. Worked at my library. Wrote. A cold day. On the 24th received a letter from Henry Watson in answer to one I had written to him. Had a good deal of company.

28. Thermometer about 20°. Finished and sent off my long letter to Dr. Sprague. I burn a good deal of wood. Difficult to keep my great room warm.

29. Read. Tried reading loud; my lungs are weak. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott. The cold moderates. An unusual number of Congressmen have died this year. Had a good many visitors.

30. Walked on slippery ways. The river is frozen above the bridge. It grows much warmer. Thermometer up to 45°. At evening preached a preparatory lecture at the South lecture-room on Acts iv: 13. Wet and very dark. Received a good letter from Dr. Sprague. Occupied with company.

31. Wet and rainy the most of the day. The mercury between 40° and 50°. The grass is growing, and it gives a green surface to the ground. Read. At evening wrote. Dr. Hawes and his people observed the day as a fast.<sup>4</sup> I could not be in at the services but a short time. Attended to the close of the year. It has been one of severe chastenings, but also of great mercies. 1847, farewell.

<sup>1</sup> Silas Totten, D. D., President of Trinity College.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Tudor was the son of Samuel, and grandson of Rev. Samuel Tudor, first pastor in Poquonnoc Parish, Windsor, Ct. This Samuel, the grandson, was a brother of Mrs. Abiel Wolcott. His wife was Mary Watson, daughter of John Wat-

son, of East Windsor. She was born in 1775. She was the sister of Mr. Henry Watson, to whom Dr. Robbins had written a few days before.

<sup>3</sup> This identifies the paper with the one named before in Sprague's *Annals of the Congregational Ministers*, Volume 2, p. 37.

<sup>4</sup> The last day of the year.

## 1848.

### JANUARY.

1. Endeavored to begin the year with the beginning of the day, the first after passing my seventieth. The wonder of long-suffering grace, of which two brothers have fallen short.<sup>1</sup> My heart's desire is that the coming year may be all for God. My immortal soul, my spared life, my enfeebled constitution, my desired usefulness, are consecrated to the holy Saviour. It is my heart's desire that in all things God may be glorified. Something wet, and the mercury near temperate the most of the day. Wrote to Rev. Dr. Sprague. Did errands. Received of Hartford Bank a dividend of \$17.50. Paid a hatter, \$4.00. Paid for a donation book, \$1.00. Could not keep the day as devoted as I could wish.

2. Attended meeting at the South with Mr. Gleason, and heard Mr. Clarke.<sup>2</sup> A good congregation and church. Assisted at the sacrament. Wet and dark weather. Read my Bible. At evening attended the monthly concert at the Centre. Very dark.

3. Brought up some wood, but cannot do much. The board of school visitors met. Pleasant, but not cold. The rivers generally are open. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott. Read.

4. Worked at my room. Brother Francis came here. I cannot go the distance to his wedding.<sup>3</sup> My boarding-house is in all respects convenient. At evening had the stated meeting of our society. Read.

5. Cooler, but still mild. An uncommon season. Had a good deal of company. Paid for a book, .85. Yesterday Mr. Miller gave me his bill for boarding and store, April 1, 1846, to Dec. 13, 1847, at \$3.00 per week; and \$25.00 extra for twelve weeks of sickness with his store account, amounting to \$361.26.<sup>4</sup> I had paid him \$360.10, and owe him, \$1.16. Am rather feeble.

6. Cold. Waited on company. Worked at my books. Wrote thus much on a paper of diary. May God in his mercy enable me to go through it.

7. Wrote. Walked considerably. The ice is gone out. Occupied with company. At evening, with Mr. Gleason's assistance, made this diary. Through long-suffering mercy, it is my fifty-fourth.<sup>5</sup> Read.

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<sup>1</sup> His brother Nathaniel, who died Feb. 19, 1841, and James Watson, who died March 26, 1847.

<sup>2</sup> Walter Clarke, D. D., pastor.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Francis Le Baron Robbins's second marriage was with Hannah S. Cook, a teacher in South Danvers, now Peabody. Her married life continued only a little more than two years. After her husband's death

she returned to Peabody, where she is now (1886) living.

<sup>4</sup> The price of board had been steadily increasing since he first went to board at Mr. Wolcott's in East Windsor, but was still low judged by modern rates.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Robbins's diary dates from Jan. 1, 1796. This of 1848 is his fifty-third, not his fifty-fourth.

8. Wet. Paid Dr. Rogers<sup>1</sup> for a valuable Medical Dictionary, \$10.00. At evening wrote.

9. In the morning was at the Centre, and heard Pres. Humphrey.<sup>2</sup> At noon preached at the gaol on Gen. xxxii: 26. The streets very icy. Read Bible and wrote. Very difficult being out.

10. Last evening read the most of Mr. Calhoun's<sup>3</sup> speech. Very able and honorable. We had a very cold night. Thermometer about 12°. A very cold day. Worked at my books and wrote.

11. Labored at my library re-arranging. The mercury this morning at nine o'clock was 5°. By other standards it was 4° or 5° below zero. Very cold through the day. Opened the Superior Court. At evening heard a good lecture from Dr. Wheeler,<sup>4</sup> of Burlington College. Took tea at Mr. Miller's.

12. Thermometer about 20°. Pres. Wheeler called on me. My niece, Mrs. Larned, of New Haven, was here. Worked at my books. At evening visited.

13. Thermometer 24°. The ground is very hard frozen. Read. Yesterday had a pair of new boots brought in; very good ones, suit me perfectly. The weather moderates. Busy in my room. Read.

14. Gave Mr. Eastman,<sup>5</sup> a tract agent, \$2.00. Rode in the cars to Enfield. In the afternoon my brother arrived from Danvers with his new wife, late Miss Cook. She appears very well. A few neighbors and friends came in, in the evening. Surface of the ground thaws, and is quite wet.

15. Rode home. The railroad bridge at Windsor River was burnt on the 10th. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Worcester,<sup>6</sup> of Salem. Very dark and wet. Thermometer up to 45°. Wrote.

16. Dr. Hawes preached very well in the morning. Afternoon heard Mr. Clarke at the South. Read. At evening visited Mr. Tudor<sup>7</sup> in his affliction.

17. Worked at my library. I find it difficult to arrange my books satisfactorily. At evening walked out.

18. Procured with difficulty a ream of good old-fashioned writing paper. Felt in the morning some rheumatic pains in my left hip, as in years past,

<sup>1</sup> Benjamin Rogers, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> Heman Humphrey, D. D., left the presidency of Amherst College in 1845, which he had held since 1823. His home after his retirement from Amherst was at Pittsfield, where he died in 1861, at the age of eighty-two.

<sup>3</sup> John C. Calhoun, LL. D., born in Abbeville District, S. C., in 1782, had a long life at Washington as Member of the House, then Secretary of War, Secretary of State, and six years, 1831, and 1845-1850, in the Senate.

<sup>4</sup> John Wheeler, D. D., born in Grafton, Vt., 1798, graduated at Dartmouth College,

1816, and President of the University of Vermont, 1833-1849. He died at Burlington, Vt., 1862.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Ornan Eastman, graduated at Yale College in 1821, for many years agent of the American Tract Society, of New York. He died in 1874.

<sup>6</sup> Samuel Melancthon Worcester, D. D., born in Fitchburg, 1801, graduated at Harvard College, 1822, for some years professor at Amherst College, pastor of the Tabernacle Church, Salem, Mass., 1834-1861.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. Samuel Tudor, who had recently lost his wife, Mrs. Mary (Watson) Tudor.

which increased through the day. The cold increases. Was not able to attend the meeting of our society.

19. Had quite an ill night, with much pain through the day. Did not go into the street. Called in Dr. Rogers. Took medicine. Quite cold. Kindly taken care of.

20. Severe cold. My pain is abated, but am quite ill. Wrote some. Still kept house through the day. My attack of rheumatism was pretty hard, mostly in my left hip.

21. My pain, through mercy, is somewhat abated. Cold. Mr. S. T. Wolcott called on me yesterday. Afternoon walked to my room, and stayed a little while. Mr. E. Gleason<sup>1</sup> keeps in my room working at pamphlets.

22. The cold abates some. Went twice to my room, and stayed some. Gave a school certificate to Miss Holcomb. Received a letter from brother Frank's wife. My cousin Annie Battell called on me. Had considerable pain. Read. Read Bible.

23. Pretty feeble, and did not go out in the forenoon. Afternoon heard a very serious sermon from Dr. Hawes. Read. At evening was in at a neighbor's. Wrote.

24. Pleasant winter weather. The ground hard and deep frozen. My complaint is tedious. Very difficult to avoid taking cold. At evening was invited out. Received a letter from Mr. Hubbard,<sup>2</sup> of Meriden.

25. The cold abates. My cousin Anna and others at my room. Received curiosities from a Mexican officer. Gave a certificate to two school-teachers. Received a letter from Mr. Archibald Russell,<sup>3</sup> of New York. Wrote to Mr. Hubbard. Wrote.

26. Dr. Rogers called on me, and prescribed some medicine. Read. Attended to company. Can do but little. At evening heard from Mr. Brown<sup>4</sup> a very interesting and painful lecture on China. It would seem that their language must forever exclude the gospel.

27. Rainy. Wrote. We expected my brother and his wife, but they came not; probably on account of the rain. My cousin Anna<sup>5</sup> was with us. Worked at my books. Walked a distance. Received of Mr. Hosmer, on my salary for the present year, \$50.00.

28. The committee of the Massachusetts Legislature called at my room.

<sup>1</sup> Ezra Gleason, perhaps a brother of Nelson Gleason, 243 Main Street, Hartford, where Dr. Robbins was boarding.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. John Hubbard was pastor of the First Church in Meriden, 1769-1786, and the writer of the letter was very likely one of his descendants.

<sup>3</sup> Archibald Russell was a gentleman then living at 45 Tenth Street, New York.

<sup>4</sup> Samuel Robbins Brown, D. D., born in East Windsor, 1810, graduated at Yale College, 1832, and in 1838 went to China as

teacher of the Morrison School. He had now returned to America with three Chinese youths, whom he placed at Monson Academy under the care of Dr. Charles Hammond. These were the first Chinese students brought to this country, and one of them was Yung Wing, LL. D., who was graduated at Yale in 1854, and afterwards made Chinese Commissioner. Of late years Yung Wing has made his home at Hartford, Ct.

<sup>5</sup> Miss Anna Battell, now living in Norfolk, Ct.



Much pleased with their visit to Hartford. Sister Battell called on me. Quite wet, and the mercury high. Read.

29. Some snow and rain. My rheumatism, through mercy, is better, but not well. Took tea with my sister and niece at Mr. Trumbull's.<sup>1</sup>

30. Heard Dr. Patton,<sup>2</sup> of New York, at the Fourth. P. M. Mr. Goodrich<sup>3</sup> at the South. Read the Bible. Wrote. At evening heard Mr. Patton. Called on Mr. Tudor.

31. Worked on my books. Am pretty feeble. Think I have taken some cold. Public affairs are conducted very poorly.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. The month begins with snow. We have considerable. Blustering, but not cold. My sister and daughter went off to Norfolk. Paid Mr. Gleason, \$25.00. Received some valuable articles from Mexico. At evening heard a good lecture from Mr. Brinley. Our society had a late and short meeting.

2. Cold, but no sleighing. Had a good deal of company. Walked a distance. Read. Paid for my annual *Courant*, \$2.00. We have a large number of bound pamphlets. Called at Mr. Miller's.

3. Quite pleasant. My brother and his wife<sup>4</sup> called on me. Went out with them. Wrote. My rheumatism has abated, but is not removed. Visited a school; in good order.

4. Employed on my library. My brother's wife purchased a good deal of furniture. Afternoon and evening a hard snow-storm. Visited our High School. A very fine establishment.

5. We have a good deal of snow, but the mercury is above freezing. Engaged the most of the day in procuring money to pay for a manuscript history of Connecticut previous to 1692, by Gershom Bulkeley,<sup>5</sup> minister of Wethersfield. Succeeded; price, \$100.00. A splendid copy, from the Colonial office in London.<sup>6</sup>

6. It snowed considerably. Heard Dr. Hawes both parts of the day. Read Bible. Wrote.

7. Collected subscriptions for my London volume. Mr. Stevens' gave

<sup>1</sup> Gov. Joseph Trumbull, LL. D.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. William Patton, D. D., father of Dr. William W. Patton, pastor of the Fourth Church, Hartford.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Chauncey Goodrich, son of Prof. Chauncey A. Goodrich, D. D., of Yale. He had recently left Malden, Mass., where he was ordained, and where he was settled, 1843-1847. He was afterwards settled in Watertown, Ct., 1849-1856. He died in New Haven in 1868.

<sup>4</sup> His brother, Rev. Francis Le Baron, of Enfield, and his new wife.

<sup>5</sup> In the Harvard catalogue this name is spelled Bulkeley. But in the Connecticut

records of the family, the name is without the middle e. Gershom Bulkley, pastor of Wethersfield, Ct., 1667-1677, was the son of Peter, first minister of Concord, Mass., and was graduated at Harvard College, 1655. The Bulkleys have been a notable family, and it is an interesting fact that Rev. Benjamin Reynolds Bulkeley, a direct descendant from the first Peter (1637), is now pastor of the same First Church, of Concord, where his remote ancestor was settled, 1636-1659.

<sup>6</sup> We are not aware that this history has ever been published.

<sup>7</sup> Henry Stevens, mentioned in previous notes, who recently died in England.

a receipt for \$100.00, and left town. At evening attended the monthly concert, and heard a very interesting account of Africa from Mr. Bushnell, a missionary. School visitors met here. Cold.

8. A good deal of sleighing, though not good. Had much company. Worked at my library. Received a good letter from my old classmate Thomas Romeyn. At evening was at a large party at Mr. Collins's.<sup>1</sup> Read.

9. The mercury at 20°. People hope to procure ice.<sup>2</sup> Arranging books. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott;<sup>3</sup> received a letter from her a few days since.

10. Mercury about 30°. Did errands. Paid for cloths, \$13.81. Paid for improving the canes, \$2.00. Have a very valuable set of them. Read Mr. Dixon's<sup>4</sup> able speech in Congress. Wrote.

11. Mercury at nine o'clock 10°. Difficult to warm my chamber. A very clear, cold day. At evening walked out.

12. Procured the new revision of Webster's *Dictionary*,<sup>5</sup> and paid for it, \$6.25. It is a very fine volume. Worked at my books. Last evening received a present of a good *History of Norwalk*<sup>6</sup> from Gov. Bissell. The mercury about 12°. Am strengthened apparently by the cold. Wrote.

13. On the 11th visited the lower department of the South School; two female teachers, one hundred and twenty young pupils. Thermometer about 16°. Heard Dr. Bushnell and Mr. Patton at the North Church. The ground very hard frozen, but the sleighing is poor. Read Bible.

14. My rheumatism is something painful. Steady cold. Thermometer about 15°. Have a task in getting subscriptions for my manuscript history. Gave for tract cause, \$1.00. A good deal of company.

15. Weather moderates. Said to be good sleighing all north of us. Worked at my books. Our society had a regular meeting.

16. Am something lame, but, through mercy, am able to do some work. My room is cold. Paid the bank, \$51.63. Wrote. Dined at Mr. Miller's. At evening walked out.

17. Obtained a donation of the hundredth dollar, completing the sum for my manuscript history. Very pleasant, winter weather. Occupied with company. Was at Dr. Hawes's interesting evening meeting. Mr. Patton acknowledges his fault in his writings about Dr. Hawes. Visited the first department of the South School.

<sup>1</sup> Amos M. Collins was in company with his brother Charles, in business at 18 Asylum Street, Hartford. The house of Amos M. was next to the store, 18 Asylum Street, and here probably was the party. Amos M. Collins was among the leading men of the city.

<sup>2</sup> The laying up of ice then was chiefly, if not wholly, in private ice-houses. The present wholesale methods of laying up and distributing ice among the people had hardly begun.

<sup>3</sup> There was always a very kind feeling

between Ursula Wolcott and Dr. Robbins. They both lived to old age, and died unmarried.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. James Dixon, of Hartford, a native of Enfield. He was a Member of Congress, 1845-1849, and afterwards United States Senator, 1857-1869.

<sup>5</sup> This was long before Webster's *Dictionary* had reached its present extent.

<sup>6</sup> Since that time town histories, then comparatively few, have been greatly multiplied.

18. Read the Rhiems Testament.<sup>1</sup> Wrote to Ursula Wolcott. Still have rheumatic weakness and pains.

19. Finished the business of Bulkley's manuscript history. Paid Mr. Wadsworth, \$100.00, which he had advanced. The sum was contributed by twenty-four persons, \$25.00 of which by Mr. Wadsworth. Had much company, including school pupils. Paid for pamphlets, \$1.00. The snow thaws. Wrote.

20. Wet and rainy. Heard Dr. Hawes. Read and finished the Bible in course; begun June 14, 1846.

21. Received a letter from sister Battell. Worked at my room. Brother Francis and wife were here. The mercury up to 50°.

22. Wet, snow and rain. Bad walking. At evening was at a large temperance meeting; anniversary of the birth of Washington.

23. We have important news of a treaty of peace with Mexico.<sup>2</sup> Supposed to be not pleasing to the President. We have the news that President Adams has had a fit of apoplexy.<sup>3</sup> Wrote to Mr. Edward North,<sup>4</sup> of Hamilton College.

24. Last evening was at Dr. Grant's. Took a good walk. Wrote to Mr. Archibald Russell, of New York. Worked at my books. Have tremor. Attended the concert of prayer for the colleges.

25. Cold. Thermometer about 20°. Worked at my library, and set up our collection of bound pamphlets; four hundred and thirty volumes. President Adams died the 23d in the capitol. "A great man has fallen." There has been a general tolling of bells here, beginning at sundown. Began to read my Bible again in course. It is for God to say whether I shall finish it. I pray that I may read with attention and profit. Wrote to Mr. Samuel H. Parsons,<sup>5</sup> of Middletown.

26. Did errands. Looked over and arranged books. Towards evening rode to South Windsor. Pretty good riding. Mrs. Wolcott is old and feeble.

27. Pleasant, but cold. Preached for Mr. Smith in the morning. Spoke with ease, and have, by the divine favor, no ill effects from it. Afternoon heard a young Mr. Pierce<sup>6</sup> of the seminary. The congregation here improves.

28. Rode to Hartford in the stage. Attended at the funeral of Mrs. Cooke, daughter of Judge Ellsworth.<sup>7</sup> Rainy. Great attention is paid to the

<sup>1</sup> The Catholic New Testament, translated into English from the Latin Vulgate.

<sup>2</sup> The Treaty of Peace between Mexico and the United States was not finally ratified until May 19, 1848.

<sup>3</sup> President John Quincy Adams was stricken with death Feb. 23, 1848, in the Capitol at Washington, where he was serving as a Member of Congress, in which capacity he had acted from 1831 to his death. He was President of the United States, 1825-1829.

<sup>4</sup> Edward North, a native of Berlin, Ct.,

was elected Professor of Ancient Languages in Hamilton College, December, 1843, which office, if we mistake not, he still holds in this year, 1886.

<sup>5</sup> A graduate of Yale, 1819, son of Enoch, and grandson of Gen. Samuel Holden Parsons, of Revolutionary memory.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Asa C. Pierce, of the class of 1848, in Connecticut Theological Institute, settled for some years at Northford, and now settled at Brookfield, Ct.

<sup>7</sup> Chief-Justice Oliver Ellsworth.

death of President Adams. I think there has been no such general respect to personal character since Gen. Washington. Received a letter from Mr. Charlton, of South Windsor, with a kind donation of an ancient Latin Testament, 1565.

29. Last night had a good deal of snow. Received a letter from Dr. Buel, of Litchfield. Read. Occupied with company. At evening heard a lecture from Mr. Coxe.<sup>1</sup>

#### MARCH.

1. Very cold and rough wind. Mercury about 20°. Walked in the cold. Employed in my room. Read. Heard from Norfolk.

2. I have a long task in arranging my library. Have some help. My rheumatism continues. At evening walked out.

3. Last night we had a good deal of snow. Employed on my room with labor and visitors. An English gentleman appeared very well. Wrote.

4. Weather moderates, with prospects of spring. Get quite fatigued with labor. Read.

5. Heard Dr. Hawes both parts of the day. Had the sacrament. Read the Bible. Want more time for this duty and privilege.

6. Busy in my room. Two of the school visitors came in. We did no business, no quorum. Warm. At evening was at an exhibition of lights and images. A curious affair.

7. Occupied with company. The snow disappears. Our collection of bound pamphlets excites much attention. Our society had a good meeting. We read Bulkley's history. Was out pretty late.

8. Mr. Stevens,<sup>2</sup> of Vermont, has been here some days. Robbins & Winship gave me a fine mahogany box for Bulkley's manuscript. Worked at my library, and got much fatigued. Read.

9. Last night a hard rain, and continued through the day. Afternoon the committee of Congress came on in the cars with the remains of Mr. Adams. Invited by Mr. Tallmadge<sup>3</sup> and others, I went with them to Springfield. There was a very handsome parade notwithstanding a steady rain.<sup>4</sup> Got a little acquainted with several of the gentlemen. We had a very splendid dinner in the evening at Warriner's.<sup>5</sup> Returned late in the evening in the cars. I receive great kindness from many persons.

10. Much water on the ground. Worked removing books. Had help.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Arthur Cleveland Coxe, now Bishop. His first settlement was at Hartford, where he was made rector of St. John's Church in 1842, and remained there several years.

<sup>2</sup> Henry Stevens.

<sup>3</sup> Frederick Augustus Tallmadge, born in Litchfield, Ct., Aug. 29, 1792, and died in the same town, Sept. 17, 1869. He was graduated at Yale College in 1811, and became a very prominent lawyer in New York City.

He was M. C., 1846-1848, and was on the committee attending the remains of President Adams to Quincy, Mass.

<sup>4</sup> On the day following, March 10th, the writer saw this funeral train pass the depot at South Framingham, Mass., on its way to Boston. The engine and cars were heavily draped in black.

<sup>5</sup> Warriner's Hotel at Springfield had an excellent reputation for its cooking and table appointments.

11. Had a good deal of company. Cold. At evening we had an account of the passing of a formal treaty for Mexico by the Senate.<sup>1</sup> A bad one, but we could expect no better from our Executive.

12. Heard a very interesting double sermon from Dr. Hawes, at the close of thirty years of his ministry here.<sup>2</sup> Very well written. Read the Bible. At evening heard Mr. Clarke in his lecture-room. Rainy.

13. Had a meeting here of the school visitors. George Gibbs,<sup>3</sup> Esq., of New York, with some valuable old Wolcott manuscripts. The most valuable one has been long mine. Wrote.

14. Cold. The ground very hard. Cannot work long without fatigue. At evening attended and opened a temperance meeting; Mr. Gough the speaker. Some of my books are missing.

15. We had a very cold night. Thermometer below 15°. Wrote. Thermometer did not rise above about 20°, with a clear sun during the day. Wrote to Mrs. Robbins, of Enfield, and to Ursula Wolcott.

16. The night very cold. Thermometer about 15°. Last evening received a letter from Mrs. E. F. Ellet, of New York. Visited the High School. Wrote to Mr. George Gibbs, of New York. Have some rheumatic debility. Read.

17. Mercury about 20°. Worked at my books. Visited the South School, second department. Read.

18. The cold abates. Mercury nearly up to freezing. The noted Gen. Houston,<sup>4</sup> of Texas, came in here. He has a very commanding figure, and not unpleasant. He came to the North on a poor errand; Democracy. Wrote. Rode to Enfield to spend the Sabbath with my brother.

19. A pleasant spring day. Brother Francis preached in the morning, and I in the afternoon on Ps. xxv: 11. At evening rainy, and we did not go to meeting. This congregation not as large as in times past. I believe I got no injury from preaching, but my rheumatism is bad.

20. Came home in the cars. We have fearful news from France. Revolutionary movements, and the king dethroned. The prospect is alarming. A new dynasty may ultimately take the crown.<sup>5</sup> Oppressed with rheumatic pains.

<sup>1</sup> This was perhaps the treaty which was finally established between the two countries in May following.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Joel Hawes was settled over the First Church, Hartford, in March, 1818.

<sup>3</sup> Col. George Gibbs, a cultured gentleman and scholar, who married Laura Wolcott, daughter of Gov. Oliver Wolcott, and was thus brought into very close connection with the Wolcott family.

<sup>4</sup> Gen. Samuel Houston was born in Lexington, Va., 1793, and died in Huntersville, Texas, 1863. He was United States Senator from Texas, 1846-1859. He was a man of

heroic mold and noble character, with a somewhat rough exterior.

<sup>5</sup> The following items from Haydn's *Dictionary of Dates* will show what had been passing the month before in France:

"February 22. Violent revolutionary tumult . . . impeachment and resignation of Guizot."

"February 23, 24. Barricades thrown up, the Tuilleries ransacked, the prisons opened, and frightful disorders committed by the populace."

"February 24. Louis Phillippe abdicates in favor of his infant grandson, the Comte

21. Am pretty feeble with the sudden spring weather. Mercury at temperate. Occupied with company. Visited the High School. At evening a meeting of our society here.

22. A debility seems to affect me. Worked some at my books. Visited the South School, first department. Thermometer again at 56°. People beginning on their buildings. Received a letter from Miss Wolcott, and wrote to her in return.

23. Worked at my books. Much excitement about the approaching election. Had a good dividend of the Phoenix Bank. They have paid the last year eight per cent. Paid Mr. Gleason, on my boarding-bill, \$25.00. At evening attended Dr. Hawes's meeting. In some of the societies here there is a good revival. Read.

24. Have a great task in arranging and assorting my books. My brother and his wife were here from Enfield. Wrote to Mr. Charlton, South Windsor.

25. Had much company. Read. Am troubled with my rheumatism, and think I am in danger of paralysis. Walked in the evening. The Lord be my helper with regard to health.

26. Heard Mr. Clark at the South. His sermons were close and solemn. He is encouraged in hope of a revival. At evening heard from Mr. Perkins,<sup>1</sup> of Meriden, a long address on Sabbath-schools.

27. By solicitude and advice I went to a meeting of the town authority, and took the oath of an elector. I have not voted since I was installed in East Windsor. The state of the country is such now that I believe it my duty to do it. Wrote. We have spring weather. Have to walk a good deal for exercise.

28. Worked at my books. Afternoon attended a political meeting, and heard Mr. Corwin,<sup>2</sup> of Ohio, and Mr. Thompson,<sup>3</sup> of Indiana, members of Congress, speak. They performed very well. Our national affairs are in a very critical state. Received a letter from brother Francis's wife, informing me of the death of his step-son, Gideon A. Alden.<sup>4</sup>

29. Gov. Corwin called on me. He and Mr. Thompson express a high gratification with their first visit to New England. We have pleasant spring weather. I get quite fatigued with labor. Visited the first department of Mr. Gallup's school. Read.

30. Walked a distance. People are moving very much. The river is

de Paris, who is not accepted; the royal family and ministers escape.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. George W. Perkins, born in East Hartford, Ct., 1804, graduated at Yale College, 1824, and at the Yale Seminary, 1829. From 1829 to 1839, he was preaching at Montreal. He was pastor of First Church, Meriden, 1841-1854, afterwards in Chicago, where he died in 1856.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Corwin, the famous orator, born in Kentucky, but his father removed to Ohio.

As a speaker in great mass meetings he was almost unequalled. He was born in 1794, and died in Washington, D. C., in 1865.

<sup>3</sup> Richard W. Thompson, born in Virginia in 1809. When he was about twenty-two he settled in Indiana, and was a prominent man there for years. He was several times M. C., the last time from 1847 to 1849.

<sup>4</sup> Gideon A. Alden was the son of Rev. Mr. Robbins's first wife before his marriage with her.

rising rapidly. The mercury is above 60°. Wrote to L. Hammond, Mattapoisett.

31. Rode to Enfield in the cars, and attended the funeral of my kinsman, G. A. Alden, a descendant of John the Pilgrim. Dr. Harvey<sup>1</sup> performed the services. Sister Battell was there.

APRIL.

1. The morning rainy. Got something wet. Rode home in the cars: a great convenience. Our country is celebrating the new French Republic.<sup>2</sup> Am quite unwell. Rheumatic and nervous affections. Attended to company.

2. Had a good night. I think I get benefit from the flesh brush. Attended meeting, day and evening, at the Fourth. In the morning had an excellent sermon from Mr. Butler,<sup>3</sup> agent of the Bible Society. The call for Bibles is immense. Read the Bible.

3. In the morning went to the public meeting, and voted for public officers. I think it to be my duty, though I have not done it for forty years. Employed in my room. Received a letter from Mr. G. Gibbs, of New York, with a very valuable old trunk of ancient documents of the Wolcott family. The day here was very quiet.

4. The accounts of the election are very favorable. The State is Whig. Gave a certificate to a school-teacher. Sister Battell was here. At evening had a meeting of our society. Mr. Gleason moved to a house in Trumbull Street, and I am now a considerable distance from the Atheneum.

5. The election returns come in well. There is much rejoicing over the new French Republic. I have no confidence in it. Worked at my books. The spring advances slowly.

6. Twenty-five heavy guns were fired on account of the Whig victory.<sup>4</sup> A childish business. Mr. Stevens<sup>5</sup> has purchased Gen. Washington's library. Had a good deal of company.

7. Mr. Hosmer paid me \$50.00 on my salary for the current year. Did errands. Worked on my library.

8. The weather grows warmer. The streets quite dusty. Can do but little beside waiting on company. Paid for a book, \$1.00. European news becomes important. A very general commotion.

9. Heard Dr. Hawes in the morning, afternoon Mr. Clarke, evening Dr. Bacon,<sup>6</sup> of New Haven, on the subject of a learned ministry. The

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Harvey, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> The King and Queen had escaped to England, and a French Republic was proclaimed from the steps of the Hotel de Ville, Feb. 26, 1848.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Daniel Butler, born in Hartford, Ct., June 23, 1808, graduated at Yale College, 1835, and at Andover Seminary, 1838, pastor of Village Church, Dorchester, Mass., 1838-1845, and ever since Agent and Secretary of the Massachusetts Bible Society. His

residence is now (1886) at Waverly, Mass. He has been forty-one years in office.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. Clark Bissell, the Whig Governor, was elected the year before, and now re-elected.

<sup>5</sup> Henry Stevens, several times before mentioned. He died recently in England.

<sup>6</sup> Leonard Bacon, D. D., probably speaking in behalf of the College Society, in which he took a very active interest. Theron Baldwin, D. D., was the secretary of the society.

mercury near summer heat. Made some change in clothing; a difficult matter. Read the Bible.

10. Took a long walk. The ground is quite dry. Wrote. Attended to company. Had a partial meeting of the school visitors. My nervous system is feeble. Donation, \$1.00.

11. Purchased a great French work, a literary periodical, *Journal des Savans*.<sup>1</sup> Thirty-eight volumes cost \$100.00; in the last and preceding centuries. The European nations are in a state of great commotion. Jehovah reigns, and blessed be his name. Received a good letter from my friend, Arvin Cannon, of Mattapoissett.

12. Putting up my new collection of books. They make a good appearance. Am feeble; some nervous affections. Wrote to Mr. Burt,<sup>2</sup> of Canton, and to Edgar Bissell,<sup>3</sup> of South Windsor.

13. Rainy and wet. My cousin Battell, of Norfolk, called on me. Attended an annual meeting of the Society of the Insane Retreat, and at evening the meeting of the directors. Held late. Yesterday paid Mr. Brinley all I owed him for books, \$28.75, and then gave him a note of \$100.00 for my recent purchase of him. I believe the largest addition to my library that I have ever made.

14. Last night I waked up in a sudden nervous trembling of my whole system. I believe something paralytic. Quite distressing. Sent for Dr. Rogers. He gave me stimulants, with applications. Am relieved, but very unwell. Took much medicine. Cousin Battell called in, and went to Norfolk. Am much relieved. Very kindly taken care of. My trust is in a most wise and holy God. Kept my bed.

15. Through great mercy my disease is abating. Had a special conversation with Mr. James Hosmer. Physician and friends very attentive. I think I leave all with God. My pains abate. I have never been forsaken of my Lord, though all unworthy and vile.

16. I cannot go to the house of God. Read some. Put on loose clothes. It is good to be admonished of my frailty and mortality. I rest pretty well.

17. I take a good deal of stimulants. Walked to my room. I walk feebly. Pleasant spring weather. Wrote. Had a conversation with Dr. Hawes. Mr. Clarke called to see me.

18. Went to my room, and did a little. I gain a little strength. Am disappointed on getting a large elm, which I have expected. My paralysis is much abated, in divine mercy. Read in the *Life of Lord Wellington*.<sup>4</sup> Received a letter from Edgar Bissell. Wrote.

19. It snowed as much as five or six inches. Toward evening walked out

<sup>1</sup> This was a work embodying the wisdom and learning of France for two centuries.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Jairus Burt, pastor in Canton, Ct., 1826, to his death, 1857.

<sup>3</sup> Who married Eveline Wolcott, both still living in South Windsor.

<sup>4</sup> Lord Wellington did not die until Sept. 18, 1852, but his *Memoirs*, in two volumes, had been published for many years. He was eighty-three years old at his death. As a military man, Wellington had that persistence which characterized our General Grant.



and got too much fatigued. Yesterday wrote to brother Frank and to sister Battell. Am quite weak.

20. Manured a part of our front yard with ashes. Can do but little in my room. The most of the snow is gone. Received a letter from sister Battell. Cool.

21. Fast. The streets quite muddy. Dr. Hawes preached very well at both exercises. I am quite feeble. Read the Bible. At evening wrote. The most of the European countries seem to be in commotion.

22. Paid a dyer for coloring my old cloak, \$1.25. Worked some in my room, but can do but little. My new French work is a fine addition to my library. Went to South Windsor. The season advances.

23. Warm. Walked to meeting. Mr. Smith preached. I spoke and opened the Sabbath-school. Afternoon rode with Mr. Wolcott.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Smith preached, I did the most of the other services. Saw peach blossoms. Wrote. My nerves much affected.

24. Walked out. People begin to plow. Rode home in the stage. The ground is dry and dusty. Wrote to Mr. George Gibbs, of New York.

25. I hope my health is a little improving. Yesterday my brother came to see me. Procured a large elm-tree, and had it set in our back yard. It was from Mr. Skinner,<sup>2</sup> of Wapping, and forty-four feet high. I paid him for it, \$3.00. Worked some. Got much fatigued.

26. Worked at my books, the *Savans*. The great work is much noticed. I am not able to do much, hardly anything in the evening.

27. Fine spring weather. Paid Dr. Brocket, bookseller, \$10.00, and Mr. Goodwin, shoemaker, \$5.00. Received an elegant box of gold and silver ore from Mexico. Wrote. Through great mercy I am better than I have been. The ground is dry. Read Bible. Had a present of half a gallon of old wine.

28. Occupied with company. Assisted Mr. Hosmer in setting two good elm-trees in front of our Atheneum. They come from Wapping. Read.

29. Had small shelves made in my room for the *Savans*. I easily get tired with muscular labor, but believe it needful for my health. Read. The news from Europe is very interesting. I trust God will take care of Great Britain.

30. Attended Mr. Bushnell's meeting. He is a singular preacher. It is anything but Orthodoxy.<sup>3</sup> At evening attended Mr. Turnbull's<sup>4</sup> (Baptist) meeting, and spoke considerably.

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Tudor Wolcott.

<sup>2</sup> The name Skinner was one of the early names of ancient Windsor, and was common on both sides of the river.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Horace Bushnell in those years was not in favor with the older type of theologians. Indeed there was, year after year, in the General Association of Connecticut an effort to convict him of heresy and silence

him, but the plan always miscarried. Notwithstanding this, his name now stands in honor, and will so abide.

<sup>4</sup> Robert Turnbull, D. D., who was twice settled in Hartford, and once in Boston, was a Scotchman, born Sept. 10, 1809, and educated at the University of Glasgow. He was an accomplished preacher and scholar, and was the author of many valuable works.

## MAY.

1. Worked at my room. The fruit-trees are coming out well. At evening and afternoon we had a still, copious rain, exceeding grateful to the dry ground. Can read but little in the evening.

2. It rained all the night and forenoon. The ground is greatly refreshed. Worked at my books. Received a letter from Mr. John L. Sibley,<sup>1</sup> librarian at Cambridge. The European excitement seems to be abating.

3. Got my *Savans* in their place; a noble addition to the library. Vegetation springs with great rapidity. The fruit-trees are generally in full blossom, and a great blowth. Wrote.

4. Much occupied with company. Worked at my books. Oppressed with debility. At evening walked out.

5. I think constant brushing, night and morning, with a sharp brush, relieves my complaint materially. Wrote. Our venerable State election has become a moderate affair.

6. Have much to do in resetting and cleaning books. Examined and approved a school-teacher; Miss Baldwin. Am quite feeble. The mercury up to summer heat.

7. Had a poor night; my paralytic affection, I fear, increases. Wrote. Attended at Dr. Hawes's. Had the sacrament. Quite warm. Wore no out-coat.

8. Made good progress in the arrangement of my books. Sent some good domestic implements to Miss Wolcott.<sup>2</sup> Wrote. Vegetation is rapid. The mercury was up to 80°.

9. Quite ill last night. Today, in great mercy, I am better. Worked at my books. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. At Mr. Gleason's there are six boarders besides me.

10. Wrote. Paid a tax for the South School district, \$3.60. On the 8th wrote to Mr. Elisha Whittlesey,<sup>3</sup> now a resident in Washington. President Pierce,<sup>4</sup> of the Western Reserve College, called here. Gave him some of our duplicate books.

11. Last night and this forenoon we have had a great rain. Very beneficial. Wrote to Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge, of Norfolk. Got something wet. Have the most of my library in a new arrangement.

12. More unwell last night, I believe, from some cold. Have many visitors. Examined and approved Miss Eno as a teacher in the north district. Paid for a yard of velvet for a vest, \$5.00. Wrote. Am troubled with tremor.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Langdon Sibley, who as Assistant Librarian, Librarian, and Librarian *Emeritus*, held office from 1825, to his death a few months since, in all about sixty years.

<sup>2</sup> Miss Ursula Wolcott, of South Windsor.

<sup>3</sup> A native of Connecticut, appointed by President Taylor First Comptroller of the

Treasury; and he held the office until the accession of President Buchanan in 1857.

<sup>4</sup> George Edmond Pierce, D. D., born in Southbury, Ct., 1794, graduated at Yale College, 1816, President of Western Reserve College at Hudson, Ohio, 1834-1855. He died at Hudson, Ohio, 1871.

13. Much occupied with company. I easily get fatigued. Wrote. Quite cool.

14. Read Bible. Heard Dr. Patton,<sup>1</sup> of New York, at the Centre, and Dr. Hawes at the South. The anniversaries at New York seem to have obtained less attention this year than heretofore. Read the *Recorder*.

15. A frost very much apprehended this morning, but I do not learn that there was any. Worked at my books as much as I was able. Have a great number of small ones, and of small value. Do not go out much in the evening.

16. Our Mexican War seems to linger. No one thinks well of it. It is perfectly useless and wicked. Our society held their regular meeting here. I am quite feeble.

17. My tall elm-tree comes on finely; there is a good prospect that it will live; forty-four feet high. Worked at my books; have the arrangement nearly completed. A good deal of company.

18. Attend the Institution (as they call it) of Mr. Chauncey, at the North Episcopal Church. Quite warm. Can do but little. Read the Bible. Am reducing my dress and bedding. Wrote.

19. Received a letter from A. S. Barnes & Co.,<sup>2</sup> New York. Attended to company; a good deal and very respectable. Read my Bible. Wrote. Mercury up to 85°.

20. My nervous affections quite bad. Am very feeble. Worked at my books. Some exercise seems to be beneficial to me. Omitted going to Windsor Locks as I had designed. Mercury was the same as yesterday. We had a pleasant shower.

21. Heard Dr. Patton at the Fourth, and Mr. Clarke at the South. Thermometer about 83°. Read Bible and *Recorder*. Wrote.

22. Wet. Worked at my books. Can labor but a small part of the time. I have no fire, though it is wet. The season is forward. Things in Europe appear to be more quiet.

23. Paid a bookbinder, \$1.50. Read in the *Lives of the Presidents*,<sup>3</sup> John Adams was great. My memory seems to fail. President making occupies public attention very much.

24. Paid the bank, \$1.37. Paid for books, \$3.50. I now have the family library complete; one hundred and eighty-six volumes.<sup>4</sup> Read. Had a good deal of company.

25. Had the grass mowed in my back yard; a heavy crop. The land is very rich. Worked at my books. At evening walked out. Wet and cool. Have fire.

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<sup>1</sup> William Patton, D. D., father of William W. Patton, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> Still one of the leading publishing houses of New York.

<sup>3</sup> What work he was reading does not appear. We have a book of the same title,

*Lives of the Presidents*, written by John S. C. Abbott, but that book was published only a few years ago.

<sup>4</sup> Harper's *Family Library*, containing much substantial literature. Multitudes of young and old have profited by these volumes.

26. Received a letter from Dr. Sprague, of Albany, and one from Mrs. Hurlburt, of New Haven. Wrote to Miss Wolcott, of South Windsor, and procured and sent her a large box of fuel. The Democratic Convention at Baltimore have nominated Gen. Cass for President. A wretched choice.<sup>1</sup>

27. Worked at my library. Read. Rode in the cars to Windsor Locks. Wrote. Kept at Mr. Haskell's.<sup>2</sup> Called on Mr. Allen,<sup>3</sup> who is building a new house. They have a good yard round their meeting-house.

28. Slept very well away from home. My brother came here this morning to exchange with Mr. Allen. He went to Enfield. Glad to meet with brother Frank. I preached in the morning on Acts iv: 13. Was some fatigued, but believe I received no injury. Afternoon did not attend meeting. Read. My brother and I rode to Suffield at four o'clock to attend the funeral of Mr. Washburn's<sup>4</sup> eldest daughter, sixteen, eldest child. A number of ministers present. My brother was called home to attend a funeral. Returned to Mr. Haskell's.

29. Rode home in the cars. The appearance of the country very fine. Had a new coat and vest brought in. The Centre Church has a fine new clock just set up. Expected to be the standard for the city. Wrote.

30. Quite wet. May has been as wet as April was dry. Am quite feeble. Some days have much debility. At evening our society held their annual meeting in my room. Warm, and I took no cold.

31. Am better than in days past, through mercy. We received some valuable donations from Capt. C. Strong Holt, a whalman, brought from Japan. Quite cool and windy. Yesterday wrote to Dr. Sprague, of Albany.

#### JUNE.

1. Quite cold. It was windy, and I believe no frost. Read in the works of Bishop Bull.<sup>5</sup> Wrote. Have a steady fire. Wrote to Mr. Sibley, librarian at Cambridge. Did a good deal of sweeping and brushing.

2. Wrote. Had a good deal of company. Received a letter from Dr. Sprague. At evening was much fatigued. Am trying to improve the obituary of the Harvard catalogue.<sup>6</sup>

3. Have much debility. Warm. Mercury up to 80°. Have lost another penknife, probably stolen, and paid .63 for a new one. Wrote. Occupied with company.

4. Warm. Attended meeting at the Centre. Mr. Cook<sup>7</sup> preached in the afternoon. He spoke a good deal about the present state of Europe. I hope the Pope will not regain his temporal power,<sup>8</sup> but I have no expectation

<sup>1</sup> We should not now use that language; but he was not elected.

<sup>2</sup> Harris Haskell.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel H. Allen.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Asahel C. Washburn, pastor at Suffield, 1838-1851.

<sup>5</sup> George Bull, D. D.

<sup>6</sup> Having worked so long on the Yale

College obituary list, he tried to help Mr Sibley on the Harvard record.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Russell S. Cook, Secretary of American Tract Society.

<sup>8</sup> France under Napoleon had circumscribed the power of the Pope, and he has never since gained his old supremacy. Kings no longer bow down to him.

of a quiet, popular government in France. At evening attended the monthly concert at the Fourth.

5. Yesterday left off my flannel. Have taken some cold, and have to restore it. Wrote. Read. Sat with the ministers at their short Monday meeting at Dr. Hawes's.

6. Rode with Dr. Hawes to Burlington, and met with our Association. They have now but one stated annual meeting. We did not stay for public exercises; toward evening returned. Felt no particular inconvenience from the labors of the day.

7. Cool. Worked at my trees. Have debility. Yesterday looked at Mr. Norton's<sup>1</sup> elegant house and garden in Farmington.

8. On the 5th we had news of peace with Mexico, and it seems to be confirmed. There is a very great apathy and indifference in public sentiment about it; it is a miserable war and a miserable peace. Wrote. Attended to company. Was out in the evening. Paid Andrus, \$3.00. Have a fire.

9. Wrote. Worked at my books. Borrowed money from the bank. The convention at Philadelphia have nominated Gen. Taylor for President. Our country cannot put their first men in office. Millard Fillmore, of Buffalo, an excellent man, is the Vice-President.<sup>2</sup> Paid Mr. Gleason \$25.00 on my boarding-bill.

10. Much occupied with company. We have strawberries. Wrote. Get weary in walking about town. In the afternoon rode to South Windsor. Vegetation is in a high state. The ground is dry. Quite cool. Mrs. Wolcott continues well.

11. Had quite an ill night, and am very feeble. Attended meeting. Mr. Smith preached well. It is forty years this month since I came to this town to reside and in this family, June 11th, 1808. How much God has done for me since that time, when I have done but little for him. Infinite is his long-suffering grace. This congregation is almost entirely changed. Mr. Smith had a third meeting in the Baptist meeting-house. I assisted.

12. Rode to Hartford. The ground is dry and dusty. Traded considerably. Eveline came down with me. Her health is not good. Read. The Presidential election excites much more interest in the community than the war or peace. I put into the hands of Mr. Trumbull,<sup>3</sup> of the Secretary's office, the ancient Wolcott trunk,<sup>4</sup> at the desire of George Gibbs, of New

<sup>1</sup> John T. Norton.

<sup>2</sup> This estimate of the two men is somewhat different from the general opinion of the country after the death of President Zachary Taylor in July, 1850. It was then felt that Mr. Fillmore did not make President Taylor's place good.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Trumbull, LL. D., afterwards Governor of Connecticut. That year (1848) he represented Hartford in the Legislature.

<sup>4</sup> There had been three Governors of Connecticut from the Wolcott family. Roger Wolcott, Colonial, 1751-1754; Oliver, his son, Lieut.-Governor of the State, 1786-1796, and Governor, 1796-1797; Oliver, son of the preceding Governor, 1818-1827. The trunk therefore naturally contained some valuable State papers. If we were to include the Wolcott descendants through the female lines, we should find other governors.

York, and he took it to New Haven. The school visitors met here. There is a lack of attendance. Quite cool, and very dusty.

13. Wrote. Have a fire. Yesterday we had green peas. The ground is getting very dry. I cannot usually get out of my room till about sundown.

14. Still quite cool, and very dusty. The nomination of Gov. Taylor for President is approved of very extensively. Received a letter from Mr. Trumbull at New Haven. Much occupied with company.

15. Read the Bible. Wrote. A few days since I gave a certificate for the Grand Hill School, Miss Moore. Subscribed \$8.00 for the Washington National Monument. A good deal of company. Paid Mr. Brinley, \$50.00, on a note he has against me for books. Warmer, after an unusually cool turn.

16. Have but little time for study. Am quite feeble; took some cold yesterday. Had a poor night. Afternoon visited the High School.<sup>1</sup> Examined and approved three teachers. Heard a lecture from Mr. Beecher,<sup>2</sup> the principal. Very warm. Thermometer about 90°.

17. Am much debilitated. Mr. Hosmer brought a number of military articles into my room, taken from the Mexicans. Wrote. The heat very oppressive. Our boarding family increases. The mercury at 93°.

18. Left off my flannel. Heard Dr. Hawes. He propounded nineteen young persons for the church. People oppressed with the heat and languid. Afternoon meeting thin. Read D'Aubigne's *Reformation*. Thermometer 90°. Am quite feeble. At evening walked out.

19. Am quite feeble. Trying to get off winter clothes. Last night we had a little rain; greatly wanted. The mercury at 88°. My cousin J. W. Robbins<sup>3</sup> was here.

20. We had a precious shower of rain. The General Association met here. Attended part of the session. Last evening heard an interesting address from Dr. King,<sup>4</sup> of Dublin. At evening we had the Home Missionary Society and speaking.

21. The evening was the time of our stated society meeting. Two or three came in, and it passed over. I then went into the meeting and heard for a while, but became so unwell that I had to go out. The General Association sermon was by Mr. Smith,<sup>5</sup> of Vernon. Mr. Eldridge, of Norfolk, was here. Received a good letter from J. Munsell,<sup>6</sup> Albany. My rheumatism is quite painful. Have not had so hard a time in a

<sup>1</sup> The High School was first organized in Hartford in 1847, but the old Hopkins Grammar School had been busy for generations.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Rev. Luther F. Beecher, a graduate of Yale in the class of 1841, now living in Brookline, Mass.

<sup>3</sup> James W. Robbins, M. D., of Uxbridge, Mass.

<sup>4</sup> Alexander King, D. D., who, as a public speaker in anniversary meetings and in the pulpit, made a very happy impression.

He was greatly sought for while in this country for public occasions.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Albert Smith, pastor at Vernon, Ct., 1845-1854. He was born in Milton, Vt., 1804, graduated at Middlebury College, 1831, and at Andover Seminary, 1835. He was afterwards professor in Marshall College, Pa., and in Middlebury College, Vt. He died at Monticello, Ill., in 1863.

<sup>6</sup> A publisher of rare books in Albany, N. Y. He was a native of Windsor, Ct.

long time. Was out some. Attended the Association. Made a report as a committee appointed last year. Rev. Mr. Tyler,<sup>1</sup> of Windham, gave me a good bundle of old pamphlets. The Association had the sacrament.

22. Am very unwell. My left limb from the hip is in hard pain much of the time. Holy is the Lord. The Association finished its session. A good body, well moderated by Mr. Merwin.<sup>2</sup> Walked out in the afternoon, but did not come to my room. Grateful showers. Read.

23. Was at my room, but could do but little. Ex-Governor Jones,<sup>3</sup> of Tennessee, and Mr. Combs,<sup>4</sup> of Kentucky, called on me. Paid my subscription for the Washington Monument, designed to be the highest fabric ever reared, \$8.00. Gave for home missions, \$4.00. Gave Reuben Gaylord,<sup>5</sup> for a bell at Iowa, \$2.00. Purchased a very fine copy of Mitchell's new *Universal Atlas*. Gave the man my note for \$10.00, payable after four months. We had a very hard thunder-shower. Read D'Aubigne.

24. My malady abates a little. My walk is laborious. The mercury about 85°.

25. Very pleasant. The heat abated. Heard Dr. Hawes and Mr. Woodruff,<sup>6</sup> of Ohio. Read Bible. A good part of the day at my room. A good deal lame and feeble. Have to be very cautious of cold. Wrote.

26. Am quite weak, with much pain in my leg. Find it difficult to perform the business of my room. Warm. Consulted Dr. Rogers. Took the stage and rode to South Windsor, hoping to get some rest and improved health. Kindly taken care of at my old home.

27. Wrote to Mr. Gleason, at Hartford. Called in Dr. Gillette,<sup>7</sup> and he prescribed for me. Am very feeble, and can walk but little. Read. The crops here appear well.

28. Walked out. My limbs are weak and painful. Wrote. Went into the field. Quite warm. Paid for work, \$1.00.

29. Had a good pain during the night. Wrote on minutes of a testament. The public travel here is much less than it was before the railroad was made on the other side of the river. Read.

30. Hope that my health is improving a little. It is as infinite wisdom sees fit. The rheumatism seems to hold closely. Quite warm. Wrote to Dr. Gridley,<sup>8</sup> of Amherst. I make use of medicine.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Ellery Tyler, pastor of the church in Windham, Ct., 1837-1851. He was son of Bennet Tyler, D. D., at the head of the Connecticut Theological Institute. He died in Vineland, N. J., Aug. 15, 1873. He was born at Southbury, Ct., in 1810, while his father was pastor there, was graduated at Dartmouth College in 1831, and at the Connecticut Institute in 1836. Part of his theological course was at Andover.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Samuel Merwin, of New Haven.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. James C. Jones.

<sup>4</sup> Leslie Combs, Esq.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Reuben Gaylord was a native of Norfolk, Ct., and was an enterprising home missionary. He was graduated at Yale in 1834, and at Yale Seminary in 1839. He died in 1880.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Ephraim Treadwell Woodruff, born in Farmington, Ct., 1777, graduated at Yale, 1797, a missionary on the Western Reserve. He died in 1859, aged eighty-two.

<sup>7</sup> Horace C. Gillette, M. D.

<sup>8</sup> Timothy J. Gridley, M. D., who married Mrs. Eliza Olmsted. He was graduated at Yale College in 1808.

JULY.

1. Had a good deal of pain during the night. Last night and this morning a hard rain. Wrote. Dined at Mr. S. T. Wolcott's. His residence,<sup>1</sup> especially in the summer, is very fine. Rode to Hartford. The ground is quite wet. Read.

2. Most things are damp and wet; unfavorable for rheumatic complaints. Heard Mr. Patton. Afternoon went out for meeting, but it became quite wet and I returned. Read Bible. Wrote.

3. Very weak. Have a good deal of rheumatic pain. We had a hard rain. My dinner was kindly sent to me by Mrs. Gleason. The ground is very wet. The evening was noisy; firing, bonfires, etc.

4. Independence. There was great parade here. A long procession. An oration and other services in the Centre Church, and very splendid fireworks in the evening. I prayed at the public services, and dined with the committee, military officers and men, and eleven soldiers of the Revolution.<sup>2</sup> A very great collection of people; the day pleasant, and very prosperous. My brother and his wife, and sister Battell and daughter were here. Much fatigued; did not go out in the evening. A great number of visitors, with a fire company from New Haven.

5. Had nearly as many people in as yesterday. Mr. Wadsworth is quite sick. I fear my tall elm will fail. Can do but little beside wait on company.

6. Am quite feeble, with a good deal of pain. Did what I could at sweeping and brushing. Have much very respectable company. Read.

7. Wrote. News from Europe is more pacific. Quite cool. Waited on company. Paid Brown & Drake, balance, \$1.56. Read.

8. On the 5th received of the Phoenix Bank a dividend of \$60.00. Lent to Mrs. Gleason, \$20.00. Last evening heard of the death of my classmate Allis,<sup>3</sup> at Skaneateles, N. Y. Worked at my room. Attended to company. Mr. Buel, of Troy, was here. Cool.

9. Heard Dr. Tucker<sup>4</sup> at the Centre Church. He preached very well. Read a good deal in the Bible. We hope Mr. Wadsworth may live a little longer. Wrote.

10. Worked at my books. Read the miserable constitution of the French Republic. Employed by company.

11. Quite warm. Received a letter from sister Battell. Her son Robbins<sup>5</sup> is sick at Michigan. Our cousin Allen, at Colebrook, is quite low. Occupied with company. Was out at tea. Received a letter from Miss

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<sup>1</sup> His house was only a few rods south from that of his father, Major Abiel Wolcott, where Dr. Robbins for so many years had his home.

<sup>2</sup> It was seventy-three years then from the opening of the Revolutionary struggle, and sixty-five from its close, and yet there were eleven Revolutionary soldiers to partake of that dinner on the 4th of July, 1848.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Wells Allis, the first name on the catalogue in the class of 1796—fifty-two years out of college.

<sup>4</sup> Mark Tucker, D. D., pastor at Wethersfield, Ct., 1845-1856.

<sup>5</sup> Robbins Battell, of Norfolk, through whose agency, largely, this diary is published, and who is now trustee of the large estate left by his brother Joseph.



Sarah B. Gridley,<sup>1</sup> of Amherst, and Lucius Bacon, of Canterbury. At evening the cereus flower<sup>2</sup> was exhibited in our lower room.

12. Very warm. Can do but little. Wrote. We hear of a terrific outbreak of the populace in Paris.<sup>3</sup> A miserable people.

13. I am feeble, but, through mercy, my rheumatism appears to abate. Received a letter from Mr. J. Champion, of Lyme, and one from John Doyle, bookseller, New York.

14. Showers and heat. We received for our collection from Mr. Wadsworth some very elegant articles of clothing, adapted to the style of the French court about the year 1783. Had good company. Yesterday wrote on my Testament. Wrote.

15. Received from New York a copy of the works of Melancthon, printed at Wittenberg in 1562; four folios, for which I paid \$20.00. Occupied with company. Wrote.

16. Preached in the morning at the African church. Congregation small. Afternoon heard Mr. Clarke at the South. Cool. Found no inconvenience to my health. Walked a good deal.

17. Wrote to sister Battell. Brother Francis and his wife were here. Judge Stryker, of Philadelphia, left with me the first number of the *American Quarterly Magazine*; <sup>4</sup> designed to be a great work.

18. A very fine season for haying. Wrote on my Testament; a difficult work. At evening we had a very good meeting of our society. Had valuable donations. Was out late, and got much fatigued.

19. Had a poor night; nerves much affected. It has become very warm. Dr. Stryker has concluded to give to our society his valuable periodical. Wrote. Mercury at 86°.

20. My nervous affection continues. Warm, and a fine season for haying and harvest. Wrote to Mr. Sibley, of Harvard College.

21. Am quite feeble. Wrote a short piece for the newspaper. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Abner Morse,<sup>5</sup> Sherborn, Mass. On the 19th Dr. Beecher<sup>6</sup> was here. Have a good deal of company, and get much fatigued. Thermometer about 87°.

22. Had a very warm night. Hope I am some better. Wrote. Attended to company. Received a letter from Mr. Ira Davis, of Norwich, Vt. We have had a very warm week.

23. Preached in the morning at the South Church for Mr. Clarke, absent. Quite feeble with nervous affections. Read Bible, and other things. Preached on Acts iv: 11, 12, and the same on the last Sabbath.

<sup>1</sup> Daughter of Timothy J. Gridley, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> Night-blooming cereus.

<sup>3</sup> This was the rise of the Red Republicans in June, 1848, producing one of the strange episodes of French history.

<sup>4</sup> Stryker's *American Register and Magazine*, which was comprehended in six volumes, 1849-1855. James Stryker was a law-

yer, and judge, and at one time editor of the *Buffalo Republican*.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Abner Morse was a genealogist and antiquarian, born in Medway, Mass., 1793, who died in Sharon, Mass., 1865.

<sup>6</sup> Lyman Beecher, D. D., born in New Haven, Ct., 1775, died in Brooklyn, N. Y., 1863, one of the foremost divines of his day.

24. I think I have no inconvenience from preaching yesterday. Wrote to Edgar and Eveline Bissell. Occupied with company. Had an article in the newspaper.

25. Yesterday had a donation of a very ancient—reel. Called on Dr. Hawes. Dr. Bushnell preaches strangely. He seems to be going into Unitarianism.<sup>1</sup> Very warm. Mercury about 85°.

26. The heat is oppressive. Wrote. Received a letter from Dr. Sprague, and one from Henry Stevens, at Washington. Mr. McCurdy,<sup>2</sup> of Lyme, has been here. Saw the great panorama of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. Thermometer 86°; some instruments much higher.

27. The land is becoming quite dry. The heat is severe. Constantly occupied with company. My long walk is burdensome. Dr. Sprague, of Albany, came and worked at our duplicate pamphlets. Thermometer at 87°.

28. Last night we had a heavy and long thunder-shower. A great blessing. Dr. Sprague went off with a large box of pamphlets. The heat a little abated. Much occupied. Last night the excellent Mr. Wadsworth,<sup>3</sup> the founder and patron of this institution, deceased, with a good hope of a better world. A great loss, though nearly seventy-seven. The memory of the just is blessed.

29. We have better air than in days past. Attended to company. Attended a festival of the first department of the Centre School. They appeared very well, and had a splendid collation. Afternoon attended the funeral of Mr. Wadsworth, with Dr. Hawes. It was plain, by Mr. Wadsworth's direction, and no funeral sermon. He leaves a vacancy which no one can fill. Rode to South Windsor. The crops appear well.

30. Attended meeting. Mr. Smith had made an exchange with Mr. Smith,<sup>4</sup> of Vernon, who preached very well. At evening made some calls with Ursula. The congregation here, I think, is improving. The Baptists appear to be running out.

31. Came home in the stage. The death of Mr. Wadsworth, and his disposition of his property, excites much attention in the town. He is said to have left the value of \$200,000.00, the most of which is divided about equally among his relatives.

#### AUGUST.

1. Quite warm. Mr. Edgar Bissell came here from South Windsor, and

<sup>1</sup> He not only did not go there, but doubtless he kept a good many other persons from going there.

<sup>2</sup> Charles J. McCurdy, LL. D., Judge of the Supreme Court of Connecticut.

<sup>3</sup> Daniel Wadsworth, the founder of the Atheneum, was the grandson of Rev. Daniel Wadsworth, pastor of the First Church, Hartford, 1732-1747. There were six children in Rev. Mr. Wadsworth's household, four daughters and two sons. Jeremiah was

born July 12, 1743. Dr. George L. Walker, in his recent *History of the First Church, Hartford*, in a note on page 310, says: "Jeremiah married Mehitable Russell, and became the father of Daniel. . . . With this Daniel, who died in 1848 without children, the name of Wadsworth, in the direct male line from Rev. Daniel, became extinct." Connected with the Atheneum, its future is secure.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Albert Smith, before noticed.

I gave to him and his wife a valuable old desk and book-case. He brought down my portrait, painted by Moulthrop in 1801.<sup>1</sup> Fatigued with labor.

2. On invitation, went and opened the meeting of a Free-Soil Convention. I hope the movement will do no harm.<sup>2</sup> Had much company. Received a donation of artificial flowers from Mrs. Matilda H. Ward, at New Haven. The town is full of company, and I have my full share. Mr. Day has brought into my room a bust of Gen. Taylor, which excites great attention.

3. Have much to do. Attended the exercises of the Trinity College Commencement. The performances were very good. Pres. Totten has resigned his office, and they have elected one Williams.<sup>3</sup> All for High Church. Pres. Totten presided very well today; he has been ill-treated. I was treated very kindly. Much fatigued.

4. Looked at Mr. Wadsworth's books. He has a number very valuable. They are to be all sold. A prospect of much mixed electioneering for the next President. Difficult for me to get time to write. Read.

5. Wrote. Last night we had a hard shower. The season this summer has been very favorable. I hope, through divine mercy, that my health is improving. Received Congressional documents.

6. Heard Mr. Van Rensselaer<sup>4</sup> at the Centre. Dr. Hawes is absent. Mr. Van Rensselaer preached well. Read Bible and *Recorder*. Took some cold sitting in the meeting-house.

7. My brother<sup>5</sup> and friends from Danvers were here. Wrote to Pres. Hopkins, of Williams College, and to Ursula Wolcott. Quite warm. Am much troubled with tremor.

8. Wrote to Mr. John H. Goodwin, at New York. Almost constantly occupied with company. Our collection of curiosities is much increased. Quite warm daily. Presidential electioneering is getting well going.

9. Did errands. Read. Was at a funeral. I get cold very easy, which affects my maladies. Wrote. Read in the *Life of Lord Somers*.<sup>6</sup>

10. Last night suffered some with nervous affections. Pretty feeble. Had some company. Thermometer at 86°.

11. We have had hot nights. Have so much company and debility that I cannot devote the day as I could wish.<sup>7</sup> Ursula Wolcott came down here.

<sup>1</sup> The sittings for this portrait, when he was yet a young man, only five years out of college, are recorded in the first volume of this diary. It still hangs high up on the front wall of the Atheneum building.

<sup>2</sup> Glad to find that Dr. Robbins in his old age turned somewhat toward reformatory movements in politics.

<sup>3</sup> John Williams, D.D., born in Deerfield, Mass., 1817; graduated at Trinity College, 1835; President of the college, 1848-1853; elected Bishop of Connecticut in 1865. A very scholarly and accomplished man, but

much more of a technical churchman than President Totten.

<sup>4</sup> Cortlandt Van Rensselaer, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Francis, of Enfield. His second wife was from Danvers, Mass., and these were her friends.

<sup>6</sup> Lord John Somers, 1650-1716. He was born in Worcester, Eng., and lived through very eventful times; but Lord Somers was in the path of good fortune, and became Lord High Chancellor of England.

<sup>7</sup> His birthday, and he was seventy-one years old.

Purchased a good common clock and gave her, expecting to take my large, old one from her. Thermometer 86°.

12. My chamber has become very warm. Wrote. On the 9th received a letter from Mr. Martin Rockwell, of Colebrook, and one from Mr. John N. Prince, Georgetown, Mass. Purchased a fine engraving, The First Prayer in the Congress of 1774, for \$3.00. A great display was made here at the return of two officers of the army. A poor business. Paid for Ursula's clock, \$1.50. Thermometer 85°.

13. Attended at the Fourth Church. Heard a Mr. Colton, of Michigan. The heat abates a little. We had a slight shower. Read. Wrote my birthday's record. At evening was out. Took a long walk.

14. Hot and sultry. Much occupied with company. Wrote. Am feeble, and get much fatigued. The ground has become very dry. Read.

15. Something difficult to leave home. Visitors in. Afternoon took the cars and went to New Haven.<sup>1</sup> Kindly accommodated at Mr. Bishop's.<sup>2</sup> Dr. Hutton<sup>3</sup> and wife, of New York, here. Did not go out in the evening. Yesterday Mr. Bartlett,<sup>4</sup> of East Windsor, made me a good visit.

16. Mr. Bushnell's *Concio ad Clerum* sermon, last evening, was with many unsatisfactory.<sup>5</sup> At eight o'clock attended and presided at the meeting of the P. B. K. Society. After which, attended the meeting of the alumni. Very interesting. I delivered our obituary account for the last year, and they had a similar one at the college library. The meeting was under a great circular tent. Read. Was in awhile at the Theological Exhibition. They performed well. At evening was had the annual P. B. K. oration, by Prof. Haddock,<sup>6</sup> of Dartmouth College. Not so much fatigued as I feared.

17. Walked out. Sat for a daguerreotype, without success. Went in late to the Commencement exercises. A full house in the best order. Find very many acquaintance and friends. Dined under a very long tent. The public services very good. The president<sup>7</sup> performed well. At evening called on Judge Daggett;<sup>8</sup> he appears old and feeble.

<sup>1</sup> To attend Commencement.

<sup>2</sup> His classmate, Timothy Bishop, whose house was always open.

<sup>3</sup> Mancius Smedes Hutton, D.D., born in Troy, N. Y., 1803; graduated at Columbia College, 1823; pastor of Washington Square Presbyterian Church, New York, 1842-1876. He died in 1880.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Shubael Bartlett, of East Windsor, who almost always went to New Haven to spend the Commencement season.

<sup>5</sup> The subject of Dr. Bushnell's *Concio* was, according to custom, chosen by the General Association of Connecticut, and that year it was The Divinity of Christ. This discourse was given at New Haven, August 15. The following week, August 24, he gave his notable address, Work and Play,

as the Phi Beta Kappa oration at Harvard College.

<sup>6</sup> Charles Bricket Haddock, D.D., LL.D., Professor of Rhetoric and *Belles-Lettres* at Dartmouth College, 1819-1838, and of Intellectual Philosophy and Political Economy, 1838-1854. He was born in Franklin, N. H., 1796; graduated at Dartmouth College, 1816, and at Andover Seminary, 1819; and died at West Lebanon, N. H., 1861. He was also to some extent in political and public life.

<sup>7</sup> Theodore Dwight Woolsey, D.D., LL.D., whose presidency began in 1846, and continued till 1871, when he resigned, but is still (1886) living in New Haven.

<sup>8</sup> David Daggett, LL.D., then in his eighty-fourth year. He died between two and three years later.

18. Made calls; one on Judge Baldwin.<sup>1</sup> We have had very warm and very light showers these three days. The ground here is very dry. Have been very kindly entertained at Mr. Bishop's. Took the cars and came home. Came in about one hundred minutes. There have been copious showers here during my absence. My health improves.

19. Mr. Gleason has kept my room in my absence. Wet and cooler. Much occupied with company. It is said that Mr. Imlay<sup>2</sup> has purchased the place of Mr. Wadsworth. Find no time to write. Read some.

20. Heard Mr. Theron Baldwin<sup>3</sup> at the Centre in the morning, and Dr. Hawes, afternoon. Read Bible. My chamber much out of order. Did not go out in the evening. Cool.

21. Wrote diary. Had much company. In the morning took a long walk. At evening attended a lecture of a reformed monk against the Catholics.

22. Accounts from Ireland represent that country in great agitation.<sup>4</sup> Have visitors from all parts of the land. Wrote.

23. Wrote. Much cooler than last week. Find it difficult to leave my room. Took the stage and rode to East Windsor. At evening rode with Mr. Wolcott to the seminary, and heard a good address from Prof. Alexander,<sup>5</sup> of New Jersey. A good audience.

24. Detained in the morning. Rode with Mr. and Mrs. Wolcott to the seminary, and attended the services of their annual exhibition. The performances were good. Dr. Tyler<sup>6</sup> presided well. Dr. Hooker<sup>7</sup> has resigned his professorship. Dined at the public table, including the Pastoral Union. I think this institution is important and useful.

25. Mrs. Wolcott's is more home to me than any other place. Came home in the stage. The roads very dusty. The crops appear well. Had a good deal of company, and there have been many calls in my absence. Mr. Gleason kept the rooms. My health holds well, through great mercy. Gave Mr. Baldwin for the West, \$2.00. Received a letter from Rev. Hiram Bell, Marlborough.

26. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Smith,<sup>8</sup> of Glastonbury. Had company from distant parts. Cannot be regular at my meals. Mr. Wadsworth's numerous effects are to be sold at auction, by his order. Read the Bible.

<sup>1</sup> Judge Simeon Baldwin, then in his eighty-seventh year. He, like Judge Daggett, died in 1851.

<sup>2</sup> William H. Imlay, of the firm Imlay & Smith, flour merchants. His house was at 8 Prospect Street.

<sup>3</sup> Theron Baldwin, D. D., Secretary of the Western College Society.

<sup>4</sup> The same is true in this year, 1886.

<sup>5</sup> Joseph Addison Alexander, D. D., born in Philadelphia, 1809; graduated at the College of New Jersey, 1826; died at Princeton, 1860. He was a son of Dr. Archibald Alexander; was for a short time professor in the

college, but from 1838 to his death was a distinguished professor in Princeton Theological Seminary. He was a man of rare genius.

<sup>6</sup> Bennet Tyler, D. D., at the head of the institute.

<sup>7</sup> Edward W. Hooker, D. D.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. James Atwood Smith, born in Hartford, Ct., 1806; graduated at Yale, 1826, and at Yale Theological Seminary, 1831; pastor at Great Falls, N. H., 1832-1837, and at Glastonbury, Ct., 1837-1858. He was afterwards acting pastor at Unionville, Ct., where he died in 1882.

27. Wrote. Read my Bible. Heard two good sermons from Mr. Clarke, at the South. At evening a singular sermon from Mr. Beecher,<sup>1</sup> of Brooklyn. Quite fatigued.

28. Wrote to Mr. W. G. Hooker, of New Haven. Much occupied with company. The accounts from Ireland are more favorable. Wrote.

29. Last night we had a hard rain. Much wanted. Was out at tea, and in the evening. Have little time for myself.

30. Have much company from distant parts of the land. Wrote to Mr. Bell,<sup>2</sup> of Marlborough. Yesterday wrote to W. G. Hooker, of New Haven. My nervous system is feeble. Renewed my note at the Hartford Bank, and paid \$1.63. Paid a bill at Covel's, \$1.88. And one to Andrus, book-binder, \$4.63. Received a letter from George Allen, Jr., of Boston, and one of my valuable Bibles, which I have much feared was lost. Mr. Allen<sup>3</sup> has done much for me. Quite unwell with nervous affections; had to leave my room.

31. Very warm. Quite enervating. Mr. Wadsworth's domestic property is selling at auction. Our valuable portrait of Secretary Wyllys<sup>4</sup> has received a frame of the Charter Oak. It is very elegant and beautiful. Wrote.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. My good cousins, John Le Baron<sup>5</sup> and wife, came here from Mattapoisett. Dined with them at the hotel. Warm, and a good deal of company. My cousins went to Enfield. Read. Received of Mr. J. B. Hosmer, on my salary, \$200.00. Paid Mr. Elon Gleason for work, \$2.00.

2. The air is quite warm and languid. Have something of my nervous affections. Attended the auction of Mr. Wadsworth's books. Purchased more than one hundred volumes of various qualities. Very much fatigued. Hoped to go to Enfield in the evening cars, but was wholly unable.

3. Took a chaise and driver in the morning and rode to Enfield. Attended meeting and the sacrament with my brother and wife, and cousins. Assisted at the sacrament, and preached in the afternoon on Isa. xxviii: 16. The meeting was in the school-house. Toward evening went into the new

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, born in Litchfield, Ct., 1813; was graduated at Amherst College in 1834, and had been preaching at the West. In 1847 he began his ministry at Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, where he still remains. It was, no doubt, a new experience to Dr. Robbins to hear Mr. Beecher.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Hiram Bell, pastor at Marlborough, Ct., 1840-1850. He was a graduate of Williams College in 1836. From 1850 to 1864 he was pastor at Killingworth, Ct., and from 1864 to 1876 he was acting pastor at Westchester parish in Colchester, Ct.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. George Allen, who, it may be remembered, studied theology with Dr. Rob-

bins at East Windsor, and who passed away three years ago (in 1883) at the age of ninety-one. He was graduated at Yale in 1813.

<sup>4</sup> Hezekiah Wyllys, son of Samuel and grandson of George, the founder, was Secretary of the Colony of Connecticut, 1712-1734. His son, George, was Secretary of the Colony and the State, 1734-1795. The two men, father and son, held the office eighty-three years. It was probably the portrait of George Wyllys whose picture had received a frame from the wood of the Charter Oak.

<sup>5</sup> John A. Le Baron will be remembered as one of the sons of Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, of Mattapoisett. He was born in 1782, was five years younger than Dr. Robbins.

meeting-house. A prospect of a very good building. Called, with Mr. Le Baron, on Mr. Lusk;<sup>1</sup> quite sick and low.

4. Yesterday my brother received a letter from sister Battell, announcing the death of our nephew, Mr. Allen,<sup>2</sup> of Colebrook. Brother F. and wife went early this morning to attend his funeral today. God is making breaches in our family. Last night I was considerably unwell. Came with my cousins to Hartford, and they went to Norfolk. Am pretty feeble after my late fatigues. Received a letter from Mr. Thomas R. Foster,<sup>3</sup> of Boston, and one from Rev. Lucius Boltwood, of Amherst.

5. Occupied with company. Our society had a regular meeting in the evening. Mr. Charles Hosmer is confined with sickness. Wrote. Read D'Aubigné's *History of the Reformation*. A noble work.

6. Am pretty feeble. Had much company. Fruit is abundant. Our news from Europe is more pacific.

7. My brother and his wife were here, on their return from Norfolk and Colebrook. Much occupied with Mr. Deeth, from New Jersey, a book-man.

8. Had quite a cool night. Wrote. Vermont has done well in their election. Paid Mr. Gleason, \$30.00; also for articles, \$1.50. Read Bible. Wrote to Mr. J. W. Tuck,<sup>4</sup> Ludlow.

9. Took a long walk. I was weighed—115 pounds. Wrote on my Testament. In the afternoon we were almost crowded with company.

10. Heard an excellent sermon at the Centre from Mr. McGee,<sup>5</sup> of New Jersey. Afternoon had Mr. Clark at the South. Read Bible. Wrote. Preparing for my journey.

11. Am pretty feeble. Hope a good Providence will go with me on my proposed journey. I think it is my duty to go. Paid Mr. Hudson for the Wadsworth books, \$50.00. Took the cars about noon and rode to Springfield, and Boston about sundown. Paid an old bill for Mr. Howland, of New Bedford, \$2.50. For toll, seventy-five cents=\$3.25. Am not as much fatigued, through mercy, as I expected.

12. Found at Little & Brown's, unexpectedly, that I am a creditor on their books, instead of owing them some \$20.00, as I supposed.<sup>6</sup> Paid Moore<sup>7</sup> for my *Recorder*, three years, \$6.00, to January, 1849. Rode to Rox-

<sup>1</sup> The Lusk family in Enfield seems to have been one of prominence. Orrin Thompson, Esq., founder of the village of Thompsonville, married, in 1815, Miss Love Lusk. William Thompson Lusk, a medical professor of considerable note, is probably of this kindred.

<sup>2</sup> This Mr. Allen married Elizabeth Robbins, a niece of Dr. Robbins, daughter of his oldest brother, Ammi Ruhamah, Jr. It was at her house, eleven years later, that Dr. Robbins died.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas R. Foster, of Boston, was then living at No. 8 Avon Place.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Jeremy Webster Tuck was born in Kensington, N. H., 1811; graduated at Amherst College, 1840, and at Connecticut Theological Institute, 1843; pastor at Ludlow, Mass., 1843-1860; acting pastor at First Church, Palmer, Mass., 1860-1865; pastor at Jewett City, Ct., 1866-1876; pastor at Third Church, Middletown, Ct., 1877-1881. Still living in Middletown.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. William C. McGee.

<sup>6</sup> This same thing had happened once before in his accounts with Little & Brown.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Martin Moore, owner and editor of *Boston Recorder*.

bury and dined with my cousin, Dr. P. G. Robbins.<sup>1</sup> Afternoon attended the meeting of the American Board of Foreign Missions.<sup>2</sup> A very great collection of ministers. 'I do not go out in the evenings. Wrote.

13. Last night was a fine time to see the total eclipse.<sup>3</sup> Rode in the cars to Salem. Very kindly treated by Mr. Sprague.<sup>4</sup> Went to their justly celebrated museum, and their large library. A fine old town. Rode with Mr. Sprague and saw their very great cotton manufactory. Rode to Danvers. Our connections there were absent. Returned. Last evening was at Mr. T. R. Foster's. Quite cool.

14. Cold. Mr. Sprague had a fire. There was considerable frost. Returned to Boston. Purchased books of Little & Brown; some very valuable. Received a letter from T. R. Foster. The great national ship Vermont was launched at Charlestown. Saw Mr. and Mrs. Cook,<sup>5</sup> of Danvers, at Boston. Met with my cousins, J. Le Baron and wife, and went with them and dined at Mr. Weld's. Called at Dr. E. H. Robbins's. He and most of his family were absent. Wrote to him. Read.

15. Took the cars at about seven o'clock, and got home at half past eleven. Have had, through mercy, a prosperous journey. My box of books arrived before me. These books make a very fine addition to my library. Had a good deal of company. Quite fatigued. Fare to Boston only \$3.50.

16. Paid Mr. Brinley, \$50.00, and balanced our accounts. Paid the Phoenix Bank, \$1.05. Received a letter from Mr. S. P. Hildreth,<sup>6</sup> of Marietta. My room was very full of company.

17. Preached at the African church on Ex. ix: 20, 21. Afternoon heard Dr. Hawes. Am pretty feeble.

18. Did errands. Much occupied with company. Made a fire in my room. My new six folios, *History of Westminster Abbey*,<sup>7</sup> and the two *Universities* are much admired. Have little time to write.

19. Have many visitors from various parts of the land. Presidential electioneering is becoming the engrossing object of the country. At evening our society had their usual meeting. Am very feeble. Have a steady fire.

20. Am very unwell and feeble. I think I must have taken cold. There are divers public meetings in the town, with military parade.

21. Have an unusual amount of company. Find little time to write.

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<sup>1</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> The great annual meeting of the American Board in those years usually occurred the second week in September.

<sup>3</sup> A total eclipse of the moon occurred during the night between the 12th and 13th of September, 1848, beginning 11 o'clock and 47 minutes, and ending 3 o'clock and 23 minutes. The eclipse was total nearly two hours.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph E. Sprague, Esq.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Francis Robbins's second wife, to whom he was married the year before, was

Miss Hannah S. Cook, and these persons mentioned in the diary were doubtless of her kindred.

<sup>6</sup> Samuel Prescott Hildreth, M. D., was born at Methuen, Mass., in 1783, but emigrated to Ohio in the early years of the present century, and became a physician of extensive practice in Marietta. He was also a scientific man and an extensive writer.

<sup>7</sup> *Historical Memorials of Westminster Abbey*, of which a third edition was published in London in 1869.



A great Universalist convention is assembled here from various parts of the country. I broke the mainspring of my watch. Read the *Recorder*.

22. Paid my annual taxes, \$19.50; much increased. Through mercy, my health is better. Wrote. Worked some at my books. We have fall weather. Read *Battle of Waterloo*.

23. Wrote to the keeper of the Bromfield House, Boston. Dea. Skinner,<sup>1</sup> of Marlborough, came and carried me to his house in his wagon; near twenty miles. Quite cold. Rev. Mr. Bell<sup>2</sup> here is occasionally absent. Did not feel much inconvenience from my travel. Good road.

24. Rode to meeting. A small, pleasant congregation, and new, good meeting-house. Preached on Ex. ix: 20, 21, and Isa. xxviii: 16. This was the first place at which I preached on hire, near fifty years since.<sup>3</sup> Spoke on the occasion.

25. Rainy and wet. Too much for me to ride a distance, and I remained at Dea. David Skinner's. Felt no inconvenience, through mercy, for yesterday's labors. Took tea at Mr. Lord's.

26. Clear weather, but pretty cold. Mr. Dunham brought me home. I hope my excursion may be a benefit to my health. Had a good deal of company.

27. Can do but little except my common round at my room. My brother called here from Consociation of Simsbury. They have done very badly in altering the rules of Consociation.<sup>4</sup> Was out at tea. Read *Quarterly Register*.<sup>5</sup>

28. Opened court, Superior, Judge Ellsworth.<sup>6</sup> Sat for a daguerreotype. Wrote. Have steady fire. Finished the first draft of my will.

29. Much occupied with company. Wrote. Visited. I lose much time by being unable to spend my evenings at my room. Warmer than it has been. Paid for a new mainspring for my watch, \$1.50. I conclude that the former one was worn out.

30. Had my room well cleaned. Wrote. Took tea at Mr. Nichols's. The prospects in Europe for quiet and peace are more favorable.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Preached in the morning at the gaol on Rev. xx: 12-15. Wet and

<sup>1</sup> Miss Mary Hall in her sketch of the town of Marlborough, just published in the *Hartford County History*, says: "David Skinner, his son, and grandson have been deacons successively in the Congregational church, their terms of office covering a period of over one hundred years."

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Hiram Bell, who had been pastor in Marlborough since 1840.

<sup>3</sup> It was the winter of 1798 and 1799 when Dr. Robbins supplied the pulpit at Marlborough, preaching there four or five months.

<sup>4</sup> What alterations were made we do not know, but the Consociation itself — embrac-

ing as its clerical element all the settled Congregational ministers on a given territory as permanent members so long as they remain pastors of the churches on that territory — is at best semi-Presbyterianism, rather than pure Congregationalism.

<sup>5</sup> A periodical in fifteen volumes, 1827-1842, published by the American Education Society, and very valuable for its ecclesiastical and other statistics.

<sup>6</sup> William W. Ellsworth, LL. D., Judge of the Superior Court, 1847-1861. He had been Governor of Connecticut, 1838-1842. He was a son of Chief-Justice Oliver Ellsworth.

damp. Wrote. Read the Bible. Afternoon heard Mr. Bradley<sup>1</sup> at the North.

2. Wet and rainy the most of the day. Read the *Quarterly Register*. An elaborate and valuable work. Read the fine address of Mr. H. G. Otis.<sup>2</sup> Have some rheumatism. Wrote.

3. A steady rainy day; some of the time very hard. Finished my last will and testament. I presume it will *be* the last. I have made several. Went out but little. Read. Received a letter from J. W. Barber,<sup>3</sup> New Haven. Charles W. Butler, of Middletown, came here to assist me in manual labor. My first will was made in 1811. Kept in my room.

4. There has been a great rain. Completed and signed my will. Three men, my neighbors, were witnesses. It relieves my mind of much anxiety. I hope it will meet with the divine approbation. Paid Dr. Brackett his bill for books, \$20.44. I have had some of him that are very valuable.

5. My lad, Butler, does pretty well. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott. Read *Quarterly Register*.

6. Worked at my letters of past years, filing. Preparing for my journey. Easily get fatigued.

7. Took the cars at seven o'clock, and rode to Springfield, Northampton, and Amherst. Took a carriage at Northampton. Got to Dr. Gridley's before noon. My niece, Mrs. Gridley,<sup>4</sup> in poor health. Called on Pres. Hitchcock.<sup>5</sup> He showed me the most of the public rooms. The college as a whole much exceeds my expectation. Got much fatigued. Quite cool.

8. Had a poor night. I conclude on account of fatigue. Quite unwell in the morning, and sent to Pres. Hitchcock that I could not preach in the chapel, as proposed. Afternoon preached for Mr. Colton<sup>6</sup> on Isa. xxviii: 16. A very good congregation. Spoke feebly. Dr. Gridley came home in the evening.

9. Had friends call in the morning. Mrs. Gridley came with me to Northampton, on a fine road from Amherst. Took the cars and came to Springfield, and home. Have had, through mercy, a prosperous excursion. The school visitors met here. Read.

10. The annual fair commenced here. Paid Standcliff, \$3.00, received from nephew James Robbins for a daguerreotype. Have much company. Very fine weather. Was out at tea. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Hanover Bradley probably, teacher and catechist among the Cattaraugus Indians, a native of Connecticut, in the service of the American Board.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Harrison Gray Otis was then an old man of eighty-two years, and died in the following month (October, 1848). The address which Dr. Robbins was reading may have been an eloquent speech delivered in the U. S. Senate in 1820.

<sup>3</sup> Author of the several illustrated State histories.

<sup>4</sup> Eliza Lawrence and, by her first marriage, Mrs. Eliza Olmsted; afterwards Mrs. Timothy J. Gridley.

<sup>5</sup> Edward Hitchcock, D. D., LL. D., President of Amherst College, 1845-1854.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Aaron Merrick Colton, born in Georgia, Vt., 1809; graduated at Yale College, 1835, and at Andover Seminary, 1838; pastor of First Church, Amherst, Mass., 1840-1852, and pastor of First Church, Easthampton, Mass., 1853-1880. He is now (1886) living at Easthampton as pastor *emeritus*.

11. Prayed at the opening of court. Much occupied with company. Engaged, with Butler, in filing and arranging letters and newspapers. Cool, and frosts.

12. There is much anxiety about the State elections. The town is very full of people. I think I have never had so many in my room in one day as this. At evening went and visited the fair. The collection is great, and very good.

13. The day of the plowing match, etc. Attended the public meeting: Mr. Washburn,<sup>1</sup> of Suffield, spoke very well. The public occasion has been favored with very fine weather. On the 5th paid Mr. Goodwin, my shoemaker, my account of \$6.00.

14. Paid Capt. Collier for horse hire, for about a year, \$11.25. Paid my merchant tailor, Mr. Stockbridge, \$16.00. Attended to company. Rode in a carriage to South Windsor. Good crops here this fall, and well secured.

15. Preached for Mr. Smith in the morning on Job xxvii: 8. Mr. Maynard,<sup>2</sup> a young missionary for the Jews, preached in the afternoon. We had a meeting in the evening on that subject.

16. Called this morning at Dea. Reed's. Rode home in the stage. The work is begun on the Eastern Railroad. Received a very valuable letter from Mr. —, <sup>3</sup> and one from Mr. Serrell, of New York. There is much anxiety about State elections.

17. Prayed at the court. Attended to company. Quite warm. At evening we had a meeting of our society.

18. Worked at the filing of my letters. It is quite a job. Read. The present season has been very good. Wet.

19. Worked at my papers. Paid for a new covering of my umbrella, \$4.50.<sup>4</sup> Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. N. J. Rice, of Philadelphia.

20. Last evening read in the *History of the Peninsular War*.<sup>5</sup> Hard fighting. Wrote to Mr. Rice, Philadelphia. Sister Battell and two daughters are here. At evening married two persons from South Hadley.

21. Pennsylvania has done well. Wrote. Mrs. Battell and daughters went to Enfield. My time is much taken up.

22. Attended meeting at the Centre both parts of the day. At evening attended at the Fourth Chapel and conducted the meeting; preached extemporarily on Ps. xviii: 1, 2. Read Bible.

23. Early at my room. Examined a young colored man for a school-teacher; could not pass him. At evening visited. Worked at papers. Rainy.

24. Paid for a book, \$3.00. A fine *Biographical Dictionary*. Have had

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Asahel C. Washburn.

<sup>2</sup> This was Rev. Eliphal Maynard, a graduate of Amherst College in 1844, who died at the age of twenty-nine. He was ordained in 1848, and was sent as a missionary to Salonica to labor among the Jews, where he died, Sept. 14, 1849.

<sup>3</sup> This blank Dr. Robbins forgot to fill.

<sup>4</sup> That was doubtless a good umbrella in its frame-work, and worthy of being perpetuated by a new and costly cover.

<sup>5</sup> *The History of the Peninsular War*, by Robert Southey, in two volumes, was written during the years from 1823 to 1828.

quite a job, with my poor help, in arranging my letters of many years. Read *Peninsular War*.

25. My brother Francis was here. Detained by company from a distance. At evening had a meeting here of the school visitors. Troubled with my nervous complaints.

26. Had a poor night. Paralytic affections. Am quite feeble. At evening attended the annual school-meeting. It was held quite late, and not very pleasant. Was up late. Received a letter from Mr. N. J. Rice, of Philadelphia.

27. Through divine mercy, had a much better night than I feared. Am weak, but improving. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott, and sent to her care \$2.00. Sister Battell was in here considerably. Read.

28. Wrote to Mr. N. J. Rice, of Philadelphia, and sent him a ten-dollar bill to pay for my atlas. Paid for a small load of walnut wood, \$1.70, and sawing, etc., thirty-eight cents. A few weeks since I received a very good letter from my cousins, Capt. Le Baron and wife, of Mattapoissett. I believe not entered at the time. Yesterday I made a contract with Mr. George Brinley; let him have two of my book-cases, with glass doors, and received of him eighteen valuable folio volumes, estimated at \$54.00. A fine addition to my library. Had a good deal of respectable company. There is great concern for the presidential election.<sup>1</sup> May God help us.

29. Attended meeting at the South, and heard two searching gospel sermons from Mr. Clarke. Read Bible. Do not go out much at evening.

30. Had a carpenter to work at my room. A good deal of company. Worked at my books. Warm. Thermometer at 70°.

31. Prayed at the opening of the court. Wet and rainy. Worked at my books. Read the *Peninsular War*. The approaching national election absorbs all public attention.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Worked at my library. My late purchases have much increased the value of the collection. Have occasional turns of my paralytic affections.

2. Waited on company. Received a letter from Mr. Jonathan Maltby, of New Haven. We are encouraged with the prospects of the great election.<sup>2</sup> May God send his blessing. Purchased a new volume, *Declaration of Independence*, with biography, \$3.50. Read Bible.

3. A hard frost. Wrote. Took a long walk. The manufactures here are increasing. Worked at my books. Read. Paid my young man Butler, \$5.00. Had a carpenter to work at my shelves. There is much to be done, as my library increases, and I must do it.

4. Worked at my books. I have much company, of all sorts and great

<sup>1</sup> This election was coming early in the next month.

<sup>2</sup> This election in 1848 was a marked one because of a third party, which acted as an entering wedge between the two old parties.

Martin Van Buren was that year the Free-Soil candidate for the presidency. The movement was a failure, but the new ideas in it triumphantly prevailed in 1860, in the choice of Abraham Lincoln for President.

distances. Examined and approved a school-teacher. I fear I have lost some articles of clothing.

5. A hard rain; some of the time a violent storm. Attended meeting at the Centre. Assisted at the sacrament. Read the Bible.

6. Received a letter from Mr. Herrick,<sup>1</sup> of New Haven. Worked at old newspapers. At evening there were political meetings by three separate parties.<sup>2</sup> Occupied with company.

7. A very important day for our country. May God give success to our best interests, and not let the ungodly triumph. Went early to the polls, and voted for Taylor electors. A very pleasant day. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. At evening there was much noise. A meeting of our society came in course; few present.

8. Prayed with the court. Accounts from all parts of the State and other States give much hope that Taylor electors are chosen.<sup>3</sup> A subject of great joy, and ought to be of thanksgiving. A cold morning. At evening wrote.

9. Last evening the Jew man was in here some time. Gave him fifty cents for his little book of *Hebrew Proverbs*, etc. In the greatness of divine mercy, we have the most important intelligence this morning, and most grateful. It is thought to be settled that Gen. Taylor will be the next President. This morning the ground was white with snow; the first. Worked at my books. Cannot bear much labor.

10. Quite cold. Paid Col. Belcher for Mr. Gleason, \$13.75, and took a lease from him for Gleason for the remainder of the year. The ground is frozen.

11. Mr. Hosmer paid me \$100.00. Worked laboriously at my library. Each day gives increasing evidence of the expected election of Gen. Taylor to the presidency. This week should be long remembered as a time of God's great mercies. Read.

12. It snowed steadily and pretty fast all day. Did not go to dinner. Dr. Dickinson<sup>4</sup> preached in the morning in behalf of the Foreign Evangelical Society. Dr. Hawes preached in the afternoon. Thin meeting. Read Bible. Took some cold.

13. Last week, 9th, credo, paid John Olmsted, \$10.00. Had a good small

<sup>1</sup> Edward Claudius Herrick, Librarian of Yale College, 1843-1858.

<sup>2</sup> Whig, Democratic, and Free-Soil.

<sup>3</sup> Gen. Zachary Taylor received the electoral votes of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Florida—163 electoral votes. Hon. Lewis Cass, the Democratic candidate, received the votes of Maine, New Hampshire, Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, Indiana, Illinois, Ala-

bama, Missouri, Arkansas, Michigan, Texas, Iowa, and Wisconsin—127 votes. Mr. Van Buren did not get a single State, but served a very useful purpose nevertheless.

<sup>4</sup> Baxter Dickinson, D. D., born in Amherst, Mass., 1795; graduated at Yale College, 1817; pastor in Longmeadow, Mass., 1823-1829; pastor of Third Presbyterian Church, Newark, N. J., 1829-1835; Professor in Lane and Auburn seminaries, 1835-1847; Agent and Secretary of American and Foreign Christian Union, 1847-1859. Died in Brooklyn, N. Y., 1875.

stove put into my bed-chamber—an “air-tight,” a great convenience. The snow is eight or ten inches deep. Decent sleighing. Received of Mr. Miller a few old books, bought at auction at New York. I take cold very easy.

14. Mercury below 20°. Cold and frosty. Sleighs move a good deal. Worked at my books. At evening read *Peninsular War*. Last evening walked out.

15. Massachusetts has done nobly at their State election. Worked in the arrangement of newspapers. There was a very splendid illumination in our city in the evening. I was out but little. The late election produces great rejoicings. Read.

16. Paid my man Butler, \$5.00. The snow is wasting away, and streets very muddy. Occupied with company. Read *Peninsular War*. Paid for the volumes, ninety cents.

17. Mr. Harrington, of Boston, called on me. The weather pleasant and moderate. We have a pleasant addition to our boarders. At evening attended a meeting of our Retreat<sup>1</sup> managers. Paid the Phoenix Bank, \$100.00, and took up my note.

18. Quite cool. Worked at my newspapers. Had good company. Towards evening rode in a carriage to South Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott is quite well for an octogenarian. Paid and gave a few days since, \$2.00. Much fatigued.

19. Walked to meeting. Cold. Mr. Allen,<sup>2</sup> of Windsor Locks, preached in the morning; I did in the afternoon on Matt. vi: 10. This congregation appears well.

20. Last night we had a severe snow-storm, which continued the most of the day. A very uncommon fall of snow. Wrote. Looked over this diary. Read. Scarcely went out of the<sup>3</sup> house.

21. The snow lies pretty level, and is said to be about eighteen inches deep. Not severe cold. Sleighs move. Afternoon Mr. Wolcott<sup>3</sup> brought me home. I did not attend our stated society meeting. Wrote for Miss Wolcott. Looked at accounts. Read.

22. Much occupied with company. A good deal of sleighing. The snow settles moderately. Read *Peninsular War*; severe fighting. I cannot well read a whole evening.

23. Sleighs are very thick. Examined and approved a school-teacher. Afternoon visited Miss Perry's school; north district. My young man Butler left me. Paid him \$2.00.; have paid him previously, \$10.00. In all, \$12.00.

24. Wrote. Worked at my room. Have a number of recent and valuable additions. Put up my elegant picture of the First Prayer in Congress. Read. At evening had company.

25. The great body of snow thaws fast. The mercury is nearly up to temperate. The traveling is very bad. My new picture is much admired.

<sup>1</sup> Retreat for the Insane.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Samuel H. Allen.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Tudor Wolcott, still living (Octo-

ber, 1886) in South Windsor, at the age of 87. His sister Ursula died at 87. His sister

Eveline is living at 83.

26. Attended meeting at the North Church. Heard Dr. Bushnell in the morning, and his brother<sup>1</sup> in the afternoon. Read at my boarding chamber. The streets very wet. Brother Francis came here at evening, and we attended a very good and large temperance meeting at the City Hall. Have some nervous affections.

27. Worked at my books. Added some pieces to my coins. Wrote to Zalmon Storrs,<sup>2</sup> Esq., of Mansfield. Received a letter from Dr. Sprague, of Albany, and one from classmate Belden, of Wethersfield. I am now out of money, except a few dollars in silver and change.

28. Had a poor night; nervous affections. Received a dividend of the Phœnix Bank of \$60.00. They do well. Purchased a fine edition of Malte Brun's<sup>3</sup> *Geography*, three good quartos, and paid for them, \$12.00. A good addition. Paid a merchant for flannel, \$5.00. Received a good box of pamphlets from Dr. Sprague. Had a good deal of company. Received a large roll of newspapers from Judson, an eccentric editor in New York.

29. Pleasant winter weather. Much occupied with company. Wrote. Mild weather, and our great snow is wasting away.

30. Thanksgiving. Dr. Hawes preached very well. Mr. Gleason has friends from New Jersey. At evening walked out. Have some trouble with my nervous affections. Very pleasant. The mercury 55°.

#### DECEMBER.

1. My room was almost filled with company. We have had a cold and snowy November. Worked some at my books. At evening took a pretty long walk.

2. Had an ill night; my nervous complaint quite tedious. A hard rain. Kept at my room. Wrote to Miss A. Ogden, Litchfield. At evening read Bible. The snow nearly gone.

3. Attended meeting at the Fourth. Mr. Spring<sup>4</sup> in the morning. Dr. Hawes, afternoon. At evening at the monthly concert, Centre lecture room. Quite full.

4. Worked at my room. My nervous complaints troublesome. A remarkable quietus in the country about political matters. At evening visited.

5. Waited on company. A very good portrait of Col. Eliphalet Dyer<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rev. George Bushnell, born in Washington, Ct., 1818; graduated at Yale College, 1842; pastor of Salem Street Church, Worcester, Mass., 1848-1856; pastor of First Church, Waterbury, Ct., 1858-1865; pastor of First Congregational Church, Beloit, Wis., 1865-1884. He is now living at New Haven without charge.

<sup>2</sup> Zalmon Storrs was one of the prominent and official men of Mansfield. The name Storrs is one of the honored names of that town. The first Rev. Richard Salter Storrs, the life-long pastor of Longmeadow, Mass., was a native of Mansfield.

<sup>3</sup> Conrad Malte Brun, of Paris, 1775-1826, a man of remarkable learning, and a distinguished writer.

<sup>4</sup> Samuel Spring, D. D., of East Hartford.

<sup>5</sup> Col. Eliphalet Dyer was an officer in the old French and Indian War. He was born in Windham, Ct., in 1721, and was graduated at Yale College in 1740. During the Revolutionary period he occupied a prominent position in the Connecticut councils; was a Member of the Continental Congress, and from 1789 to 1793 was Chief-Justice of Connecticut. He died in Windham in 1807. Sixty-seven years out of college.

was left here on deposit. Our society had a meeting here in the evening, but I was unable to attend.

6. Wet and rainy. Received of the bank, \$47.55, and gave a new note. Wrote to Dr. Bacon, of New Haven. On the 4th read much in Scott's *Napoleon*. Wrote. Did not go to dinner. The Connecticut electors met in this town, and gave their votes for Taylor and Fillmore, President and Vice-President. Read biography.

7. Very dark, wet weather. Very muddy. Read a part of the President's Message, inexcusably long and selfish.<sup>1</sup> Received a letter from Mr. Yale, of Cheshire. Paid Mr. Miller, \$5.00.

8. Warm for the season. Read Napoleon's great expedition. The subject of California gold excites great attention.<sup>2</sup> Examined and approved a school-teacher.

9. Occupied with company. Received of the first selectman of the town, ten dollars (\$10.00), for visiting schools and examining teachers. Read Bible. Paid for candles, fifty-five cents.

10. Rainy the most of the day. Not cold. Wrote. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes and a Mr. Thacher,<sup>3</sup> of Utica.

11. A pleasant day, and a good deal of company. Wrote to George Livermore, of Boston, and to Ursula Wolcott. At evening called on Mr. Tudor.<sup>4</sup> Doing well with a very badly broken arm.

12. Occupied with company. Several from New Haven. Our streets and the roads in the vicinity are very muddy. Read Revolutionary biography.

13. Worked at my books. We have an English December; wet, dark, and not cold. I hope, through great mercy, that my health is improving. Can get but little time to write.

14. Worked at my library, with assistance from Mr. E. Gleason. Received the most of this diary. California gold engrosses public attention exceedingly.

15. Received an excellent letter from Mr. Livermore, of Boston. He has been remarkably successful in collecting rare and valuable Bibles.<sup>5</sup> Wrote to Mr. William Serrell,<sup>6</sup> of New York. Very dark and wet weather. The mercury was at 50°.

16. Worked laboriously at my books. Have to make pauses and rest. The bad walking and traveling diminish my company. At evening read the Bible.

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<sup>1</sup> This was the last regular presidential Message of James K. Polk.

<sup>2</sup> This was the beginning of that great movement, which specially belongs to the year 1849, and is usually spoken of as connected with that year.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Washington Thacher was born in Attleborough, Mass., in 1794, and died in Utica, N. Y., June 29, 1850. He was Agent of the American Home Missionary Society,

1847-1850. He studied at Auburn Theological Seminary.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Samuel Tudor, of Hartford.

<sup>5</sup> Reference has several times been made to this large collection, kept at Mr. Livermore's house in Cambridge. His life in Boston was that of a business man, but his home was in Cambridge.

<sup>6</sup> William Serrell & Son were civil engineers at 289 Broadway, New York.



17. A pleasant day. The mercury near temperate. Attended at the south; Mr. Patton, A. M. Mr. Clarke, P. M. Kept at my room. Wrote at my room in the evening. Read Bible.

18. Worked at my books. Am quite feeble. Wet and warm. Mercury above temperate. I think I did too much mental labor yesterday.

19. Labored some in the forenoon at my room. Had to go to my house about noon. Called my physician. Had much distress last night with my nervous affections. Dr. Rogers prepared medicine for me. Brother Francis called on me. The traveling is said to be very bad. Little able to read.

20. Am something better, through great mercy. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Herrick, of New Haven. Take my medicine. The Whig political party had their annual meeting here, and made a very good nomination for State officers next spring.

21. Went to my room, but can do but little. Mr. E. Gleason is laboring for me. The streets are very wet. At evening looked over my diary of 1846.

22. Last night and today we had a hard snow-storm. Did some labor at my room. Wrote. Received a letter from Mrs. Powers, of Boston. Paid Mr. Gleason, \$10.00, for labor. Mostly labeling my books.

23. A hard rain the most of the day. Last night was quite unwell. Took medicine. Went to my room but once. I fear that my close stove is injurious to me.<sup>1</sup> Paid my barber, ninety-four cents. We had a pretty large fall of snow.

24. The weather is quite unfavorable, and, by advice, did not go out. Last evening and today read much in my Bible. Sit considerably in my sleeping chamber. Have a good deal of debility.

25. It is Christmas, and I attended the service, including the communion, at the Episcopal church. Did a little at my room. Quite rainy. Read. Mr. Chauncey<sup>2</sup> preached pretty well.

26. Worked at my room, inserting labels in my books. At evening read. Got overdone. Read Russian campaign.<sup>3</sup>

27. Had a very poor night. My paralysis was very bad. Had to apply much hard brushing. Am quite feeble. Sent off my letter to Mr. George Livermore, of Boston, and sent him a pine-tree shilling.<sup>4</sup> Rainy.

28. Worked at my books. It snowed the most of the day. It is good sleighing. Mr. Hosmer paid me \$100.00, completing my salary for the year, commencing the first of September, past. Paid for a book, \$1.50. My host and hostess have persuaded me to use at their house a lamp.<sup>5</sup> They take the labor of procuring the requisite articles, and keeping them in operation.

<sup>1</sup> At first it was a "great comfort," and a great multitude of people have felt the same. After a time they distrust their air-tights, because they are so unfavorable to ventilation and pure air. That was not far from the time when air-tights were coming into use.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Peter S. Chauncey.

<sup>3</sup> Probably as described in Scott's *Life of Napoleon*.

<sup>4</sup> Money coined in Massachusetts in the seventeenth century.

<sup>5</sup> He had stuck to his candles, evidently, up to that time, though lamps had been in general use for years.

The sidewalks quite slippery. Congress have got hold of the subject of slavery, and made a good beginning.<sup>1</sup> Paid for wood, with sawing, \$2.75.

29. It snowed through the day. Had military men in my room; one from California. He showed me gold in native substance and in dust. That object now is the absorbing object of our country. The Lord preserve us from great evils. At evening wrote and read.

30. Affected with rheumatic pains more than for some time. It snowed hard. Did not go to my room till afternoon. Did but little. I think I have taken some cold. A heavy body of snow on the ground. At evening read Bible.

31. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes preached very well in reference to the year. Bad walking, but pretty good sleighing. Attended the monthly concert at evening. Spoke some. Read. Much fatigued. I close a year of maladies and trials, but of God's great mercies. Never had more occasion to praise his name. "His mercy endureth forever." I shall want an eternity to praise his name. God has done great things this year for our country.

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<sup>1</sup> Evidently Dr. Robbins was beginning to change his views on the subject of American slavery, and to regard it as a great moral and political evil.



## 1849.

### JANUARY.

1. In the greatness of divine mercy I am permitted to commence another annual diary, my fifty-fourth. I cannot speak of the goodness and grace of my Heavenly Father, they are so great. I had rather a poor night, with my nervous pains; but as I had to be up, I had the privilege of beginning my year with God. Shortly after twelve o'clock I endeavored to commit my all to him; my immortal soul and this frail body, to him and his grace, for another year, or for so much as he may spare me, and oh that I may see of the prosperity of Zion. Cold. Much done in making paths, and sleighs move considerably. Paid Mr. Gleason, \$26.25, and balanced accounts; also paid him in advance for boarding, \$10.00. Had a donation of fine apples, more than half a bushel, from Mr. Barnard.

2. Very cold, increasing through the day. My room was very cold. The mercury about 12°. Other thermometers were some degrees lower. Worked some at my books with Mr. Gleason, but can do but little. A heavy body of snow, and little or no thawing. Read La Baume's *Campaign in Russia*.<sup>1</sup>

3. The coldest night yet this season. The mercury this morning at 6°. Other instruments at zero and 6°. Paid Mr. Boswell,<sup>2</sup> for the *Weekly Courant* of 1847, \$2.00, and for the *Daily Courant* for 1848, \$4.00. Paid Mr. Miller, \$6.79; \$7.00 included in this and a former payment was for books. Can do but little in my room on account of the cold.

4. It is the best of sleighing and abundantly improved. Have a good deal of company. Keep in my room at Mr. Gleason's most of my evenings. Had an invitation to a great evening party by Mr. Isham.<sup>3</sup> Could not go.

5. Paid Mr. Brooks for stove, etc., \$7.16. Received a letter from A. C. Denison,<sup>4</sup> of South Windsor. Made this diary with some valuable assistance. Am often troubled in the night with my nervous pains. Waited on company.

6. Worked at my books with Mr. Gleason. A lecturer about convicts called on me; a poor fellow. At evening read the Bible.

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<sup>1</sup> Eugene La Baume's *Campaign in Russia* was published in Hartford in 1816.

<sup>2</sup> In 1836 Mr. George Goodwin sold the Connecticut *Courant* to Mr. John L. Boswell. He it was in 1837 who commenced the publication of the *Courant* as a daily paper, continuing also the weekly as before. Mr. Boswell continued his connection with the paper till his death in 1854. Dr. Robins bought the weekly for 1847, probably to complete his file.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. William Isham.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Andrew C. Denison was graduated at Yale College in 1847, and as Mr. Levi Smith was about to leave South Windsor, it is very likely that Mr. Denison was preaching there, either as a candidate or an occasional supply. He was however first settled in Leicester, Mass., in 1851, where he remained some years. He was again settled in Portland, Ct., and since 1863 he has been pastor at Middlefield, Ct.

7. Am feeble this morning after a tedious night. Attended at the Centre in the morning with the sacrament. Cold and blustering. Afternoon rode to the Retreat and preached on Acts iv: 13. Read. The Retreat is a prosperous and noble institution.

8. A very cold morning, and through the day. Most thermometers below zero. Have to burn much wood in my large room. On the 5th paid Mr. Kilbourn his charge, \$3.15. Can do but little.

9. The cold yields some. The mercury rose a little above freezing, the first time, I believe, for more than a week. At evening wrote.

10. The cold returns, and is quite severe. I think I have taken some cold, and am quite feeble. Can do but little. Received a kind letter from Mr. Livermore,<sup>1</sup> of Boston. Did a little at my books. At evening wrote.

11. Last night is thought to have been the coldest we have had. The mercury at zero and below. Prayed with the Superior Court. Wrote. People are gathering at California from all parts of our country and other countries.<sup>2</sup> Have received this week an important letter from Dr. Justin Edwards,<sup>3</sup> of New York, and one from William Lawrence. On the 8th received a very valuable donation, an ancient chair, from Mr. Lord, of Marlborough, formerly the minister of the First Church in Hartford; died in February, 1732.<sup>4</sup> Did a little at my books. The cold increased through the day.

12. The thermometers were from zero to 10°. Had a good present of a canteen, used in the Revolutionary War, from Mr. Tuttle, of Barkhamsted. I consume a great deal of wood in my room. At evening read.

13. The cold abates, and the thermometer in the day rose to freezing. I can find but little time for myself. At evening read Bible. A good deal of sickness in town.

14. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clarke and other ministers preached very plainly about intemperance and other vices prevailing in the town. At evening wrote a laborious letter to Rev. Justin Edwards, of New York. The roads are wet.

15. There is a good deal of sickness here, and many deaths. A very bad erysipelas. There seems to be no abatement of the general rush to California. Rainy and wet. Wrote.

16. Paid for wrapping paper, \$1.00. Worked at my books. The snow remains solid and icy. Read biography.

<sup>1</sup> George Livermore.

<sup>2</sup> 1849 is the historic year in the development of California.

<sup>3</sup> Justin Edwards, D.D., was born in Westhampton, Mass., 1787, and died at Virginia Springs in 1853. For some years he was President of Andover Theological Seminary, but was widely known for his labors in behalf of temperance and in the tract cause.

<sup>4</sup> This whole entry under date of January 11 is given here exactly as it was left in the

diary. But Dr. Robbins made an important omission. He meant without doubt to tell us that this ancient chair was presented by Mr. Lord, of Marlborough, and that it had belonged formerly to Rev. Timothy Woodbridge, pastor of the First Church in Hartford, who died in 1732. Epaphras and Ichabod Lord, from Hartford, were among the early movers for organizing the church in Marlborough in 1747, and by some connection the chair came into the Lord family.

17. Wet, and the snow and ice thaws. Worked as far as I am able on my books. Looked over past diaries.

18. It has become cold again, increasing through the day. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston. Last night my nervous affections were quite painful. Read biography.

19. Very cold. My thermometer about 8°. Others 5° and lower. Gave Mr. Eastman for the tract cause, \$2.00. Wrote. A good deal of commotion about slavery at the South.

20. Worked at my books, extending the catalogue. Have company from a distance. Received a letter from Mr. Packard,<sup>1</sup> from Shelburne, Mass. At evening read Bible.

21. Late in the morning attended at the Fourth. Heard Mr. Goodrich<sup>2</sup> and Mr. ——. Kept what I could at my room. At evening read and wrote. Cold.

22. A cold night. Mr. Haskell, at the Locks, has lost his only son.<sup>3</sup> Paid Phoenix Bank, for a check for Boston, \$30.00. Paid J. Olmsted, \$11.19, and balanced his books. Paid Dr. Rogers,<sup>4</sup> for professional services, \$16.50. Paid Roberts, for a frame for my new picture, \$4.13. Did errands. Had company at evening. Wrote.

23. Opened the Superior Court with prayer. Still severe cold. Worked at my books. The catalogue has been neglected this three years, and it is very difficult to arrange the succeeding purchases. Read.

24. The cold abates. Looked over past diaries. Occupied with company. At evening wrote to Messrs. Little & Brown, of Boston. In great mercy I am less afflicted with my paralytic affections.

25. Wet and rainy the most of the day. Sent off my Boston letter enclosing a check of \$30.00. Sat some time in the court at a criminal trial. Wrote.

26. Working daily at my books. Received a good letter from my sister Battell. Mr. Butler, of Norfolk, called on me. They have had very cold weather there. The California business is the primary object of attention through our country.

27. I have prayed with the court each morning this week, beginning with Tuesday. Cold again. Am busy in my room, but easily get weary. At evening read the Bible. The ground is hard frozen.

28. Heard Mr. Bushnell at the North Church. He said nothing that a

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<sup>1</sup> Theophilus Packard, D. D., was pastor at Shelburne from 1799, to his death in 1855. Theophilus Packard, Jr., was settled as colleague with his father in 1828, and remained till about the time of his father's death. The father was graduated at Dartmouth College in 1796, and the son at Amherst in 1823. As they were both in Shelburne in 1849, we cannot tell from which of them Dr. Robbins received his letter, but probably from the

son, who is still living, or was recently, at Manteno, Ill.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Chauncey Goodrich probably, of the Yale class of 1837.

<sup>3</sup> This death was not in the family of Harris Haskell, but in that of Herlehigh, his brother, who lost his son Jabez. Hon. Thomas Robbins Haskell, only son of Harris, died in 1863.

<sup>4</sup> Benjamin Rogers, M. D.

Unitarian could not.<sup>1</sup> He had great omissions. Brother Francis came in the evening, and spent the night. Read. Do not go out to evening meetings.

29. Heard of the death of good Mr. Brockway,<sup>2</sup> of Ellington. Very near my age. My brother went to his funeral. Read. Worked at my library.

30. Prayed with the court. They have had criminal cases. I think I have never known our country so much excited, aside from elections, as they are now about California gold.<sup>3</sup> At evening wrote.

31. Had a poor night. Am quite feeble. Can do but little labor. Quite cold. We have had a snowy, wintry month. Read Bible.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. A snowy day. The committee of the Massachusetts Legislature are in town to visit the Asylum.<sup>4</sup> They called on me, and expressed a high gratification at their visit. At evening wrote.

2. Worked at my books with Mr. Gleason laboriously. We have reason to fear that there is an increase of vice and crime in this community. At evening wrote.

3. Have prayed with the court for five succeeding mornings. Their proceedings are slow. Cold, and the walking slippery. My thermometer has been taken from its place this morning; I conclude stolen.<sup>5</sup> At evening read Bible.

4. We had a very cold night. Mr. Clarke's wife,<sup>6</sup> of the South Church, died this morning. Yesterday received a kind letter from Dea. Elisha T. Parsons, Ludlow. At meeting at the Centre Mr. Emerson,<sup>7</sup> an agent, preached in the forenoon, Dr. Hawes in the afternoon. At evening wrote. Read the Bible.

5. Cold and snow. I have many books which I have not enrolled. Received a letter from Boston, and sent for a Smithsonian book by express. Gave to an agent for the Colonization Society, \$2.00. Wrote.

6. Opened the court with prayer. Very cold and frosty. At evening had our society's monthly meeting. Attended the large funeral of Mrs. Clarke. Good sleighing.

7. Have advertised in the newspaper my lost thermometer. A solemn scene in the court; three criminals convicted of great crimes. Wrote to brother Francis. A good deal of company.

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<sup>1</sup> That was at the time when Dr. Bushnell was under sharp criticisms.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Diodate Brockway, who had been pastor at Ellington fifty years, 1799-1849, was the son of Rev. Thomas Brockway, of Columbia, Ct. (then Lebanon Crank), and was born Dec. 29, 1776, and graduated at Yale College, 1797. Dr. Robbins was born in 1777.

<sup>3</sup> There are many thousands yet living to confirm this statement.

<sup>4</sup> This was an annual visit, because deaf and dumb pupils of Massachusetts were then, as now, educated at the Hartford Asylum.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Robbins's bill for thermometers had always been large.

<sup>6</sup> Her own family name was Clarke, from Waterbury, Ct. Dr. Clarke married for his second wife a daughter of his deacon, Seth Terry, Esq.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Joseph Emerson, agent of the American Education Society.

8. The thermometers this morning were from zero to 6°.<sup>1</sup> The streets very slippery. My room is quite cold. Wood, .53. At evening wrote.

9. The cold abates a little. Received a very fine volume from the Smithsonian Institute,<sup>2</sup> a present to our society. Their first publication. Wrote.

10. Received a letter from Little & Brown, Boston, with a list of books I have purchased of them for a number of years. Rode in the cars to Enfield. Cold.

11. The cold abates. Preached for my brother on Acts iv: 13, and Acts iv: 11, 12. The last public meetings in their school-house. I alluded to the subject. The people feel deeply their present circumstances. Called on Mr. Lusk.

12. Very cold again and stormy. Came home in the afternoon. Sister Battell is at the hotel. A large fire here yesterday morning. Not so much affected by my preaching yesterday as I expected.

13. Sister Sarah has influenza. At evening her daughters Irene and Anna came from New Haven. A good deal of sickness in this town. Frequent deaths. Paid for wood, \$2.00. Did errands. Read.

14. Rode in the cars with my two nieces to Enfield, and united with my brother and a number of other ministers in dedicating his splendid new meeting-house. A very fine house. Brother performed very well in sermon and the dedicating prayer. The day was cold, but pleasant. A great collection of people. At evening we returned to Hartford.

15. The mercury was at 2°. Worked at my books. Procured the first part of Macaulay's *History of England*.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Lord, a fellow boarder, is sick. My nieces were in my room. Wrote. Good sleighing very extensively.

16. All agree that we had the coldest night and morning of this winter. Thermometers from 2° to 9° below zero. My room is very cold. Read Macaulay. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.<sup>4</sup> Wrote diary.

17. The cold abates a little. Mercury from about 2° to 8° above zero. Yesterday several instruments were 8° to 12° below zero. Can do but little in my room on account of the cold. Wrote. Sister Battell and Anna went to Norfolk.<sup>5</sup> Read Bible.

18. The mercury this morning at 9°. All buildings are very cold. Read the Bible. I have written lately with a poor pen. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes in the morning. Read the Bible. Took some cold by a change of clothes.

19. Am something unwell. Mercury a little above zero. My room is

<sup>1</sup> This means six degrees below zero.

<sup>2</sup> The Smithsonian Institution at Washington, "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men," was founded in 1846, and named from Hugh Smithson, of England, who gave not far from \$500,000 for its endowment.

<sup>3</sup> In 1848 appeared Lord Macaulay's first

two volumes of his *History of England from the Accession of James II*, a work which had a remarkable circulation.

<sup>4</sup> Ursula Wolcott, of South Windsor.

<sup>5</sup> Of course they had to go by carriage or stage some thirty-five miles through a hill country in that extreme cold. People were then used to such journeys.



very cold. Received a letter from Mr. Murdoch,<sup>1</sup> of Catskill. At evening wrote. Cannot study long.

20. Very cold and rough. Most instruments below zero; some as low as 10°. Can do but little. Had company. The streams greatly closed.

21. Through divine mercy the cold abates, and the snow thaws in the clear sun. Last evening wrote to J. O. Pettibone, of Simsbury. Worked some in my room. Wrote. Had visitors.

22. Worked at my books. My cousin Col. Battell<sup>2</sup> called on me from Norfolk. Had a fine pair of shoes brought in. Mild weather.

23. Paid Mr. Gleason yesterday on my boarding-bill, \$5.00. Worked some at my books. Mr. E. Gleason has placed in my books about twenty-five labels with my name, and has added three years to my catalogue, including eight hundred volumes. Gave to My. Gleason, towards his labors, \$10.00. The streets are becoming wet. Wrote.

24. Had a good deal of company. Dr. Sprague<sup>3</sup> called here; going to Andover<sup>4</sup> to preach a century sermon. Am feeble with my nervous malady; can do but little. The Lord be my helper. The sleighing fails.

25. It snowed some. Wrote. Read Bible. Mr. Spring and Mr. Turnbull preached at the Centre. Quite wet. Keep the most of my Sabbaths at my own room.

26. My nervous pains are apt to afflict me in the night. Worked in my room. There is much to be done in locating and labeling my books. Read Macaulay's *English History*.

27. The snow and ground are thawing gradually. Attended to company. Gen. Taylor coming to the seat of government is welcomed with cordial rejoicings.<sup>5</sup>

28. Last night had a good deal of nervous pain. Many, very many adventurers are going to California. A merciful God has borne me safely through an anxious winter.

#### MARCH.

1. The streets are very wet. My feeble health and company prevent my doing much labor. Some of my books seem to be missing. Was out at tea.

2. Gave Mr. E. Gleason, \$2.00. He found a very valuable fact in an old newspaper. Have to put double rows of books on my shelves. A good deal of sickness and a number of deaths in the town.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. David Murdoch, Jr., who in 1850 was settled in New Milford, Ct., and in 1869 was called to the Third Congregational Church in New Haven.

<sup>2</sup> Robbins Battell.

<sup>3</sup> William B. Sprague, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Andover, Ct. The first minister of the Andover church was settled in 1749, in the

month of February. The parish had been organized two years before (1747), but they celebrated the settlement of the first minister, Samuel Lockwood, D. D., who was there forty-two years. Dr. Sprague was a native of Andover.

<sup>5</sup> They were getting ready for his inauguration on the 4th of March, close at hand.

3. The subject of slavery is the most exciting of anything at Congress.<sup>1</sup> Quite cold. The ground is but little thawed. Read. Read the Bible.

4. Unwell last night. At meeting at the South Mr. Clarke preached very well. Assisted at the sacrament. Wrote. I think there is some special seriousness in the town.

5. Inauguration of President Taylor; a subject of great rejoicing through the land. A very fine season for the great transaction. Received of Col. Thomas H. Seymour<sup>2</sup> a present of a fine cane, the stick of a coffee-tree in Mexico, from the estate of Cortes.<sup>3</sup> Attended to company. Paid Mr. Gleason, \$5.00. Cold, and the ground very hard. Sent off books for binding.

6. Wrote to Dr. Pierce,<sup>4</sup> of Brookline, Mass. Read the new President's Inaugural Address. Short and very good. It was printed here this morning. Wrote. Occupied with company. My brother called here. At evening had a meeting of our society here.

7. Paid \$2.29 for five books bought at auction. Rainy. Very bad walking. The wet freezes. The prospect of the new administration is favorable.

8. Cold. Had a very good new surtout brought in. Spent considerable time with Dr. Hawes. Worked at my books. Read Bushnell's new book.<sup>5</sup>

9. We have constant cold. The ground thaws but little. Occupied with company. The movements of our new President give much satisfaction.

10. On the evening of the 8th we had a fine view of the eclipse.<sup>6</sup> Had a good deal of company. Capt. William Austin, of the United States Army, gave me two valuable volumes brought from Mexico. Read.

11. Cold and windy. Attended meeting at the Fourth. In the morning Mr. Patton preached very well on the errors of the day. Afternoon Mr. Turnbull preached. Read much in Bushnell's book.

12. Very pleasant, and growing mild. Attended the ministers' morning meeting. Am pretty feeble. Wrote. Occupied with company.

13. Purchased of an English gentleman Burke's<sup>7</sup> *Encyclopædia of Heraldry*, a very valuable work; paid \$8.25. Worked at my books. Getting a number rebound. The spring advances slowly.

14. Got quite fatigued by labor. Renewed my note at the bank, and received \$46.83. Visited the first department of the Centre School. Read Mr. Clay's<sup>8</sup> excellent letter on Slavery.

<sup>1</sup> It is noticeable that Dr. Robbins no longer speaks of these slavery discussions as he used to do in earlier years.

<sup>2</sup> An officer in the Mexican War. He was born in Hartford, 1808, and educated at the military school in Middletown, Ct. He had been a Member of Congress, 1843-1845, and was Governor of Connecticut, 1850-1853.

<sup>3</sup> Fernando Cortes (Hernando Cortez), 1485-1547, the Spanish conqueror of Mexico.

<sup>4</sup> John Pierce, D. D., pastor at Brookline,

Mass., from 1797, to his death in 1849. He was graduated at Harvard College, 1793.

<sup>5</sup> This book was *God in Christ*.

<sup>6</sup> A partial eclipse of the moon, beginning six o'clock and forty-one minutes.

<sup>7</sup> John Burke's *Dictionary of the Peerage*, etc., first published in 1828, a work of great value.

<sup>8</sup> Henry Clay was now seventy-two years old, and was finishing his long term of service as United States Senator.

15. Worked laboriously at my books. Last night had a good deal of my nervous pains. Had a large work on natural history brought into my room, procured in this town, four volumes quarto, at \$10.00.

16. I get fatigued by labor soon. Gave \$1.00 to a poor Catholic, and \$1.00 lately to an agent. Occupied with company. Wrote a letter of acknowledgment to Col. Seymour for my cane. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Rainy. Read.

17. On the 15th received a very pleasant letter from Dr. Pierce, of Brookline, with many thanks for what I sent him respecting Rev. Joseph Howe.<sup>1</sup> The ice begins to move. A binder is at work at my books. We have lately had accounts that the Pope of Rome has been deposed as a secular prince.<sup>2</sup> A great event, and a great mercy from heaven. Read.

18. Attended meeting at the South. Heard Mr. Turnbull<sup>3</sup> and Mr. Hooker.<sup>4</sup> Mr. Clarke unwell. A large congregation. Read.

19. Cold. Attended the meeting of the ministers at Dr. Hawes's. The ground dries. Wrote. Paid for wood, \$1.00.

20. Rode in stage to Wethersfield to see my good classmate Hezekiah Belden.<sup>5</sup> He is very low, and probably near death. Returned soon. Worked at books. At evening our society had a large meeting here; a good many ladies. Mr. Stuart<sup>6</sup> read a very good paper. Received a very good letter from Miss Wolcott. Was out late.

21. Yesterday the first vessels came up the river. Worked and read in my chamber. Received a good letter from Miss Wolcott.

22. Much occupied with company. Mr. Manning gave me an elegant draft of my coat of arms. A messenger from Wethersfield informs me that my friend and classmate Belden died this morning; seventy-one years old. Wrote to my classmate Davis at Clinton, N. Y.

23. Wrote on an obituary of Maj. Foot,<sup>7</sup> of Branford, a cousin of my father. Read Bushnell's strange book.<sup>8</sup> The spring advances.

24. Wrote. Rode to Wethersfield and attended the funeral of Mr. Belden. His age was seventy-one. Spoke at the funeral with Dr. Tucker. Dr. Tucker has a fine library.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Joseph Howe was the son probably of Rev. Perley Howe, pastor at North Killingly, Ct., 1746-1753. Joseph was graduated at Yale, 1765, was tutor at Yale, 1769-1772, received the degree of A. M. from Harvard, 1773, and died in 1775. Dr. Pierce was greatly interested in college statistics.

<sup>2</sup> The Roman National Assembly, Feb. 5, 1849, divested the Pope of all temporal dominion, and established a republican form of government.

<sup>3</sup> Robert Turnbull, D. D., pastor of Baptist church.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Horace Hooker.

<sup>5</sup> Then fifty-three years out of college.

<sup>6</sup> Isaac W. Stuart, son of Rev. Moses Stuart, of Andover. He was for many years resident at Hartford, and a well-known writer and author.

<sup>7</sup> Dr. Robbins's grandfather, Rev. Philemon Robbins, the life-long pastor at Branford, had for his wife Hannah Foot. Hence the relationship.

<sup>8</sup> This book was *God in Christ*, and the more conservative men in theology at that time turned strongly against it. But now, that and Dr. Bushnell's other works are read with great profit by those who may not wholly agree with them. They are reverent and eminently suggestive.

25. Rainy and wet through the day. Some of the time violent. Wrote and finished the biography of Mr. Foot. An eminent Christian soldier. Attended meeting at the Centre. Mr. Butler,<sup>1</sup> an agent, preached in the morning, and Mr. Hooker in the afternoon. Read.

26. It snowed steadily through the day. Could not go out to dinner. Afternoon rode in the stage to South Windsor. The road very deep and heavy. Not cold. Have not been to Mrs. Wolcott's for four months. Mrs. Wolcott much as in years past. A tedious ride.

27. It snowed through the night with high wind, and through the day. I scarcely went out of the house. Looked over accounts with Miss Wolcott. Paid her \$4.40, for money she has paid carriers, etc., for me. She has done much for me since I came to Hartford.<sup>2</sup> Read.

28. We still have snow and rain. A hard storm. Wrote to Mr. Harris Haskell. Came home in the stage. All roads very wet. Quite fatigued. Read. On the 26th paid Robbins & Winship, \$2.89.

29. Worked at my books. Mr. Brinley assisted me. Still dark and wet. Wrote. Much anxiety in the State about the approaching election. The river is getting high.

30. Still showery. The streets very wet and muddy. Received a letter from T. R. Haskell.<sup>3</sup> His father is sick. Got tired with work. Had a large number of my books brought in, bound and repaired. A great improvement of the library. Paid Mr. E. Gleason, for labor, \$12.50. Read. A good deal of rain.

31. Had a good deal of company. The first day this week without snow or rain, or both. Warm. Am pretty feeble. My paralytic affections, through great mercy, are much abated. Read Bible. Yesterday received \$84.00 from Mr. J. B. Hosmer on my salary for the current year. I have had a winter of great mercies.

#### APRIL.

1. Attended meeting at the Fourth. Mr. Wolcott,<sup>4</sup> an agent for the American Bible Society, delivered an elaborate address in the morning, and Mr. Patton preached in the afternoon. Read. Wrote. Pleasant, but cold.

2. Worked in my room sweeping and brushing. Attended the meeting of the ministers at Dr. Hawes's.<sup>5</sup> Went to the electors' meeting and voted.<sup>6</sup> I think it my duty to do so. Read.

3. The reports of the election are unfavorable.<sup>7</sup> God is holy in his chastenings. Warmer. Mrs. Battell is here; something unwell. Rode in

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Daniel Butler, still Secretary of the Massachusetts Bible Society, and living at Waverly, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> His real *home* was there, though he had to stay chiefly in Hartford.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Robbins Haskell, named from himself, now about twenty-three years old.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Calvin Wolcott.

<sup>5</sup> Monday morning meeting.

<sup>6</sup> State election for Governor, etc., first Monday in April.

<sup>7</sup> Joseph Trumbull, LL. D., grandson of Gov. Jonathan, of the Revolutionary period, was elected Governor. There was nothing very depressing in that, except in a mere party and technical way.

the cars to Windsor Locks. Mr. H. Haskell is very sick; I think dangerously.

4. This village is increasing, with good prospects. Mr. Haskell is able to converse but very little. Came home and got Dr. Sumner<sup>1</sup> to go up and visit him. Much fatigued. Warm and dusty. Saw daffa blossoms.

5. Paid Mr. Elon Gleason, \$10.00. He thinks he has a claim on me which I did not expect. He has done much for the library. The streets begin to be dusty. Wrote to Gov. Everett, of Boston, requesting him to write the biography of the two Adams's.<sup>2</sup>

6. Fast. Dr. Hawes preached in the morning, and Dr. Read,<sup>3</sup> of New Preston, in the afternoon. People attended well. There was a good deal of riding. Wrote. Kept much in my room. Read.

7. The streets are very dusty. They began to sprinkle. Mr. S. T. Wolcott and wife and daughter were here. Had a good deal of company. A good deal unwell last night.

8. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Read preached in the forenoon, Mr. Clarke in the afternoon. Full congregation. Wrote. Read.

9. Had a very unpleasant occurrence about a hat deposited here. Got much fatigued. Wrote to Mr. J. Trumbull, Hudson, N. Y. Worked at my lower room; long neglected. Read.

10. Rainy. Wrote a letter to Hiram Skinner, Wapping. California appears to be collecting a great population. It must be a bad community.<sup>4</sup>

11. Paid Mrs. Gleason \$6.00 for an old mahogany table in the best order; from the family of Dr. Isaac Bull.<sup>5</sup> Worked at my books. Toward evening rode in the cars to Windsor Locks. Mr. Haskell is still very low. Quite cool.

12. I hope Mr. Haskell may be restored in great mercy. All our help must be from God. Came home in an early car. There was a destructive fire here last night near the Atheneum. Affected with my nervous complaints. Occupied with company.

13. Received an excellent letter from Gov. Everett. Wrote. Read Macaulay's excellent *History*. Did not attend our annual Retreat meetings yesterday afternoon and evening. Put up books.

14. A very hard and cold wind through the day. Worked at my library. A very valuable volume of newspapers is missing. Read Bible. Deaths are lately quite frequent in the city. Had my mahogany table brought in.

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<sup>1</sup> George Sumner, M. D., a native of Pomfret, born 1794, graduated at Yale, 1813, and in good practice at Hartford, 1819-1855, the year of his death.

<sup>2</sup> He did not succeed in this any better than in his effort to induce John Quincy Adams to write the history of this country.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Hollis Read, not a D. D., was graduated at Williams College in 1826, and was settled at New Preston, Ct., 1845-1851.

He had been previously settled at Derby, Ct., 1838-1843. In the list of Congregational ministers for 1886, he is entered as living at Somerville, N. J.

<sup>4</sup> A very rough and unsettled community in which there were many noble men, and many unprincipled ones.

<sup>5</sup> Isaac Bull was chosen one of the deacons of the First Church, Hartford, in 1789, and died 1824, aged eighty-four.

15. A cold day. Much ice to be seen. At meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes preached. Read. Took some cold. Have nervous pains.

16. Had company. The cold gives a great check to vegetation. Attended the meeting at Dr. Hawes's. Was at the painful funeral of Mrs. Watkinson. My chamber is cold. Worked at books.

17. Much occupied with company. Received from Mr. George Gibbs,<sup>1</sup> of New York, a fine portrait of the last Gov. Wolcott,<sup>2</sup> by Stuart,<sup>3</sup> on deposit. Our society had a good meeting here at evening.

18. Had a very ill night with my paralysis. Wrote to Gov. Everett, and to Prof. Larned, Yale College. At evening had a very pleasant call from Mr. Allis, only son of my venerable classmate T. W. Allis,<sup>4</sup> a merchant at Skaneateles, N. Y.

19. Wrote to Miss Wolcott in answer to a letter received from her last evening. Visited the North School. We have a cold, rough wind. Read.

20. Had a poor night. I think I took some cold yesterday sitting in a cold school-house. They say there is much snow in Berkshire, and here on the hills. Received a letter from Henry R. Stiles,<sup>5</sup> of New York. Saw Dea. Reed and wife,<sup>6</sup> now visiting at New York.

21. Received a letter from my niece, Mrs. Larned, New Haven, and one from Little & Brown, Boston. Still cold; the season is getting backward. I am feeble, and can do but little. Got a fine new hat made for me.

22. Cold and uncomfortable. Dr. Porter<sup>7</sup> preached at the Centre. Wrote. Read the Bible. A number of persons were propounded for the church.

23. Had a good deal of company. Worked at my books. We have various accounts of cold and frost in the Middle and Southern States, injurious to crops and fruit.

24. Rode in the cars to New Haven. Went into the chapel to the Juniors exhibition. They spoke well. Was kindly treated. Went with Mr. Larned and cousin Irene to Tontinè.<sup>8</sup> Attended the exhibition in the afternoon. It all was very good, with some want of variety. There was a splendid performance of instrumental music. Went to Dr. Bishop's<sup>9</sup> and spent the night. In the evening called on Judge Daggett.

<sup>1</sup> George Gibbs, an accomplished gentleman and scholar, married the daughter of Gov. Oliver Wolcott.

<sup>2</sup> The second Gov. Oliver Wolcott was born in Litchfield, Ct., 1760, and died in New York city, 1833.

<sup>3</sup> Gilbert Charles Stuart, one of the leading portrait painters of this country, was born at Narragansett, R. I., 1754, and died in Boston, 1828.

<sup>4</sup> It may be remembered that Thomas Wells Allis, whose name stood at the head of the class of 1796, died during the year 1848.

<sup>5</sup> Henry Reed Stiles, M. D., born in New York city, March 10, 1832, and now living in Brooklyn, author of *History of Ancient Windsor* published in 1859, *History of Brooklyn*, etc. It is understood that he is preparing a new edition of his *History of Windsor*.

<sup>6</sup> Dea. Abner Reed and wife, formerly of East Windsor. Dea. Reed was an engraver.

<sup>7</sup> Noah Porter, D. D., of Farmington.

<sup>8</sup> The old Tontine Hotel, which still fronts the public square in New Haven.

<sup>9</sup> Ebenezer Huggins Bishop, M. D., of the class of 1826 at Yale, son of Timothy Bishop, of Dr. Robbins's class (1796).

25. Frost. Mr. Bishop's garden has many flowers. Visited the new depot; very large and elegant.<sup>1</sup> The business of the town is increasing. Took the car and came home about one o'clock. Occupied with company. Read a review of Bushnell's book.<sup>2</sup> Quite tired.

26. Yesterday we had a cannon ball brought in here, a thirty-two pounder, fired through the house at Stonington from a British ship, in 1814, a donation of Miss Catherine Williams, of Providence. Had my mahogany table, lately purchased, fixed as a centre-table in my room. Read. Wrote.

27. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston. Have had a fine pair of shoes made, with elegant ancient buckles. Worked at my room. Paid \$1.00 for the freight of the Wolcott portrait. Read late.

28. Wet and rainy. There is much anxiety about the political character of our approaching Legislature. Yesterday there was a large fire here at Dutch Point. Also my kinsman, William Lawrence,<sup>3</sup> called on me; he is about fixing his residence at Winsted. Worked at my books. Had good company.

29. Very pleasant spring day. Attended meeting at the Fourth. A Mr. Seymour<sup>4</sup> preached in the forenoon, and Mr. Patton in the afternoon. Read Bible. Wrote.

30. My esteemed friend, Mr. Harris Haskell,<sup>5</sup> at Windsor Locks, died yesterday. A great breach in the Wolcott family, and a great loss to that village. Tudor and Ursula Wolcott have been here. Wrote to brother Francis.

#### MAY.

1. The blossoms appear on the fruit-trees. Went in the cars to Windsor Locks, and attended the funeral of my dear friend, Harris Haskell. There was a large collection of people; all feel the common loss. Mr. Allen<sup>6</sup> preached well. The family are left in very good circumstances, but their loss is great. Brother Francis was there; came from a council at South Windsor, who have dismissed Mr. Smith.<sup>7</sup>

2. Left my afflicted friends, the widow and fatherless family, and came home. People are collecting in the town as the old election week. Have a great number of visitors. Get much fatigued.

3. The two Houses of the Legislature met and organized yesterday. The

<sup>1</sup> That might seem so in the early days of railroads, but it came to be regarded and spoken of with great contempt long before it was abandoned. The present depot at New Haven is a good one.

<sup>2</sup> *God in Christ*.

<sup>3</sup> Son of his sister Elizabeth (Mrs. Grove Lawrence).

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Charles N. Seymour, a native of Hartford, graduated at Yale Theological Seminary in 1844, ordained pastor at Huntington, Ct., 1844-1847, settled in Whately,

Mass., 1853-1859, at Brooklyn, 1859-1874, and since 1874 at Tolland, Ct.

<sup>5</sup> Harris Haskell, son of Jabez Haskell, of Windsor, was born Sept. 8, 1782, and died April 20, 1849. He was united in marriage with Frances Wolcott by Dr. Robbins Nov. 27, 1821.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Samuel H. Allen, pastor at Windsor Locks since 1846.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. Levi Smith, pastor at South Windsor, 1840-1849. He was a graduate of Yale in 1818, and died 1854.

public movements are today. There was an intense solicitude. Mr. Trumbull<sup>1</sup> was chosen<sup>2</sup> and inaugurated. I made the prayer on the occasion. The third party, the Free Soilers, make great trouble.<sup>3</sup> Had three very fine trees set in our back yard, one forty feet high. Paid for them, \$9.00. The streets dusty. Warm. Last night the Charter Oak took fire, and is much burnt; doubtful if it lives. Much fatigued.

4. Have a great deal of company, members of the Legislature and others. Gov. Bissell<sup>4</sup> and his wife were in. Can do but little for myself. Wrote to T. R. Haskell. My new tall trees are much liked. The Governor's address is a very good one. Quite warm.

5. A copy of my prayer at the Governor's inauguration is in the newspaper. A strange affair.<sup>5</sup> Paid J. Olmsted & Co., \$5.00. Had a great number of visitors. Much fatigued.

6. Was called, a short time before going to meeting, to preach for Dr. Bushnell, who is unwell. Preached on Acts iv: 11, 12, and Gen. xxxii: 26. Administered the sacrament, and received a man into the church. Three persons were received by letter. A steady rainy day. My strength holds, through mercy, better than I expected.

7. I think I am none the worse for the labors of yesterday. Occupied with my numerous company. Received from Gov. Everett a present of four volumes; two his own and two his brother's,<sup>6</sup> quite valuable. Received a letter from Tertius D. Southworth,<sup>7</sup> Franklin, Mass.

8. A wet and rainy day. Wrote. Ursula Wolcott was here. Paid her \$2.00.

9. Wrote an obituary of Mr. Haskell, and sent it to Boston. Wet and cold. Little time to write. At evening was at a large party at the Governor's; mostly legislative.

10. Had a very good night. Dark weather continues. The Legislature have a recess; a favor for me.

11. Wrote to Mr. William W. Mumford, of Rochester, N. Y. Read Bible and others. Worked at my books. Quite fatigued.

12. Wrote on a manuscript for our society. Warm. Afternoon a messenger called for me and carried me to East Granby to Mr. Sanborne's. He has lost two infant sons this week, twins, his all, seven months old. He

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Trumbull, LL. D.

<sup>2</sup> He had not been chosen by the people.

<sup>3</sup> They continued to trouble the old parties till they themselves had the majority.

<sup>4</sup> Clark Bissell, LL. D., Governor of Connecticut, 1847-1849, now giving place to Joseph Trumbull, both natives of the same town of Lebanon, Ct., which gave in all five governors to the State.

<sup>5</sup> Such things are very common now, but then it seemed a "strange affair" to report a prayer.

<sup>6</sup> Alexander Hill Everett, LL. D., born in Boston, 1790, died while on a government commission in China in 1847. He wrote several volumes, and contributed many articles to reviews. Though he never had the fame of his brother Edward, he was a man of great ability.

<sup>7</sup> He was born in Rome, N. Y., 1801, studied at Hamilton College, was graduated at Andover Seminary, 1829; besides other settlements was colleague pastor with Dr. Emmons, of Franklin, 1838-1850.



wished me to baptize them, but had to do it himself before they died.<sup>1</sup> Vege-  
tion is backward.

13. A steady rainy day. By a sad mistake, I left my bundle when I came from home, and have no sermons, and have left some needed articles of clothing. I must preach, trusting in God. Rode with Mr. Sanborne<sup>2</sup> to meeting. They have a new stone meeting-house, not large, but a good one, and a good congregation. Preached without any notes on Acts iv: 11, 12, and Luke xviii: 16. After meeting we had the funeral of Mr. Sanborne's second babe. A good number of people were present, notwithstanding the hard rain. I did not go to the grave. Not greatly fatigued.

14. Called on Deacon Skinner with Mr. Sanborne, very sick, and Judge Woodruff in his ninetieth year. Mr. Sanborne carried me to Windsor Locks. Had a good visit at Mrs. Haskell's. She appears well in her afflictions. Mr. Sanborne, most unexpectedly, gave me \$5.00. Came home in the cars. Paid a horse and carriage bill, \$3.00. My shade-trees are coming out well.

15. Wrote. Prayed with both Houses of the Assembly at their opening after their recess. They have done but little. At evening quite unwell. Could not attend the meeting of our society. Received of the committee of the North Church, all unexpectedly, \$10.00, for my services on Sabbath the 6th.

16. By divine favor, I am much better this morning. The water is high in the meadows. Wrote. Quite cool. Paid Mr. Gleason, \$5.00. Rode with Mr. John Humphrey, Representative from Norfolk, to the Retreat, and looked over with a number of Representatives that fine institution.<sup>3</sup> Donation, \$1.00.

17. Am better than I have been, through mercy, though weak. Wrote. Paid Hunt for books, \$10.00. Wrote to Gov. Everett in answer to a letter recently received from him. Cannot find much time to write.

18. Paid Miss Maguire, for my likeness on ivory, \$5.00. Occupied with company. A committee of the Legislature hold their meetings in my room. Mr. Edward Wells<sup>4</sup> has lately given me three American almanacks. Mr. Thaddeus Mather,<sup>5</sup> of Windsor, has been here, and he says he sent me the large old oak chest that I knew not whence it came. At evening I was at a large party at Mr. Alfred Smith's.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Men, without intending it, do dishonor to God when they think infant children are safer in his hands by reason of this outward act imposed upon them.

<sup>2</sup> This was Rev. Pliny F. Sanborne, who was pastor at East Granby, 1846-1853.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins was one of the trustees of the institution, and took a very deep and hearty interest in it.

<sup>4</sup> The name Wells was one of the original names of Hartford, and in its two forms, Wells and Welles, is common in Hartford and in the surrounding towns.

<sup>5</sup> There was a Thaddeus Mather, M. D., of Windsor origin, who died in Binghamton, N. Y., in 1854. There was another Thaddeus Mather of the same family stock, who lived in Ellington.

<sup>6</sup> Alfred Smith was a very prominent lawyer in Hartford, was Judge of the County Court, and was the constant adviser of Daniel Wadsworth and David Watkinson in their library enterprises. He was the first President of the Watkinson Library, chosen in 1858, and reelected annually until his death in 1868.

19. Wrote what I could on my manuscript. Occupied with company. There has been a great fire at St. Louis,<sup>1</sup> and one at Watertown, N. Y.

20. Preached in the morning at the jail. Heard Dr. Hawes in the afternoon. I preached on Acts xiii: 38. In the evening heard Mr. Poor,<sup>2</sup> from Ceylon.

21. Had much company. Miss Wolcott<sup>3</sup> was here. Last evening wrote to her. Made an application to a legislative committee who sit in my room. Quite warm. Am languid.

22. Occupied with company and the committees. We have news of destructive fires. Vegetation proceeds rapidly. Wrote considerably.

23. Apple-trees have a great blowth. Wrote considerably on my manuscript. Took some cold this morning. We had the annual meeting of our society. Our library has been much increased the last year. Got home late.

24. Had quite an ill night. Yesterday quite warm. Am too feeble to do much. Vegetation is rapid. At evening wrote. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

25. Wet and cold. Had much company. Had to procure some wood. Need constant fire.

26. Wrote what I could on my manuscript. The Legislature seem to accomplish but little. Wrote as much as I was able to do.

27. Read my Bible. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clarke preached well. The clergy in this part of the country appear to be wholly dissatisfied with Bushnell's strange book.<sup>4</sup>

28. Thought it my duty yesterday to write on my manuscript. Still cool, and we need fire. There are many commotions among the countries of Europe, and little prospect of continued peace. Was informed that I am not to deliver my public address tomorrow evening as I expected. Read. Have become quite weak with my laborious writing.

29. Have much to do with company and other things. Wrote. Wet and dark weather; a northeaster.

30. Had a poor night. My nervous affections. Wrote. Looking over my library catalogue. Walked out. Sat a while in the House of Representatives, and saw them take and decide the noted bridge question. They did well. Wrote.

31. Became in the night quite sick. Severe pain in my head and right ear. Called in my physician. Entirely confined.

#### JUNE.

1. I commence this month, in the wise appointment of God, a sick man. I have much pain, and keep my bed. My disease is a sort of epidemic here,

<sup>1</sup> At St. Louis, May 17, 1849, fifteen blocks of houses and twenty-three steamboats were burned, with an estimated loss of \$3,000,000.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Poor, D.D., a native of Danvers, born in 1789, graduated at Dartmouth College, 1811, and at Andover Seminary, 1814. He died in Ceylon in 1855. He was the

father of Daniel W. Poor, D.D., now Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Education.

<sup>3</sup> Miss Ursula Wolcott, of South Windsor.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Bushnell in his writings presented old subjects in new and original forms. Whatever faults he had, it is now generally conceded that few have thrown greater interest around theology than he.

neuralgia. Pain in the head, mostly in the right ear and jaw. Mr. Wolcott's daughters, Frances and Eveline,<sup>1</sup> called on me and other friends.

2. My pain is constant, but get relief by opium. Am kindly taken care of.

3. My heart is with the faithful worshipers. Good is the house of prayer.

I cannot record the days of the week. My physician, Dr. Rogers,<sup>2</sup> attended on me regularly. My disease, by divine mercy, gradually abated. Rode out once or twice. Sister Battell called on me. Weather cool, and I have fire most of the days. Regret that I cannot see more of the Legislature, and wait on them as they expected. Brother Francis called on me, and gave me some account of his late long tour. My room has been kept open regularly, attended by the Messrs. Hosmer<sup>3</sup> and Miss Maguire.<sup>4</sup> Family friends regret that I am not likely to be at Norfolk on the 20th inst.<sup>5</sup> Was carried once to the Atheneum. Visitors are much disappointed often in finding me absent.<sup>6</sup> It is painful to be thus confined. I hope to rejoice that God does his own will. A fine time for vegetation.

10. Read my Bible. Can do but little labor, mental or muscular. Have appetite, but get little strength.

11. Received a pleasant letter from Mr. Perkins,<sup>7</sup> of Meriden, with a fine, small volume, a history of that town. I believe my sickness has been caused primarily by my late labor in the composition of my public historical address.

12. Received a letter from Frederick H. Wolcott,<sup>8</sup> of New York, with some very valuable articles for our library. Wrote to sister Battell. Walked out. Very weak. I bless God for a little strength. Had company.

13. Had a distressed night. A good deal of paralysis. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott. Rode out with Dr. Rogers. The natural world is most beautiful. Called at my room. Cool.

14. Wrote to brother Francis. The Legislature have made a grant to our Historical Society of one thousand dollars. All of divine grace. Rode around the town. Walked to the Atheneum and rode back. Warm. Hope I am convalescing slowly. Can read but little.

15. Walked out. Read. Obligated to be partially idle. Get strength slowly. Afternoon took the stage and rode to South Windsor. A heavy load of passengers, warm and dusty. Much fatigued. Love my old home.

16. Had an ill night. Am very weak. Walked out considerably. Vege-

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Harris Haskell, and Mrs. Edgar Bissell.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Benjamin Rogers.

<sup>3</sup> Charles Hosmer and James B. Hosmer.

<sup>4</sup> Miss Maguire was an artist who painted on ivory.

<sup>5</sup> To attend the wedding of Azariah Eldridge and Ellen Battell.

<sup>6</sup> Visitors found pleasure in seeing Dr.

Robbins, and the great library which he had collected together.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. George W. Perkins, pastor at Meriden, 1841-1854.

<sup>8</sup> Frederick Henry Wolcott, born 1808, was the son of Frederick, born 1767. This last was the son of the first Gov. Oliver Wolcott, and brother of the second Governor of the same name.

tation is very rich. Wrote a good deal. Quite warm. Mr. Filley,<sup>1</sup> in this neighborhood, has lost a daughter<sup>2</sup> this afternoon of consumption.

17. A very beautiful Sabbath morning. Walked among the pine-trees of this neighborhood. I think my health, through mercy, is improving.

18. I am oppressed with debility. I fear that my present malady may permanently affect my hearing. Be it as infinite wisdom shall appoint. Rode in the stage to Hartford. Received a letter from sister Robbins, of Enfield, and wrote to her. Warm. Mercury at 82°. Went to my room.

19. Very warm. Spent the most of the day at my room. Dined at Mr. Isham's;<sup>3</sup> had peas. Difficult to walk the distance I have to go. We have an account of the death of the late President Polk.<sup>4</sup>

20. Left off my flannel. Received of Hartford Bank, \$45.00, my dividends for a year, nine per cent. Gave the bank a note of \$200.00, and took up one of same amount. The heat very oppressive; some instruments over 90°. Paid to the bank, \$3.27.

21. I suppose Rev. Azariah Eldridge and my niece, Ellen Battell, were married at Norfolk last evening.<sup>5</sup> Had a distressing night. A good deal of paralysis. Am very feeble. Failed of opening the Legislature, as I had engaged to do. Heat about the same as yesterday. Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston, and sent them a draft of \$25.00.

22. The heat is very oppressive. Prayed at the opening of the Supreme Court of Errors. Was in at the legislative rooms. Afternoon the mercury was up to 95°. The Legislature adjourned to their own great relief and joy. They have done tolerably well. Wrote to Pres. Hopkins, Williams College.

23. Am very feeble and languid. Yesterday Mr. Gleason informed me that he must raise the price of my boarding, even for some time past. It gives me an opportunity to remove, which I wished for.<sup>6</sup> Paid my barber for coming to wait upon me, \$1.00. Rode to Windsor Locks; Mrs. Haskell's. The heat abates a little.

24. Not quite as warm as it has been. Heard Mr. Allen, a very valuable man. I do not hear with my right ear, and am apprehensive that I shall not. Heard but little of the sermon. The Lord be my helper. Afternoon preached for Mr. Allen on Gal. iii: 8. Not greatly fatigued. My speaking is affected by my illness. This is a pleasant congregation, and a fine house.

25. Mrs. Haskell has a fine little family.<sup>7</sup> Wrote. Walked out with Mr. Allen. People are at their haying. The ground is becoming quite dry. Afternoon rode home in the cars. Kept at my room.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Horace Filley.

<sup>2</sup> Julia Filley, born Nov. 17, 1824, died June 16, 1849.

<sup>3</sup> William Isham.

<sup>4</sup> President James K. Polk died at Nashville, Tenn., June 15, 1849.

<sup>5</sup> He had hoped and expected to be there. Two brothers, Dr. Joseph and Dr. Azariah Eldridge, married sisters, Sarah and Ellen

Battell. The marriage of Joseph and Sarah took place Oct. 12, 1836.

<sup>6</sup> A blessing in disguise.

<sup>7</sup> She was a widow now, and her children were grown up. Her oldest child, a daughter born in 1823, died in 1825. Her son, Hon. Thomas Robbins Haskell, born in 1827, became a prominent man in Windsor, and died in 1863.

26. Found this morning, through mercy, that I can hear a little with my diseased ear. Received a letter from Little & Brown, of Boston. Quite warm, but not like last week. Have a good deal of company. Read.

27. The cholera becomes alarming in our cities, particularly in the South and West. Read Macaulay's *History*; unnecessarily minute. Attended to company. I gain strength very slowly.

28. Wet and rainy; greatly needed. Read. The news from Europe seems to indicate great commotions and war. The days of prophetic desolation seem to be approaching.

29. Paid Mr. Gleason \$41.00 for boarding, and balanced accounts to the first of July. He required \$4.00 a week for the last quarter, instead of \$3.00 as before. Mr. Livermore, of Boston, was here. Wrote to Mr. Boardman,<sup>1</sup> of New Milford.

30. Wrote to Mr. Plant,<sup>2</sup> of Stratford. Mr. Judson, of Stratford, was here and made me a good visit. Quite warm. The Horticultural Society had a good exhibition in a room of this building. I get much fatigued. Had much company. Read.

#### JULY.

1. Attended meeting at the Centre. Have not been there for several weeks. Dr. Hawes preached and Mr. Van Lennep.<sup>3</sup> My hearing is very defective. The Lord be my helper. We had the sacrament, additions to the church, and infant baptisms. Read the Bible. Wrote. Contributions, .50.

2. Removed from Mr. Gleason's; principally on account of the distance from the Atheneum. Too much for my feeble state. Went to Mr. Miller's, the house where I have been the most of the time since I have been in the town. Did but little of the labor. Cool. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

3. I have got into a small chamber. Was up early. Went in the cars to New Haven. Stopped at Mr. Larned's.<sup>4</sup> Attended the exercises of the Presentation Day at college. A class of ninety-three are to be graduated.<sup>5</sup> They appear well. Looked with Pres. Woolsey at some very valuable late additions to the library. Was at the invited dinner. Very cool. Called with Mr. Bishop<sup>6</sup> on Judge Daggett.

4. A good deal of firing this morning. The extensive and alarming prevalence of the cholera in the country prevents a great portion of the usual festivities of this day through the country. Called on Dr. Bacon. The

<sup>1</sup> Hon. William Whiting Boardman, graduated at Yale, 1812, Member of Congress, 1841-1843, died in 1871.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. David Plant, Member of Congress and Lieutenant-Governor of Connecticut. He was graduated at Yale, 1804, and died 1851.

<sup>3</sup> Henry John Van Lennep, D. D., son-in-law of Dr. Hawes. He was born in Smyrna, Asia Minor, in 1815, was graduated at Amherst College in 1837, and at Andover, 1840, was married to Mary E. Hawes, only daugh-

ter of Dr. Hawes, in 1843, who went with her husband on a mission to the East, and died in Itebek in 1844. Dr. Van Lennep continued his missionary labors until 1869. At the time of this entry he was home on a visit.

<sup>4</sup> Prof. William A. Larned.

<sup>5</sup> The class of 1849 is recognized as a superior one. The new President of Yale, Timothy Dwight, D. D., was of that class.

<sup>6</sup> Timothy Bishop, his classmate.

mercury this morning was at 48°.<sup>1</sup> My cousin J. Battell fortunately came here from New York. Came home. A great number of visitors this afternoon. Miss Maguire is a great assistance to me.

5. Still quite cool for the season. I still have some discharges from my right ear. Received of the Phoenix Bank, \$60.00, the dividend of last March. They have done well. Paid a charge for my moving, \$1.00. Read. Worked at my room.

6. I am much relieved by removing from the fatigues of a long walk. Had a good many visitors. Mrs. Eveline Bissell was here. Read. There is a good deal of war in Southern Europe.<sup>2</sup>

7. Warmer than it has been, but very little rain. Yesterday paid for a gold watch key, \$1.50. The cholera<sup>3</sup> seems to prevail in most parts of our country. Some towns in the West severely visited. Wrote. Paid for a hat, \$4.50. Afternoon a fine shower; a great blessing.

8. Attended meeting at the South. Afternoon administered the sacrament at the African church. Had no sermon. They have a candidate with them. An interesting occasion. Very warm.

9. Wrote to brother Francis. Rode in the stage to South Windsor. Had a pleasant visit. Mrs. Wolcott is quite feeble. The crops look well.

10. Rode home, carried by a friend. Had a good deal of company. Quite warm and sultry. Wrote. We have bad accounts of the prevalence of the cholera.

11. We have very warm nights. The heat very oppressive. Occupied with company. Read. Am very languid. Paid for picture frames, \$1.00.

12. The mercury is at 95°. Read Macaulay's *History*. Wrote. Can do but little.

13. Excessive heat by day and by night. Thermometers 96° and 97°. Looked at a distinguished painting of Eden with Adam and Eve. Received a good letter from Ursula Wolcott. The heat seems to affect my paralysis.

14. Read. The heat affects vegetation. Occupied with visitors. Yesterday received a present of two small, ancient, valuable books from New York. There is an abatement of the heat. Yesterday it was at different places near and over 100°. Read Macaulay. A hard state of morals in the time of Charles II and James II.

15. Cool, but we get no rain on the heated ground. Attended meeting at the Fourth, and heard Dr. Tucker.<sup>4</sup> Read the Bible and Baxter. Dr. Tucker is a very good preacher. Wrote.

16. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Cool air, and very dry. Attended the meet-

<sup>1</sup> Remarkably low for the 4th of July. Without telling, Dr. Robbins is back again in Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> This was the year of insurrections in Italy and war between Austria and Sardinia. This was the year in which Victor Emmanuel II gave a new turn to the affairs of Italy.

<sup>3</sup> The cholera was severe in England, and

in parts of this country in the summer and early fall of 1849. In London three thousand one hundred and eighty-three persons died of cholera during the week ending September 15. The cholera carried off a good many persons on the ships to and from California.

<sup>4</sup> Mark Tucker, D.D., pastor at Wethersfield.

ing at Dr. Hawes's. Occupied with company. Am feeble. Brother Francis was here. Paid Dr. Hunt, my bookbinder, \$10.00. Wrote.

17. Watered my large shade-trees; they appear to be suffering with the drought. Wrote to my cousin, Dr. Robbins,<sup>1</sup> of Roxbury. The cholera prevails in most parts of the country; very bad in some towns of the West, especially St. Louis.

18. The drought is becoming very severe. Worked at my room. Read Macaulay.

19. Hot and dry. Wrote. Have to do a great deal of sweeping and brushing. Read. Toward evening rode in the cars to Mrs. Haskell's, Windsor Locks. Received a letter from E. B. Hughes, New Haven.

20. Had a pleasant visit. A fine, small family. Returned. Everything is suffering with a severe and extensive drought. Wrote to Rev. Isaac Pardee,<sup>2</sup> New York. Very warm. Read.

21. In the great mercy of God it began to rain last night, and continued wet and showery about twenty-four hours. Some of the time very hard. A copious rain. Read.

22. Rode to Bloomfield and preached on Acts iv: 11, 12, and Gen. xxxii: 26-29. That people are now destitute,<sup>3</sup> but appear well. Towards evening rode home. Was carried through the labor much better than I expected. Warm and clear.

23. The late rain puts a new face on the vegetable world. Called on Dr. Hawes. Our special associational meeting has repeated procrastinations. Am quite feeble.

24. Have a good deal of company. Quite warm, but not severe heat. Read Macaulay. It is hoped that the cholera in the country is abating.

25. Received of Mr. Hudson, \$3.15, overpaid at an auction. Received a letter from Rev. M. N. Morris,<sup>4</sup> North Stonington. Warm.

26. Wrote to Dr. Sprague, Albany. Am pretty feeble. Have a good deal of company. Read *Quarterly Register*.

27. Received a kind letter with a valuable volume from Mr. T. R. Foster, of New York. My cousin J. Battell called here. Occupied with company. Wrote. Rode in the stage to South Windsor. Mr. Miller's eldest child is very sick.

28. Got a poor conveyance and came home. Am quite weak. Attended on company. Found the little girl very sick, and in the evening she died. Dysentery three days; five years old. The crops through the country are

<sup>1</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> We do not find in the *New York Directory* for that time this name of Rev. Isaac Pardee. He was probably a Presbyterian or Dutch Reformed clergyman.

<sup>3</sup> Their last pastor was Rev. Alfred C. Raymond, who was dismissed in 1848, and they had no settled minister till 1851, when Rev. Francis Williams was settled.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Myron N. Morris, a graduate of Yale in the class of 1837. He was settled at North Stonington, 1846-1852, but his long pastorate was at West Hartford, where he was settled, 1852-1875. He was a member of the corporation of Yale College, 1867, to his death, 1885. He was one of the strong and solid ministers of Connecticut, calm in his judgments and wise in counsel.

coming in well. Our State remarkably saved from the cholera. All of divine mercy.

29. Wrote. Attended meeting at the Centre, and heard Dr. Hawes and Mr. Finley,<sup>1</sup> from New Jersey. Read the Bible. Mr. Miller and family are deeply afflicted.

30. Wrote to Miss Mary Belden, New Haven. We attended the funeral of Mr. Miller's little daughter, aged five. Walter Mitchell, Esq.,<sup>2</sup> died here last night; my age, one year before me at college, unmarried. An esteemed friend. Warm.

31. Read Macaulay. Am quite feeble. Have paralytic affections. My head is better of neuralgia, but my hearing is quite defective. The cholera rages at the West.

#### AUGUST.

1. My kinsman, Henry Starr,<sup>3</sup> from Cincinnati, came here. Was disappointed in not attending the funeral of Mr. Mitchell. Rode to South Windsor, and to the seminary.<sup>4</sup> The first day of their anniversary. Attended a part of the afternoon and the evening services. Came to Mrs. Wolcott's. Am quite feeble.

2. Mrs. Eveline Bissell brought me down to the bridge. Commencement at Trinity College. Attended the public exercises. The graduates performed well. Pres. Williams<sup>5</sup> delivered a very good inaugural address. Dined at the public dinner. Sat by Gov. Marcy.<sup>6</sup> Treated with much attention.

3. National Fast; recommended by the President on account of the cholera. Last evening received a letter from Mr. Boardman, of New Milford, one from Miss Mary Beldon, of New Haven, and one from Dr. Robbins, of Roxbury. Read the Bible and *Recorder*. Most of the day alone in my room. Dr. Hawes preached in the morning, and Mr. Spring in the afternoon at the prayer-meeting. I spoke a little. Full meetings. The day well observed in the town.

4. Wrote to President Woolsey, New Haven. The Fast yesterday seems to have been very well observed. Had numerous visitors. Wrote.

5. Last night we had a very refreshing rain. Read in the minor prophets. Attended meeting at the South. Heard Mr. Clarke. My hearing is such that I lose much. Wrote.

6. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Waited on company. Read Macaulay. I think, by divine mercy, my health improves.

7. Prayed at the opening of the Court of Errors. We have warm and

<sup>1</sup> Agent of the American Colonization Society, when that society was in active operation.

<sup>2</sup> Graduate of Yale, 1795, lawyer and judge in Hartford, 1803-1849.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Rev. Peter Starr, of Warren, pastor there 1772-1829.

<sup>4</sup> Connecticut Theological Institute, East Windsor Hill, now removed to Hartford, and

known commonly as Hartford Theological Seminary.

<sup>5</sup> John Williams, D. D. He was President of Trinity College, 1848-1853, successor to Silas Totten, D. D.

<sup>6</sup> Hon. William L. Marcy (1786-1857), a graduate of Brown University, United States Senator and Governor of New York, a distinguished Democrat.



sultry days. The late Fast seems to have been well attended extensively. Read.

8. Took a long walk. Looked at the foundation of the new depot; a great work.<sup>1</sup> Much respectable company.

9. Much occupied with company. Wrote to Master E. B. Hughes, New Haven. We have procured a very good blank book for the record of visitors. Our present one is filled with about fourteen thousand names.

10. I have opened the court for four days. Can perform but little labor. Read. The English Revolution in 1688 was a great and noble work.

11. Last night we had a great and bountiful rain. I am this day, by divine mercy, seventy-two years old. Mr. Merrill, of Bloomfield, paid me \$5.00, and I sent it to a poor minister in Maine.<sup>2</sup> Numerous visitors. Wrote to brother Francis.

12. Am quite feeble. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes and an agent from New Jersey preached. Made some preparations, as on yesterday, for my journey. Read Bible. Wrote.

13. In the night became quite unwell, with much pain and weakness. Sent for my physician. He was in twice. Have expected to have been today at Williams College and Boston. A holy God has ordered otherwise. I rejoice that he reigns. Mrs. Lamb has a child hard sick. Sent to my brother an account of my sickness. Kept my bed.

14. Am better, through great mercy, but very feeble. I rejoice to be in the hands of a good God, who has never forsaken me. Had some calls. Do not lose my appetite or sleep.

15. Am more pained than yesterday. My brother made me a good visit. Rare for him and me to be at no Commencement.<sup>3</sup>

16. It is a time of much sickness and mortality in this town. People do much in dieting; avoiding vegetable food. I am little able to read. Rode out.

17. Mr. Eldridge,<sup>4</sup> of Norfolk, called on me. Spent considerable time in my room. Many calls in my absence. I take but little medicine. Read.

18. There is a good deal of war-like movements in Europe. Heard of the marriage of my cousin Robbins Battell at Newark, N. J.<sup>5</sup> Rode to South Windsor, hoping for benefit to my health. This place is a beautiful summer retreat.

19. Am quite feeble. Read. Attended meeting in the afternoon, and

<sup>1</sup> Structures that seemed vast and imposing forty or fifty years ago to youthful eyes are rather diminutive when we look at them now.

<sup>2</sup> This was for his recent supply of the pulpit there, the people of Bloomfield being without a minister.

<sup>3</sup> College Commencements were then about a month earlier than when this diary

opened in 1796. Now they are between two and three months earlier than in 1796.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph Eldridge, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Robbins Battell, his nephew, was united in marriage Aug. 15, 1849, with Ellen R. Mills, of Newark, N. J. She died in about two years after marriage, leaving one child, a daughter, now Mrs. Ellen M. Terry, widow of Frederic P. Terry.

heard Dr. Hooker.<sup>1</sup> The people have given him a call to settle, which he has accepted. I trust it will be for good. They had a contribution for foreign missions. I love to see my people of former days.

20. Have something of paralytic complaints. Epidemic sickness is very prevalent over this vicinity. The Lord be our helper. Some cases approach the cholera. Wrote to Pres. Hopkins, and to my sister Battell. Walked a good deal for exercise.

21. Wrote. The crops appear to be coming in well. Wrote to brother Francis. I am greatly favored in having such a home as this to come to in times of sickness. Conversed with ———<sup>2</sup> on Christian duties.

22. My sister Sarah<sup>3</sup> is seventy years old today. Came home in the stage. Am still feeble. Occupied with company. Read.

23. A pretty hard, rainy day. Many people sick here; apparently no abatement. Received a church letter from South Windsor.<sup>4</sup>

24. Purchased two quartos for \$7.00; *History of Norwich, Eng.* Wrote to Mr. Maltby,<sup>5</sup> of Taunton, Mass.

25. Had company. Have just begun a new, large volume for names of visitors. Much unwell. Rode to South Windsor with Mr. Brinley. Advised to go out of town. Received a letter from Miss Orme, of Cambridgeport, and one from Mr. Sturtevant, of Mattapoissett.

26. Wrote. Troubled with my complaint. Afternoon went to meeting. Dr. Hooker preached very well. I hope he will be a great blessing to this people. Read Bunyan.

27. Dysentery complaints are very common extensively. Wrote. Made calls. Afternoon rode with Mr. Wolcott<sup>6</sup> to Hartford.

28. Very feeble through the day. Wrote. Read periodicals. Faint, languid weather. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

29. Paid for a large folio, \$3.00, and for a fine picture, Washington's Inauguration, \$3.00. Fatigued with visitors. Wrote.

30. Am very much debilitated. Mr. Crawford, Methodist minister here, died last night. Paid for horse hire, \$1.25. A hard rain.

31. Quite unwell. Sent for Dr. Rogers. He directs the use of some stimulants. Wrote. We have had much rain and languid weather during this month. The summer is past.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. May it please God to give me better health during the fall than I have had through the summer. Wrote. Am very feeble. Can hardly wait on visitors. Received a letter from Miss Wolcott.<sup>7</sup>

2. We have a cooler air. Dr. Hawes preached remarkably well. We

<sup>1</sup> Edward W. Hooker, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> This place is left blank.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Joseph Battell.

<sup>4</sup> Calling a council to install Dr. Hooker.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Erastus Maltby.

<sup>6</sup> Samuel Tudor Wolcott.

<sup>7</sup> When Dr. Robbins, in 1807, first went to board at Major Abiel Wolcott's in East Windsor, Ursula Wolcott, the second of the four living children, was eleven years old. She died in 1883, aged eighty-seven. Her mother was a Tudor, of a long-lived family.

had the sacrament. Read the Bible. Wrote. Heard of the death of Charles Chauncey,<sup>1</sup> of Philadelphia. A young fellow-boarder is taken sick. The Lord be our helper.

3. My debility continues. Fear that I have lost two keys. It is quite cool. Frost this morning in some places. Rode in the stage to South Windsor.

4. Am better of my complaints, through mercy. Yesterday received of Mr. Hosmer, on salary, \$100.00. Wrote. Afternoon met with the installing council. Dr. Hooker read a very interesting paper as his examination.

5. We attended the installation of Dr. Hooker.<sup>2</sup> Quite rainy; a few people for the occasion. I gave the charge. Had to write some for it last night and this morning. Mr. Spring<sup>3</sup> preached very well. My brother<sup>4</sup> presided.

6. Mr. Wolcott brought me home. Am better, I hope, for my excursion. Attended to company. Unfavorable news from Hungary, wholly overcome by the Russian army.<sup>5</sup>

7. Wet. We have a great deal of rain. Mr. Miller wrote a letter for me to Mr. Hammond, of Mattapoisett. We hope the sickness here is abating.

8. Quite cool. Called on Dr. Hawes. Looked at the great work for lighting the city with gas.<sup>6</sup> Mr. J. B. Hosmer paid me another \$100.00 on my salary. Attended on company. Much fatigued.

9. Attended meeting at the Fourth. Mr. Patton preaches well. Last evening took tea at Mr. Joseph Terry's with the friends of the Fitch family. Find the want of fires. Read Bible.

10. Pleasant and cool. Vermont has done very well at their late election. Had an unusual number of visitors. Wrote.

11. Have much to do in waiting on company. Wrote to Mr. Leonard Hammond, of Mattapoisett. We have fine weather and cold nights. A great sewer is making in our Main Street.

12. Paid Hartford Bank, \$200.00 and took up my note. By divine favor, I now owe nothing to any bank.<sup>7</sup> Read.

13. Have much to do in sweeping and brushing. Our countrymen are

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<sup>1</sup> Charles Chauncey, LL. D., a distinguished lawyer of Philadelphia, a graduate of Yale, 1792, was born in New Haven, Ct., 1777, and was the son of Charles, LL. D., born in Durham, Ct., 1747. He was a direct descendant from Rev. Charles Chauncey, President of Harvard College, 1654-1672.

<sup>2</sup> Edward W. Hooker, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Spring, D. D., of East Hartford.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Francis L. Robbins, of Enfield, was moderator of the council.

<sup>5</sup> This was the year Kossuth was made Governor of Hungary, but was forced to leave the country. He at first took refuge

in Turkey, where he was protected, until in 1851 he found his way, in an American vessel, to England and the United States, where he stirred men with the story of the wrongs done to him and his country, as hardly any other man has ever done. In his later life he lived in Italy, and has only recently passed away.

<sup>6</sup> The gasometer.

<sup>7</sup> Dr. Robbins was almost always in debt to some of the banks, but he seems to have turned this indebtedness to profitable account. His income from banks was large for a man in his position.

getting very fond of great gatherings for religious and secular objects. Wrote. I am not able to read much in evenings.

14. Looked over the Augsburg Confession.<sup>1</sup> Warm. Attended at the funeral of Capt. Stewart<sup>2</sup> at East Hartford. Rode in the cars to Windsor Locks. Was out a good deal in the evening. A great Masonic display at Capt. Stewart's funeral.

15. Mrs. Haskell and her small family live very pleasantly here. Read. Am pretty feeble. Perhaps took some cold last evening. Rode home in the cars. Had much company in the afternoon. Much fatigued. Read.

16. Still warm and pleasant. Read the Bible. Attended meeting at the South. Afternoon had Mr. Poor,<sup>3</sup> from Ceylon. A number of ministers in town.

17. Am very feeble. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Gen. Bacon, of Litchfield, dead. There is much sickness and mortality in New Haven. Paid for horse hire, \$1.00.

18. Rode to Unionville and met with the Association. We have a bad difficulty with Dr. Bushnell. His book is a bad one, but the Association are not united on the subject.<sup>4</sup> At evening returned.

19. Am very weak. Hardly able to wait on my visitors. Read. The late annual meeting of the American Board of Foreign Missions at Pittsfield was very full and pleasant.<sup>5</sup>

20. We had a cool night. Made my first fire in my room. Wrote. Some apprehension by our government of difficulty with France. I can do but little in evenings.

21. Am very unwell; headache and bowel pains. Was advised to go out of town. Had to leave my room. Took the stage and rode to South Windsor. Bore the ride better than I expected. Very dry and dusty.

22. Walked out. Am better by getting out of the city. The people have a fine time to gather their ample crops. Read.

23. Rainy in the morning, and in the afternoon I was quite unwell, and I did not go to meeting. Wrote on religious exercises for Ursula. Some persons here hard sick.

<sup>1</sup> The Augsburg Confession, so called, because it was delivered to the Emperor, Charles V, in June, 1530, in the palace of the Bishop of Augsburg, was a Protestant document, drawn by Luther, Melancthon, and others, embodying the ideas and principles of the Reformation.

<sup>2</sup> The reason why Dr. Robbins was drawn to this funeral of Capt. Allen Stewart, of East Hartford, was that his friend, Samuel Tudor Wolcott, married Capt. Stewart's daughter (Maria Stewart) in 1829. Capt. Stewart was a retired sea-captain in good condition living on the Main Street, East Hartford.

<sup>3</sup> Daniel Poor, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> That record would stand very well to represent the conservative feeling in Connecticut for some years. The subject of Dr. Bushnell and his books troubled district associations and the General Association, but was at last allowed to rest.

<sup>5</sup> The writer was present at the meeting, and can confirm this testimony. A subject which prominently occupied the attention of the meeting was the encroachments upon our Sandwich Islands mission, by the Puseyites of England. Their interference with a work successfully carried forward by the American Board was very uncivil at least.

24. Came home in the stage. Our equinoctial storm has been very moderate. In the forenoon very unwell. Had to go to my bed. Attended a little in my room with company.

25. Attended in my room, though quite feeble. Had many visitors. Read the poem *Madoc*.<sup>1</sup> Received yesterday a letter from Rev. E. Smalley,<sup>2</sup> Worcester. Our society are likely to receive the legislative grant of one thousand dollars.

26. Received of Mr. Hosmer, on salary, \$116.00, making in the last year, \$400.00. Gave Elon Gleason, \$5.00. He has done, and is doing, much for me. Much fatigued with my labors. My brother, with Charles Battell<sup>3</sup> and two sisters,<sup>4</sup> were here.

27. Was quite unwell last night. Read Bible. Paid on my boarding-bill, \$5.00. Gave to Mr. Miller my note against Leonard Hammond to be collected.

28. My sister Battell<sup>5</sup> and sister Robbins,<sup>6</sup> of Lenox, came here. Can do but little. Found some valuable old writings. Had for labor, etc., .68.

29. Warm. A fine exhibition of fruits and flowers by our Natural History Society. I am hardly able to do anything. Purchased an American map. I am ashamed of the territorial appearance of our country; like Russia or an empire of antiquity. Its unity is mostly destroyed. Paid for my map and a private tin box, \$2.00. Received a pleasant letter from Mr. Isaac Pardee, of New York. Eat a pear, which I believe did me an injury. Have had much company this week. We have had a very pleasant fall.

30. Quite sick. Sent for my physician. Took medicine. My two sisters were at my boarding-house. Unable to attend public worship. Toward evening was better. I rejoice that the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. Read the Bible.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Quite rainy through the day. Am much relieved from the sickness of yesterday. Attended at my room. Very little company. May God, in mercy, be my helper. Wrote much more than I expected to do.

2. Wrote. Paid Mr. Hunt, for books and for binding, \$20.00. Not so much company as usual. At evening had a meeting of our society here. Waited on them as in times past.

<sup>1</sup> *Madoc* is one of Robert Southey's poorer poems. It was a kind of epic poem, founded on Welsh traditions, and published in 1805.

<sup>2</sup> Elam Smalley, D.D., was graduated at Brown University in 1827, and was settled as colleague with Dr. Nathaniel Emmons, of Franklin, in 1829. In 1838 he became the pastor of the Union Church, Worcester, where he remained till 1854. He was the father of George W. Smalley, graduated at Yale in 1853, who has become so well known as the English correspondent of the New York *Tribune*.

<sup>3</sup> Charles Battell was a younger brother of Joseph Battell. They belonged to a family of ten children, of whom Joseph was the eldest but one, and Charles was the youngest but one. Charles was a lawyer in Evansville, Ind.

<sup>4</sup> Harriet and Urania P. Battell were the two children next older than Charles, and they never married. They were probably the sisters who accompanied him.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Joseph Battell.

<sup>6</sup> Mrs. James W. Robbins, then a widow, living at her old home in Lenox.

3. My two sisters<sup>1</sup> were here. Dined with them at the City Hotel. Wrote to Frances Haskell.

4. Had a long spell at sweeping and brushing. I get fatigued easily. Cannot wait on visitors as much as I would be glad to. At evening read in my chamber at my boarding-house.

5. Wrote. We have a good deal of wet. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Was at Mr. Seymour's at evening with my two widowed sisters.

6. A wet and rainy day. My sisters went off in the stage. Quite feeble. Can exercise but little. The leaves are falling without frost. Read.

7. A steady rainy day, and through last night. Attended Dr. Hawes's meeting. Uncommonly thin. Read. Keep considerably at my lodging-room.

8. Walked out. Much preparation is making for the fair. Read Bible.

9. Walked some distance. The new railroad and depot are a magnificent work.<sup>2</sup> Went into the High School; in fine discipline. Attended to company. Wrote. Yesterday brother Francis was here.

10. Great numbers of people are in town for the fair,<sup>3</sup> and other causes. Wrote to Judge Washburn,<sup>4</sup> of Lowell. Read *Life of Thomas Hooker*;<sup>5</sup> very valuable. Had many visitors.

11. Wet and rainy. Unfavorable for the cattle show. Had much and variegated company. The ground has become quite wet.

12. Have clear weather after much wet. Went into the fair. A very fine exhibition. Very many visitors. Able to do but very little.

13. Took a long walk in the morning. Received a letter from sister Battell, and one from Mr. Herrick, of New Haven. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Have pain. Took medicine. Read.

14. Heard Dr. Hawes and Mr. Patton in their respective pulpits. The river is quite high. Read Bible. Wrote. The state of religion is very low and cold.

15. We had a pretty hard frost; the first to stop vegetation. Leaves have fallen a good deal by age. Called on Dr. Hawes. Looked over a new pamphlet by Bushnell. Have a good deal of debility and pain. Miss Wolcott called here, and I gave her a valuable engraving.

16. Set out on a journey to Norfolk. Rode in a stage to Winsted, but

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<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Joseph Battell, his own sister, and Mrs. James W. Robbins, his brother's widow.

<sup>2</sup> They are still there, but so wonderful has been the growth of railroad business that the depot at Hartford is quite inadequate to the present want, and will soon have to be greatly enlarged.

<sup>3</sup> The month of October had come again, which was the season of the annual cattle show and fair, and this in Hartford County, one of the richest farming counties in New England, was almost always largely attended.

<sup>4</sup> This was probably Hon. Emory Washburn, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and Governor of the State of Massachusetts, though his permanent residence was not at Lowell.

<sup>5</sup> *A Life of Thomas Hooker*, prepared by one of his descendants, Edward W. Hooker, D.D., whose name has often appeared in this diary, was published in Boston in 1849. It was this work doubtless which Dr. Robbins had been reading. He himself had written on the same subject.

had to make a long stop at Collinsville. Treated with much kindness. This village of Winsted has grown surprisingly.<sup>1</sup>

17. Rode in the stage to Norfolk. Do not find brother Francis here as I hoped. My sister and relatives all well. At evening unwell. Wrote.

18. Had a pleasant visit with a few friends of the family who are here. Afternoon my sister and I walked to the burying-ground. Many Irish families are here. Much fatigued. The apple crop is very short. Read.

19. Made some calls. This society continues to enjoy the divine blessing. Rode in the stage to Winsted. Called on my cousins at Colebrook.<sup>2</sup> Tarried again at the tavern. Bear riding pretty well.

20. Rode in the stage early to Hartford. Had considerable company. Things have gone well in my absence. Warm. My health, I think, in mercy, is improved.

21. Heard Mr. Clarke in the morning, and Mr. Patton in the afternoon. Read Bible. Kept at my room. We have some frosts.

22. Rainy. Our Association met at Mr. Patton's on Bushnell's business. A full attendance. Mr. Spring, of East Hartford, unfortunately is sick. A majority, mostly young members, with Dr. Porter at their head, are determined to acquit Bushnell.<sup>3</sup> The session was quite fatiguing. Was at home in the evening. The roads are very wet.

23. Association closed their session at noon. Mr. Bushnell was moderately censured for his errors. The majority did not do as they ought. At evening attended Mr. Lord's<sup>4</sup> lecture on Hildebrand. Well, for a professional lecturer. At evening a thunder-shower.

24. In divine mercy I have had better health since my journey of last week. Attend regularly in my room. Paid my annual taxes, \$23.08. They increase every year. Read *Life of Luther*. One of the best pieces of biography that we have.<sup>5</sup> Had a long job of sweeping.

25. Warm. On the 23d they let in the water upon the great dam at the new city,<sup>6</sup> thirty feet high. All safe. Wrote. At evening was in at Dr. Hawes's meeting.

26. Wrote to Deacon Norton, of Goshen. Have some trouble with my late complaints. Get much fatigued. Read D'Aubigne.

27. Wrote. Paid my merchant tailor, \$10.00. Occupied with company. Toward evening rode to South Windsor. Great quantities of leaves on the ground. Mrs. Wolcott is pretty feeble.

<sup>1</sup> It is now one of the largest business towns of Western Connecticut.

<sup>2</sup> Children of his eldest brother, Ammi Ruhamah, who died in 1843.

<sup>3</sup> That was about the way that all such attempts in local associations, and in the General Association of Connecticut.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. John Lord, LL. D., widely known as an able historical lecturer both in England and in this country. It was his life-

work, and was a success. He was a graduate of Dartmouth College in 1833, and is now living at Stamford, Ct. His lectures are now published in five handsome volumes.

<sup>5</sup> He refers to D'Aubigne's *History of the Reformation*.

<sup>6</sup> By the new city Dr. Robbins means the great manufactory of Samuel Colt, in the meadow southeast of the old city of Hartford. This was an immense enterprise.

28. Dr. Hooker preached very well ; close and solemn. A good audience. I hope this congregation is increasing. Walked considerably.

29. Came home in the stage. Have given Ursula Wolcott my fine engraving, *The First Prayer in Congress*. Called on Father Mathew at Mr. Brady's, and dined with him and the Governor and a few other gentlemen.<sup>1</sup> He appears well, is treated with much attention, and gives the temperance pledge to great numbers. At evening read. Received a letter from Rev. David L. Ogden,<sup>2</sup> Marlborough, Mass. At night a very hard storm. Book and picture, .62.

30. Wrote. Father Mathew called here. Had a good deal of company. At evening walked out.

31. I think Father Mathew's visit will materially advance the temperance cause. Cold. Had respectable company from a distance. At evening walked out.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. A hard frost. Called on Dr. Hawes. Paid for wood, seasoned walnut, \$5.52, at the rate of \$9.21 the cord. Paid for washing, \$1.00. Have little time for myself.

2. Mr. Elizur Goodrich,<sup>3</sup> of New Haven, died yesterday. Occupied with company. Some stayed late. A great fall of leaves this year. Sent to Windsor a large bundle.

3. Walked to the new depot ; a great work. Wrote. They have begun to cross the river on the new railroad bridge.<sup>4</sup>

4. Attended meeting at the South. Had the sacrament. A full congregation. Very good preaching. Warm for the season. Dined with Mr. Charles Goodrich.<sup>5</sup> Read the Bible.

5. Had a poor night ; some paralytic affections. Worked at my room. Wrote to Dr. Augustus Robbins,<sup>6</sup> of Holden, Mass. Read at my sleeping-chamber.

6. Wrote to Dr. Smith,<sup>7</sup> of Durham, and to Dr. Herrick, New Haven.

<sup>1</sup> Father Mathew's visit to this country is remembered by thousands. He won the respect of all classes by his wisdom and gentleness, and gave the pledge to multitudes.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. David Longworth Ogden was born in Hartford, 1792, graduated at Yale, 1814, and at Andover, 1818, pastor at Southington, Ct., 1821-1836, at Whitestown, N. Y., 1836-1844, at Marlborough, Mass., 1848-1850. He died at New Haven, 1863.

<sup>3</sup> Elizur Goodrich, LL. D., was born in Durham, Ct., 1761, graduated at Yale, 1779, established himself in New Haven as a lawyer, was Member of Congress, 1799-1801, was Judge of County Court, Judge of Probate Court, Professor in Yale Law School.

He was secretary of the college, 1816-1846. He died Nov. 1, 1849. He was the son of Elizur Goodrich, D. D., pastor of Durham, Ct., 1756-1797, and he was father of Prof. Chauncey Allen Goodrich, D. D., who was a Professor at Yale, 1817-1860.

<sup>4</sup> The bridge of the Hartford and Providence Railroad just above Hartford.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Charles A. Goodrich, son of Rev. Samuel Goodrich, of Ridgefield, Ct.

<sup>6</sup> Augustus Robbins, like Dr. Robbins, was probably a descendant of Richard Robbins, of Cambridge. He was graduated at the Harvard Medical School in 1832, and died in 1855.

<sup>7</sup> David Smith, D. D.



At evening we had a meeting of our society. Few present. Heard a part of Mr. Lord's concluding lecture on Cromwell.

7. Wet and rainy. Read D'Aubigne. Have something of paralysis. The elegant sword, to be given to Col. Seymour<sup>1</sup> by the State, was deposited here for safe keeping. Read late.

8. The sword brings many visitors. Received by the agency of Mr. Miller a payment on my note of Mr. Hammond, of Mattapoisett, \$178.00. A divine blessing. Received a letter from Mr. Fairchild, of Boston. A wet day.

9. We had a very rainy night. Much occupied with company. Warm for the season. Wrote. Received from Mr. Herrick, of New Haven, a letter with some bust engravings. Read late. Intellectual labor fatigues me.

10. We have had a very wet week, rainy almost daily. The river is very high for this season of the year.

11. Had a poor night; a good deal of paralysis. Heard at the Centre Dr. Baird<sup>2</sup> and Mr. Knapp, of Plainfield.<sup>3</sup> Read. The river is seldom as high as now.

12. Am something feeble. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Visited at Mr. P. B. Gleason's. Gave them my small likeness which I had left there. Professor Larned called on me.

13. The gas-lights are putting up in our streets. They give a very bright light. We have much news from California. Great quantities of gold are procured. There will soon be a great population there, but a wretched state of society. Not a few are returning.

14. Mr. Fairchild, of Boston, came here yesterday, and went off this morning. He is in trouble in a clerical lawsuit.<sup>4</sup> I may have to go there. Mr. Deeth, of New Jersey, a bookseller, was here the most of the day. Paid him for three volumes, \$3.75. Warm. My health, through mercy, I think is improving. Read D'Aubigne. Luther was one of the great men found in history. Paid for wood, .98.

15. Wrote. Great and expensive are the public works done in this city this year. Had information that my cousin Mrs. Gridley,<sup>5</sup> of Amherst, is very sick, and not expected to live. Have a cold, and am quite unwell.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas H. Seymour, for gallant services in the Mexican War. He had been a Member of Congress, 1843-1845, was Governor of the State, 1850-1853, minister to Russia, 1853-1857.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Baird, D. D., mentioned in previous notes.

<sup>3</sup> The church at Central Village, Plainfield, was organized April 15, 1846, and Rev. Jared O. Knapp was ordained and settled there in September following. He was born at North Greenwich, Ct., 1818, graduated at Yale College, 1840, and at Yale Theological School, 1846, was settled at Central Village,

Ct., Hatfield, Mass., Suspension Bridge, N. Y., and at Beloit, Wis. During this last pastorate he died, July 14, 1860.

<sup>4</sup> A long and disagreeable story, which we will not undertake to tell. Mr. Fairchild was graduated at Yale, 1813, settled at East Hartford, Ct., 1816-1827, at Phillips Church, South Boston, Mass., 1827-1842, and at Payson Church, South Boston, 1845, to his death, 1859. He was born in Guilford, Ct., April 24, 1790.

<sup>5</sup> Eliza Lawrence, afterwards Mrs. Henry Olmsted, and by her second marriage Mrs. Timothy J. Gridley.

16. South Windsor friends called 'here. Am feeble. Occupied with company. Received a letter from W. R. Tompkins,<sup>1</sup> Williams College. At evening we had a good meeting of our society.

17. We have had a week of very pleasant weather. Wrote. Burdened with my cold. Read.

18. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes preached exceeding well. At evening heard a lecture from Mr. Baird on the Waldenses. Got fatigued.

19. Received of Mr. Hosmer on salary, \$100.00. Rainy. Wrote. Had a good number of visitors. Did not go out in the rain for dinner.

20. Set out on my journey a little after noon, and rode in the cars to Springfield and Boston. Have been wishing to take this journey, but have not thought my health sufficient. Got to Boston with little fatigue about dark. Put up at the old Bromfield House. Have a chamber with fire.

21. Went to bookstores. Paid my account at Little & Brown's, \$7.68. Less than I expected. Called on Asher Adams;<sup>2</sup> am not like to get my Wyllis papers.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Crockett,<sup>4</sup> my host, went with me and we visited the new Athenaeum, and the water works with the great reservoir just completed. All most magnificent and eminently useful. Saw various friends. Called on Dr. E. H. Robbins.<sup>5</sup>

22. Procured of Little & Brown, Stephens's<sup>6</sup> magnificent Latin Bible, folio, price \$20.00. \$5.40. Also Jeremy Taylor's *Works*, a very elegant London edition, fifteen volumes, at \$60.00. Procured of Burnham the original French *Encyclopædia*, not perfect, eighty-seven quartos, at \$12.00; also a French periodical, *Mercury*, historical and political, seventy-five volumes, six missing, beginning 1686, at \$10.00. Called at Mr. Livermore's store, and he was out. Rode to my cousin's, Dr. P. G. Robbins, at Roxbury, and he was out of town. Mrs. Robbins gave me a valuable book. Dined with Dr. E. H. Robbins, with his brother James Robbins. I have never been able to get acquainted with him before. Read and wrote. The city appears very prosperously. Much fatigued. Weather very pleasant.

23. Paid my host, \$4.63. Took the car early, and came home in an hour and a quarter. Arrived about half past eleven. Have had, through great mercy, a prosperous journey. My health has been sustained. Find things well. Attended to company. Am fatigued for want of rest.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. William Ripley Tompkins was at that time in Williams College, and was graduated there in 1850, and at Andover Seminary in 1856. He was pastor of the New England Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., 1856-1864, and in 1866 was settled in Wrentham, Mass., where he still remains. He was born in 1826. He has proved himself an able minister.

<sup>2</sup> Asher Adams was a broker at 10 Exchange Street, Boston.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins used to be looking after

those Wyllis papers, years before, when he was at Mattapoisett.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. S. Crockett was then landlord of the Bromfield House.

<sup>5</sup> Edward Hutchinson Robbins, son of the man of the same name mentioned in first volume of this work. The last named was son of Rev. Nathaniel Robbins, of Milton, pastor there 1750-1795, and was himself Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts.

<sup>6</sup> The Stephens family of scholars in France has been described in previous notes.

24. Received a letter from Dr. Webb,<sup>1</sup> of Boston. Am feeble, and much occupied with company. I think, however, I am better for my journey. Rainy and wet.

25. Attended meeting at the Centre. Mr. Hall,<sup>2</sup> of Wilton, preached in the forenoon quite well. Dr. Hawes in the afternoon. Kept at my room.

26. Received a box of books from Boston containing my noble Vulgate Bible, Stephens's, 1540, at \$20.00, and Jeremy Taylor's<sup>3</sup> *Works*, a splendid edition, at \$60.00. Can find but little time to write.

27. Received a heavy box of books from Boston; my old French *Encyclopædia*, eighty-eight volumes, at \$14.00; also the French *Mercury*, political and historical, a periodical, seventy-five volumes, five missing, seventy, small and neat in vellum, at \$10.00. Did a great deal of brushing and sweeping.

28. Worked at my books lately received. Paid Mr. Deeth for books, \$5.00. My late purchases make a very fine addition to my library. The magnificent Vulgate Stephens's, 1540, appears to be the copy given to George<sup>4</sup> IV at his coronation.

29. Thanksgiving. Dr. Hawes preached exceeding well. Weather is mild and pleasant. Dined by invitation at Dea. Alcott Allen's. Read. My health improves, I think, through great mercy.

30. Had a great number of visitors. Very fatiguing. We have had a pleasant fall. At evening attended a tableaux exhibition at the Asylum. A very curious and pleasing affair.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Much occupied with visitors. Quite cold, and increasing through the day. Toward evening rode to South Windsor. The new railroad bridge across Connecticut River is finished; a great work.<sup>5</sup>

2. Heard Dr. Hooker. I think this congregation is increasing. I hope they may see better days than in years past. Cold.

3. The ground is covered with snow; the first we have had. Wet and stormy through the day. Did not go out. Read. At evening assisted Ursula in making out her pecuniary accounts. Conversated with her with regard to her making a Christian profession.

4. Rode in a wagon to Hartford. Bad traveling. The most of the snow went off. The streets very wet. Attended to visitors. Worked at my books. Paid for fare of books from Boston, \$2.50. Toll, .13.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Hopkins Webb, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> Gordon Hall, D. D., son of Rev. Gordon Hall, one of the early missionaries to India, was born in Bombay, Nov. 4, 1823, graduated at Yale, 1843, was Tutor at Yale, 1846-1848, was pastor at Wilton, Ct., 1848-1852, and at Northampton, Mass., 1852, to his death, 1879. He was a man of marked excellence, wisdom, and ability.

<sup>3</sup> Jeremy Taylor, D. D., 1613-1667, one of

the most notable English divines of his age. As a writer he was voluminous, and remarkable for the rich flow of his language, and the exceeding beauty of his images and illustrations. He was much read and admired formerly.

<sup>4</sup> George IV was crowned King 1820, and died 1830.

<sup>5</sup> The bridge just above Hartford, before noticed.

5. Employed two laborers, and had two book-cases brought from below and fixed in my room. A heavy job.

6. Worked at my room. Sent to New York to Mr. Wheeler. I believe the great atlas he left here, and paid the express, .37. Received an excellent letter from Mr. James Cannon and his wife, of Mattapoisett. My late additions to my library are much commended.

7. In great mercy I am able to do much more in mental and muscular labor than I have been. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. It has become quite cold again. Took tea at Mr. Nichols's. Read *Life of Luther*.<sup>1</sup>

8. Wrote. Have but little time for myself. Paid Mr. Gleason for various services, \$5.00. Cold, and the ground is frozen. Congress have much difficulty in organizing. Wrote in the evening. My diary has been much in arrears.

9. Preached in the morning at the jail on Acts iv: 11, 12; about twenty prisoners, felons. Wrote. Had to employ an Irishman passing by to bring me some wood from the cellar. Afternoon heard Mr. Clarke at the South. Read.

10. We have some snow with ice. Worked at my books. Read *Life of Luther*. Wrote, with interruptions.

11. Much occupied with company. My library needs much cleansing and repairing. Cold. The ground freezes.

12. There was a great public parade. The Governor, Trumbull, presented the elegant sword, provided by the State, to Col. Seymour. It has been under my care about a month. I went in the procession. A great collection of people. Pleasant, but cold. The Governor and Colonel spoke very well. At evening attended the public reading by Miss Read. She read Shakespeare very well. On account of the cold I could not stay to the close.

13. Did not take cold last night, which I much feared. Miss Read called in here. Wrote. Much occupied with calls. Did errands. The river is frozen over. Read *Life of Luther*.

14. A late murder in Boston excites great attention.<sup>2</sup> Paid Mr. Willard a debt of \$10.00, for labels for books. Had a large book-case reglained and varnished to be given to S. T. Wolcott. Had good company. Read.

15. Worked at my books. Wrote to Mr. Talcott, West Hartford. Wrote on diary.

16. A heavy rainy day. Heard Mr. Van Lennep and Dr. Hawes at the Centre. Put on full winter clothes. Read. Kept at my room.

17. Did much in sweeping and brushing. At evening Mr. Miller paid me \$87.28, received from Mr. Hammond, of Mattapoisett, to take up a note he gave me for lent money when I left there. The note was \$216.45. Mr. Hammond paid debts for me, \$10.64. Cost in collecting, \$7.48. I received

<sup>1</sup> D'Aubigne's *History of the Reformation*.

<sup>2</sup> This was the strange murder of Dr. George Parkman, by Prof. John W. Webster, of the Harvard Medical School. Perhaps

no murder since has excited such a widespread and absorbing interest. For this murder Dr. Webster was hung Aug. 30 1850.

\$265.15. A special divine favor, as it has been a troublesome business, and I thought a doubtful debt. Gave Mr. Miller, \$10.00. Paid Mrs. Lamb, on my board-bill, \$50.00. Read D'Aubigne.

'18. We have steady winter weather. Congress are in great commotion. Can do but little these short days. Read.

19. Attended to company. Traded. Paid for flannel, \$5.00. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. James Cannon, Mattapoisett. Have had made a fine valuable pair of boots with black tops.<sup>1</sup>

20. Wet and rainy. The surface of our streets is excessive muddy. Did errands. Wrote to Dr. Gilman,<sup>2</sup> of New York, and to Mr. Burnham, of Boston. Read Robertson's *Charles V.* Get easily fatigued.

21. Wrote. Worked at my books. Through great mercy I can perform more labor than in time past. Pleasant weather for the winter solstice.<sup>3</sup> At evening walked out. Read.

22. Am trying to make some different arrangements in my library. We had a severe storm of rain. Read the Bible. My memory appears to be failing in some degree.

23. Heard Mr. Patton at the Fourth. Wrote to my brother, and to Dr. Smith, of Durham. Read a good deal in the Bible. Have a very fine new pair of sheets, Shaker's flannel. At evening we had news that Congress chose a Speaker, after the labor of three weeks, by a plurality vote.<sup>4</sup>

24. We have some snow. Wrote to Mr. S. T. Wolcott. Paid Mr. Miller, for books purchased in New York, \$3.00, and his store bill, \$8.16. Read *Charles V.*<sup>5</sup>

25. Attended service at Christ Church. Mr. Chauncey<sup>6</sup> preached short, and read long service. They have a new organ; a very large one. I think the most powerful and splendid one that I have ever seen. Dined at Mr. Nichols's,<sup>7</sup> and took tea at Mr. Lord's. A cold day, and the ground is firmly frozen.

26. We had a very cold night. Difficult to keep my large room comfortable. Wrote. Read the President's<sup>8</sup> Message; a very good one.<sup>9</sup> The coldest day of the season. Mercury about 6°.

27. Occupied with company. A distinguished man was here from Naples; very large, with a full beard. Have to burn much wood in my stove.

28. Wrote to Rev. Mr. Durfee,<sup>10</sup> South Dedham. The cold abates. Good sleighing above Springfield. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins's boots were something on which he was very particular.

<sup>2</sup> Chandler Robbins Gilman, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> The summer solstice is reckoned to be on the 21st of June, and the winter December 21. The word itself means that the sun stops and stands still, preparing to turn back.

<sup>4</sup> After this long struggle Hon. Howell Cobb, of Georgia, was elected Speaker. This was the Thirty-First Congress.

<sup>5</sup> *History of Charles V.* by Dr. William

Robertson, of Berthwick, Scotland, was first published in 1769, and stands as a work of very great merit.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Peter S. Chauncey, rector of Christ Church, Hartford, 1848-1850.

<sup>7</sup> James Nichols, Esq., Judge of Probate.

<sup>8</sup> President Zachary Taylor.

<sup>9</sup> A Whig President almost always wrote good messages.

<sup>10</sup> Calvin Durfee, D. D., afterwards of Williamstown.

29. Received a letter from my brother. Dr. Welch,<sup>1</sup> of Norfolk, is dead, aged eighty-two. Wrote. Worked at my books. Afternoon rode in the car to Enfield. Met my brother's sleigh at Thompsonville. Not very cold.

30. Preached for my brother on Rev. xxii: 11, and Acts xiii: 38. He made the most of the prayers. This is an excellent congregation, and a very fine house. Was sustained in mercy beyond my expectation. -

31. We have an addition to our snow. Good sleighing. Made a call on Mr. Lusk.<sup>2</sup> I think he cannot live long. Rode home in the car. A number of visitors in my room. Got through with my labors very favorably. I have been spared, in infinite mercy, to finish another year. It has been a year of much sickness through the land.

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<sup>1</sup> Benjamin Welch, M. D.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Sylvester Lusk.



## 1850.

### JANUARY.

1. I enter this as if it may be my last.<sup>1</sup> If I should reach its close I shall have outlived my father. I have already passed the days of my grandfather. Occupied with company and business. I cannot devote it as I could wish. Have to settle some accounts. Dr. Hopkins, of Williams College, spent some time here. At evening had a meeting of our society here. After which I heard Dr. Hawes's public scientific<sup>2</sup> lecture in part. A very able one.

2. Cold, and good sleighing. Paid the bill of Bolles & Roberts, \$5.50; Birge's, \$2.19; Johnson's, \$1.18. Did errands. Engaged to take the daily *Courant*<sup>3</sup> at \$4.50 for the year. Had many calls. Can get little time to write.

3. Received of Hartford Bank, \$32.50; two dividends. Paid Stock bridge, \$15.00; for horse hire, \$2.50. Occupied with company. Read.

4. Mr. Wolcott brought down my good ancient clock which has stood in one place in his father's house about thirty years, and carried away a good, large book-case which I have given him. Received a letter from Miss Ursula Wolcott. My cousin Sarah Starr, of Warren, called here. Pretty good sleighing. The river is frozen. Dr. Hawes's church observed the day as a fast. I was with them in the forenoon; in the afternoon was prevented. Much fatigued.

5. Paid Dr. Rogers<sup>4</sup> his bill, \$25.00; much greater than I expected. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Much taken up with company. Made this almanack.<sup>5</sup> Read.

6. Had a good day; a very solemn season at Dr. Hawes's, with sacrament. The church very full. Attended the monthly concert. Had some important missionary intelligence from the East.

7. Quite cold. Wrote. Have to do a good deal of sweeping and brushing. My labor and attention yesterday was rather too much for me.

<sup>1</sup> No wonder Dr. Robbins had this feeling. Looking back along the line of his ancestors, they had passed away one by one about this age. His father died at the age of seventy-three and two months. His grandfather, Philemon, of Branford, Ct., died in his seventy-third year. His great-grandfather, Nathaniel, of Cambridge, Mass., died at seventy, and his great-great-grandfather, of Cambridge, died also at seventy.

<sup>2</sup> It is a question whether the word scientific would exactly describe any lecture which Dr. Hawes ever delivered. He gave most

excellent lectures of a practical sort. His little volume of lectures to young men had an almost unparalleled circulation, but they were not *scientific*.

<sup>3</sup> The Connecticut *Courant* started in 1764, after running as a weekly more than seventy years, became a daily paper in 1837, under John L. Boswell.

<sup>4</sup> Benjamin Rogers, M. D.

<sup>5</sup> As before explained, "making an almanac," in his sense, is interleaving it, and thus preparing it to receive the diary for a year.



8. An addition to our snow. Very good sleighing. Wrote. Have a number of accounts to settle. Received of Mr. Hosmer, on salary, \$50.00. Paid for horse hire, \$1.50. Cold.

9. Paid J. Olmsted's account, \$13.09. There is much sleighing. Had many calls. Received a letter from my cousin P. Battell, of Middlebury, Vt. At evening read the Book of Revelation, and finished the late reading of my Bible in course. I believe the time has been about a year and a half. On the 7th wrote to J. W. Barber,<sup>1</sup> of New Haven.

10. Paid Covill's bill, \$3.65; also Rowell's bill, \$2.96. Did errands. I think I have taken some cold. Am something unwell.

11. Wet, and a very cold rain through the day. Worked at my books. Wrote. The streets are very slippery. Had an agent for Liberia. Its prospects are very favorable; donation, \$1.00.

12. Occupied with company. Towards evening rode to South Windsor. Very good wheeling.

13. Dr. Hooker preached in the morning. Afternoon he had the sacrament, and received eleven persons to the church by profession, and three by letter. A valuable addition. I assisted in the services. A solemn and interesting occasion. A full congregation. The society seems to be improving.

14. Rode home in the stage. A very cold and rough wind. Difficult to make my room comfortable.

15. A very cold night and morning. Read. Mr. Robinson, of Mattapoisett, made me a good visit. At evening heard a good lecture for the Young Men's Institute by Mr. J. Deming.

16. The cold abates. Dr. Alexander,<sup>2</sup> of Winchester, N. H., was here some time. Read.

17. Have a good many visitors from the Retreat. Occupied with company. Wrote. Have some rheumatic complaints. Read *Charles V.* Dr. R.<sup>3</sup> is rather prolix.

18. Last evening Mr. Miller, my host, had a son born. Am something unwell; had a poor night. Wrote. Wet, and the snow falls. Received of Mr. Hosmer, \$50.00, in full of salary to Sept. 1, 1849.<sup>4</sup> Read.

19. Last night had a heavy body of snow. Worked at my books. Wrote. Paid Mr. Hunt, bookseller, \$15.00. Very bad walking, slippery.

20. Kept much at my own room. Last evening began to read my Bible again in course. I think it not very likely that I shall finish it. Be it according to the divine will. Heard Dr. Hawes in the morning, and Mr. Seward<sup>5</sup> in the afternoon. Mrs. Silliman,<sup>6</sup> of New Haven, is dead. Read in Genesis. Was much in my room.

<sup>1</sup> John W. Barber, author of the illustrated town histories of several of the States.

<sup>2</sup> J. L. Alexander, M. D.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robertson, author of *Life of Charles V.*

<sup>4</sup> That was four months and a half behind-

hand, which seems to have been the way of paying salaries in that generation.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Dwight M. Seward, of West Hartford.

<sup>6</sup> Mrs. Silliman was Faith Trumbull, daughter of Gov. Jonathan Trumbull, of

21. It snowed hard the most of the day. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Have some paralysis.<sup>1</sup>

22. A heavy body of snow. A good deal of company. Paid for a fine engraving of Washington, \$2.00.

23. Very icy and bad walking. Occupied with company. Difficult for me to leave my room. Read. Had a carpenter to work at my library. Wrote to Mr. L. W. Fitch,<sup>2</sup> New Haven. Read Bible. Heard of the death of Dr. E. H. Robbins,<sup>3</sup> of Boston, my respected kinsman. A man of wealth; few of our family go to old age. He died with short illness.

24. Very icy, and bad walking in the streets. Get but little time for myself. Read the Bible. Wrote.

25. The committee of the Massachusetts Legislature to visit the Asylum called in here, and made a pleasant visit. Worked at my library. Did errands. Received a letter from Mr. C. B. Marchant, of Edgartown, and one, a strange one, from John Eddy, Esq., of Mattapoisett.

26. Had a carpenter. I am preparing my shelves for double rows of books. Received a letter from L. W. Fitch, New Haven, and one from Mr. E. W. Cooper, New York, 139 Spring Street.

27. Last night there was a destructive fire in the appendages of the Centre lecture-room. Sabbath-school valuable library mostly destroyed. Heard Dr. Tucker<sup>4</sup> at the Centre. He preached very well. At my room in the evening.

28. Prayed at the opening of the Superior Court. Had a carpenter to work at my shelves.

29. Last night we had an addition to our snow. Wrote. Mrs. Sigourney<sup>5</sup> and Miss Caulkins<sup>6</sup> were in my room. Wrote. Bought of Mr. Lawrence, Prescott's *History of Mexico*, three volumes, and his *Peru*, two volumes, and paid for them, \$10.00.<sup>7</sup>

30. We had a cold night. Had a present of East India articles. Have recently written to Prof. Silliman in his affliction. Paid for the *Religious Herald*, \$1.00.

31. Wrote to John Eddy, Esq., Mattapoisett. It has been a good season for sleighing here and north of us for nearly two months. Read in *Charles V.* I cannot bear much mental labor.

Lebanon, of Revolutionary memories. Prof. Silliman survived her fourteen years, dying in 1864.

<sup>1</sup> The paralysis of which Dr. Robbins so often speaks, must have been of a mild type, probably a kind of numbness.

<sup>2</sup> Lucius W. Fitch, a graduate of Yale in 1840.

<sup>3</sup> Edward H. Robbins, M. D., was graduated at Harvard in 1812. His father, of the same name, was graduated in 1775.

<sup>4</sup> Mark Tucker, D. D., pastor at Wethersfield.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Lydia Huntley Sigourney, the poetess, was born in Norwich, 1791, and died in Hartford, 1865.

<sup>6</sup> Miss Frances Manwaring Caulkins, who wrote the *History of Norwich, Ct.*, 1845, and a *History of New London, Ct.*, 1852, was born in New London, 1795, and died in same city, 1869.

<sup>7</sup> Prescott's *Conquest of Mexico* was first published in 1843, and his *History of Peru* in 1847. His works were very popular, and were read by thousands in this country and in England, as soon as they appeared.

## FEBRUARY.

1. Much occupied with visitors. The cold moderates. It has been pretty severe for a few days. Wrote an elaborate letter to Mr. Marchant,<sup>1</sup> of Martha's Vineyard. Paid Humphrey & Symes, \$5.00.

2. Wet and rainy the most of the day. Wrote. President Taylor is highly approved in his administration by good people, and basely abused by the wicked. Read the Bible. The book of Genesis is worth the world.

3. Heard Dr. Hawes. Very bad walking in the streets. Wrote. I gain some time by not going to dinner. Read Bible.

4. Prayed with the court. Wrote to Mr. L. W. Fitch,<sup>2</sup> New Haven. Last night and this morning very cold.

5. A very cold day. I believe the coldest we have had this season. Read a very valuable biographical account of my good cousin, Rev. S. P. Robbins,<sup>3</sup> of Marietta. At evening we had a meeting of our society here. Have to consume a great quantity of wood. Wrote.

6. A very cold night and morning; the thermometers were at zero and upward. Read a long manuscript. Read *Charles V.* The wars between him and Francis I were a great help to the Reformation.

7. Wrote. Heard from my classmate Bassett,<sup>4</sup> Walton, N. Y., and wrote to him. The cold abates.

8. Read. Much occupied with company. My good friend, Mrs. Eveline Bissell, was here. Did errands.

9. The cold much subsided. Wet and rainy. Had a very bad choking turn at dinner. Wrote to Mr. Charles Russell, of Troy, inquiring for his father, whether living or not.<sup>5</sup> The college class of 1793 hold out remarkably.<sup>6</sup> Received a letter from Prof. Silliman, a very valuable one from Dea. L. M. Norton, Goshen, and one from W. R. Tompkins,<sup>7</sup> of Williams College. Had a valuable scientific pamphlet from Mr. Waldo, of Washington.

10. Attended meeting at the South; had a Methodist in the morning, and afternoon Mr. Clarke. Wrote. Read.

11. Last evening wrote to W. R. Tompkins, Williams College. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. The river is rising rapidly.

12. Prayed with the court. Wrote to Dr. S. P. Hildreth,<sup>8</sup> of Marietta.

<sup>1</sup> It may be remembered that we have been introduced in the earlier portions of this volume to Rev. Henry Marchant, a prominent Baptist minister, who came from this Marchant family of Martha's Vineyard. Henry Marchant, LL.D., lawyer in Newport, and Attorney-General of Rhode Island, was from the same general family.

<sup>2</sup> Lucius W. Fitch, before mentioned, was son of Eleazar T. Fitch, D.D., so long the Yale College Professor of Divinity and preacher.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel Prince Robbins, graduate of Harvard, 1793, who died in 1828.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Archibald Bassett.

<sup>5</sup> His father was Rev. Joseph Russell, and he lived until 1861.

<sup>6</sup> Not more remarkably than some other classes. It was nearly fifty-seven years since the class was graduated, and eleven of the thirty-seven members were alive.

<sup>7</sup> Before noticed. Mr. Tompkins was then a member of the Senior class.

<sup>8</sup> Samuel Prescott Hildreth, M.D., born in Methuen, Mass., 1793, was an eminent historical and scientific scholar. After his medical education was completed (he was not a college graduate) he began practice in

The river has become quite high, and the ice has gone out. At evening walked out.

13. Sat some time in the court. Sent off my letter to Dr. Hildreth, of Marietta, with his valuable manuscript biography of my good cousin, S. P. Robbins. Paid the postage, \$1.00.

14. On the 12th received from Miss Mary K. Belden,<sup>1</sup> of New Haven, a very valuable manuscript; a part of the history of Wethersfield, broken off by the death of the author, her father. Am pretty feeble. Intellectual labor wearies me. Had a letter from Miss Wolcott. A hard rain.

15. Worked at my books. Received a letter from O. Robbins, of Ogdensburgh, N. Y., a person that I do not know. Read Robertson's *History*.

16. Had a good deal of company. Received a singular letter from a cousin, Abraham Hammatt,<sup>2</sup> of Ipswich, whom I have not seen, I think, for forty years. He sent two small, ancient Latin books. Get tired pretty easy.

17. A pleasant day, like approaching spring. Attended meeting at the Fourth. Heard Mr. Baldwin.<sup>3</sup> Wrote. Read Bible.

18. Warm for the season. Read. Worked at my books. Much occupied with company.

19. Sat some time in the court room. They are very laborious. The discussions in Congress are becoming quite animated. Slavery and Northern and Southern interests our national malady.<sup>4</sup>

20. Cold. My sister Battell came here. Her two daughters, Urania and Ellen, have been very sick this winter, the latter very dangerous. She tells me that our cousin, P. G. Robbins,<sup>5</sup> of Roxbury, is very ill from a wound. Read Dr. Robertson.

21. Worked laboriously at my library. Had a laborer. Still quite cold. Gentlemen from Windham and New London counties pass here by railroad to attend their convention<sup>6</sup> at New Haven.

22. Worked with Mr. Gleason, beginning a catalogue of our library. A complicated business, with various minds to direct it. Get much fatigued. At evening walked out.

23. Had a committee of our society to look at the books relative to a catalogue. A difficult business and laborious. Had much company; from twenty to thirty the most of the afternoon. Read Bible. The cold abates.

New Hampshire, but very soon (1806) went with other early settlers to Ohio, his home being chiefly at Marietta. He wrote much for Silliman's *Journal*, and for the *New England Historical Register*, and was the author of several important volumes. He died in Marietta, 1863, at the age of eighty.

<sup>1</sup> Miss Mary K. Belden was a teacher at Grove Hall, New Haven. She was a daughter of Hezekiah Belden, a classmate of Dr. Robbins, who died in 1849. The name Belden was an ancient name in Wethersfield.

<sup>2</sup> There were Abraham Hammatts in three

successive generations. The one here referred to was the oldest child of Abraham and Priscilla (Le Baron) Hammatt, who were married 1774. This cousin Abraham was not far from Dr. Robbins's own age.

<sup>3</sup> Theron Baldwin, D. D., Secretary of Western College Society.

<sup>4</sup> Slavery is no longer spoken of by Dr. Robbins as in his earlier years.

<sup>5</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins was born in 1781, and was now about sixty-nine years old.

<sup>6</sup> A State Convention meeting at New Haven for a revision of the statutes.

24. Heard Dr. Hawes at the Centre. They have a large new bell there. Wrote. Have been much in arrear in diary. Read. Spend most of the Sabbath in my room.

25. Worked laboriously at my books. Much fatigued. Have lost a good pocket-knife; supposed stolen. Read.

26. Did errands. Had my large clock-case brought in,<sup>1</sup> after good repairs. Received \$10.00 from Mr. Hosmer for the library. Cannot do much in the evening.

27. Paid Mr. Gleason for a book, \$1.00, and \$1.00 for work for the library. Paid for the Connecticut *Courant* a year, daily, \$4.50. Wrote.

28. Worked what I could at my library. Had the help of a workman. Had my clock brought in, and set in operation. It is much improved by repairs, and goes well. Received six letters: from Mr. Seward, of West Hartford, a call for a meeting of Association; from Rev. B. B. Edwards,<sup>2</sup> of Andover; from Mr. C. B. Russell,<sup>3</sup> of Troy; Richard L. Pease, Martha's Vineyard; C. S. Hubbard, Deep River, and Miss Mary Belden, of New Haven. Paid Mr. Burke for labor, \$3.00. Was up late. Wrote to Miss Mary Belden.

#### MARCH.

1. Spent some time in the court. Wrote. Afternoon took the stage, and rode to South Windsor. Road very wet, and stage much crowded. Mrs. Wolcott is well, but they have had a good deal of sickness at the Locks.

2. Had rain. Got a fortunate conveyance home. Bad riding. Took some cold. Attended to company.

3. Stormy and tedious; wet and snow. Attended at the Centre. Had the sacrament. At evening was at the monthly concert. Spoke considerably.

4. Had a cold night and day. Worked at my room. Cannot perform much labor. Wrote to Mr. Joseph Russell,<sup>4</sup> of Milford, an old college acquaintance. Read.

5. We had a special meeting of our Association, at Mr. Clarke's in this town, on a remonstrance at Fairfield, West Association, about Bushnell's book. An unpleasant business.<sup>5</sup> Sat quite late in the evening. Our society had a meeting here. I was absent. Much fatigued.

<sup>1</sup> This was the ancient clock which had spent thirty years at East Windsor, and had been recently brought down to Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> Prof. Bela Bates Edwards, born in South-ampton, Mass., 1802, graduated at Amherst College, 1824, and at Andover Seminary, 1830, Professor at Andover, 1837, to his death in 1852, well known as editor and public writer, one of the choicest of men in character and scholarship.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Rev. Joseph Russell, of the class of 1793.

<sup>4</sup> Through Mr. C. B. Russell, his son, of

Troy, Dr. Robbins had learned where Rev. Joseph Russell was, and so writes him. Rev. Mr. Russell was then fifty-seven years out of college, but lived on eleven years longer. He had never been settled in Milford, but now, in his old age, was probably living there with some of his kindred.

<sup>5</sup> The ministers and churches of Connecticut were divided as to how Dr. Bushnell should be treated, but on the whole lenient counsels prevailed, and this was without much doubt the better way. His name abides in honor now.

6. Am pretty feeble. Wet and snow. Our past winter has been very mild. Read.

7. Worked at my books. I fear that some are lost. Rev. Charles Goodrich is very sick. Wrote to my cousin, Dr. P. G. Robbins. Received of the Phoenix Bank a dividend for the year, \$135.00, nine per cent; doing well.<sup>1</sup> Am more feeble than I have been.

8. Wrote. Have concluded to exclude boys<sup>2</sup> without protection from my room. Have had losses, a considerable number, and some valuable. Gave Mr. Gleason, \$2.00. At evening walked out. Wrote to Rev. Dr. Edwards,<sup>3</sup> of Andover.

9. Paid Mrs. Lamb a quarter's board bill, \$50.00. Mr. Haskell,<sup>4</sup> of Windsor Locks, called and told me of the death of his only daughter and child. An excellent youth. Rode in the cars in the evening to the Locks.

10. Heard Mr. Allen in the forenoon, and in the afternoon preached for him on Acts xiii: 38. This is a pleasant, promising congregation, but they have sustained from the Haskell family in a year a great loss.<sup>5</sup> Spent the evening with the afflicted family.

11. Wrote diary. I frequently get into the rear. Afternoon attended the affecting funeral of Miss Haskell.<sup>6</sup> Mr. Allen preached; six ministers were present. The meeting-house was very full. Late at evening rode home in the cars.

12. Read. Finished reading Dr. Robertson's *Charles V.* It is a very valuable history. Worked at my books. Congress are very slack, and do almost nothing.

13. Paid for a very small load of wood, \$2.00. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Had a good deal of company. Have little time for myself. I do but little in evenings.

14. Worked at my library with an assistant. Am feeble. Quite warm for the season.

15. Did errands. Have much company; persons of character from a distance. Worked at my catalogue. The spring approaching earlier than usual through the country. Read.

16. I believe I have taken cold. Paid for a good map of Europe, \$1.25. Got fatigued. Afternoon quite unwell with dizziness.

17. Had an ill night. Am quite feeble. Attended meeting at the South; heard Dr. Hewitt.<sup>7</sup> Wrote. Read Bible. We fear the errors of Dr. Bushnell's book will make more trouble. Read in the evening.

<sup>1</sup> The Phoenix Bank of Hartford was a very successful institution.

<sup>2</sup> A humorous student, by the name of Boise, who is still living, once amused his class greatly by a composition entitled "Reasons Why Boys Should not be Allowed to go to Meeting."

<sup>3</sup> Bela B. Edwards, D. D., before noticed.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Herlehigh Haskell, brother of Har-

ris Haskell. He was married in 1823, and had had four children, three sons and a daughter. This was the last of the four.

<sup>5</sup> By the death of Mr. Harris Haskell.

<sup>6</sup> Martha Elizabeth Haskell, born March 7, 1830, died March 8, 1850, twenty years and one day old.

<sup>7</sup> Nathaniel Hewitt, D. D., graduated at Yale, 1808, and living until 1867.

18. Am pretty feeble. Rode in the stage to South Windsor. It snowed the most of the day.

19. Wrote to my old friend, Dr. Davis,<sup>1</sup> of Clinton, N. Y. Called in the evening on old neighbors. This family are in good pecuniary circumstances. The ground is quite covered with snow. Wrote to Esq. Blackman, of Newtown.

20. Rode home in the stage. Quite cold, and the ground hard frozen. Attended to company.

21. I fear I have lost my gold spectacles, perhaps stolen. Worked diligently at my books. Had a good deal of company. At evening heard Mr. Burritt,<sup>2</sup> the learned blacksmith, deliver a good address on the subject of peace.

22. Wrote to Mr. W. A. Whitehead,<sup>3</sup> Newark, N. J. The capital trial in Boston excites great attention. Occupied with company. Read.

23. A snow-storm through the day. Was at a funeral in the morning. Mrs. Patton<sup>4</sup> died here this morning. Worked at my library. Can do but little in the evening. Quite cold.

24. The ground covered with much snow, and hard frozen. Heard Mr. Boltwood<sup>5</sup> in the morning at the Centre, and afternoon attended the funeral of Mrs. Patton at the North Church. Read.

25. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Have had my spectacles advertised with \$5.00 reward. Had help in my library labor. Still cold.

26. Much excitement in the State in view of the approaching election. Had respectable company from a distance. At evening we had a public Bible society meeting, with two gentlemen speakers from New York.

27. Called on Mr. Patton in his severe affliction. Looked at his new meeting-house; it is a very fine one, not yet open. Worked at my library. Read Russell's *Modern Europe*.

28. Resetting the books of my library, with all the brushing, is a great task. Paid Charles Hosmer, \$1.24, and balanced his account. I think I have lost my leather gloves.

<sup>1</sup> Henry Davis, D. D., Dr. Robbins's classmate at Yale. He was born in East Hampton, N. Y., graduated at Yale, 1796, tutor both at Williams College and at Yale, Professor at Union College, 1806-1809, President at Middlebury, 1809-1817, President of Hamilton College, 1817-1833. He died at Clinton, N. Y., 1852.

<sup>2</sup> Elihu Burritt, born in New Britain, Ct., 1811. With nothing more than a common school education, he became well acquainted with ancient and modern languages. He lived many years in Worcester, Mass., for the advantages of the Antiquarian Library. He was an editor and author. In the *History of Hartford County, Ct.*, just published, there is a somewhat extended sketch of his

life, and a good engraving of him. He died in 1879.

<sup>3</sup> Hon. William Adee Whitehead, like the foregoing, was a man of extended scholarship, without collegiate education, and an able writer on historical and miscellaneous subjects. He was very active in connection with the New Jersey Historical Society, and was a corresponding member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society of Boston. He was born in Newark, N. J., 1810, and died in Perth Amboy, N. J., 1884.

<sup>4</sup> Wife of William W. Patton, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Lucius M. Boltwood, licensed to preach, but never ordained. He was graduated at Amherst, 1843, studied at Connecticut Institute, 1845-1846, graduated at Andover, 1847.

29. Fast.<sup>1</sup> Attended regular services at the Centre. Prof. Fitch preached by exchange. The day was pretty well observed. Wrote. Business was generally laid.

30. We have some spring weather, though it snowed nearly every day this week. We have had a cold and uncomfortable March. I believe it has been colder than February. It is said there is a great body of snow at the north.

31. Paid Mr. Gleason on the 28th, \$2.00. Heard at the South Church Mr. Parker from Maine.<sup>2</sup> Kept much at my room. Read Bible. Pleasant. It begins to look like spring. We have had a cold and stormy March. Have the effects of a late cold.

#### APRIL.

1. We have two important pieces of intelligence this morning: the death of Mr. Senator Calhoun,<sup>3</sup> at Washington, some time expected, yesterday morning, and the verdict of guilty of wilful murder in the case of Dr. Webster, of Boston, which has produced great excitement.<sup>4</sup> Went and voted at the annual State election. There is great solicitude on the event. Very pleasant weather, and it is hoped favorable to the election.

2. The election appears to have gone unfavorably.<sup>5</sup> Went and voted for the second Representative of the town. Had considerable company.

3. Received a letter from sister Robbins, saying that brother Francis is very sick. He is worn down with visiting schools, and his anxiety and labor in his revival. May the Lord be our helper. Worked at my library.

4. Cold and snow. Rode to Enfield in the cars. Found brother Francis very low with severe disease. He says very little. Went and spent the night at Mr. Hazzard's.<sup>6</sup> Mr. Cook<sup>7</sup> came here from Danvers.

5. My brother is more sensible this morning. Mr. Vaill,<sup>8</sup> of Somers, is here; preached last evening. The work of grace here is very favorable. Afternoon rode home with some hope that brother was some relieved, and night, in great mercy, be spared. Paid for three large and very fine maple-trees, \$9.00. Snow and cold.

<sup>1</sup> Good Friday, which, by the law of the changeable feast of the Jewish Passover, was this year quite early.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Clement C. Parker, of South Sanford, Me. It is an interesting coincidence that just ten years later (1860) Edwin Pond Parker, D. D., from Maine, the present able and popular pastor of the South Church, began his ministry in Hartford.

<sup>3</sup> John C. Calhoun had received some of the highest honors of the Republic, except the Presidency. He had been Vice-President, Secretary of State, Senator, etc. He was born in Abbeville District, S. C., 1782, and died in Washington, March 31, 1850. He was graduated at Yale College in 1804, with the highest honors of his class.

<sup>4</sup> After a careful and impartial trial, Dr Webster was declared guilty of murder in the first degree, and was hung in August following, Aug. 30, 1850.

<sup>5</sup> Col. Thomas Hart Seymour, the man to whom the sword had been presented, was elected Governor, and continued three years. He was a Democrat, but a man of good abilities and of reliable character.

<sup>6</sup> Augustus G. Hazzard, born in Kingston, R. I., 1802, and the head of the Hazzard Powder Company.

<sup>7</sup> Mrs. Robbins's father or brother probably. Her maiden name was Hannah Cook, of Danvers, Mass.

<sup>8</sup> Joseph Vaill, D. D., pastor at Somers, Ct., 1845-1854.



6. Am quite feeble. Have various things to attend to. Wrote on the 4th to sister Battell. Afternoon rode to Enfield with fear and much trembling. When I left the car at Thompsonville I was told my good brother was dead. He deceased about eleven o'clock. Went to the house of death. Sister Battell and cousin Robbins B<sup>1</sup> are here; came last evening. A house of great mourning. All the people concur. Why my youngest brother before me?<sup>2</sup> One week only from active life and great usefulness. Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord.

7. Went to meeting with Dr. Tyler.<sup>3</sup> How fearful the scene of this beautiful house. I preached in the morning on 1 Cor. xv: 56, 57. The congregation much impressed and solemn. Performed easier than I expected. Dr. Tyler in the afternoon preached. We have sent messages to various ministers to attend the funeral. I wrote to Dr. Tyler to preach the day before his death, and gave sketches of his history. Very well accommodated at Mr. Hazzard's. Feel no inconvenience from preaching.

8. Rode home in the cars. Did necessary things. Snow and cold. Much inquiry about my brother. His reputation appears to have been greater than I supposed. Returned to Enfield. All things here wear a gloom. Some snow and cold. At evening attended the monthly concert. Much fatigued by cares and labors.

9. Funeral of brother Francis L. Robbins. The day very cold and blustering, yet a great concourse of people, and many ministers present. Mr. Vaill<sup>4</sup> made the first prayer, Dr. Tyler preached, Mr. Washburn<sup>5</sup> last prayer, Dr. Hooker<sup>6</sup> spoke at the grave. Dr. Thompson<sup>7</sup> made the preceding prayer at the house. The people of the town greatly affected. Cousin Joseph B.,<sup>8</sup> Mr. Eldridge,<sup>9</sup> and Mr. Larned,<sup>10</sup> and William Lawrence<sup>11</sup> and wife, were present. The ministers took some measures for a present supply in this day of revival. May God in his great mercy make up this severe loss to the survivors of the family. Five of the eight are gone.

10. Sister Battell stays with our widowed sister till next week. The people here feel their loss deeply. Have been kept at Mr. Hazzard's very kindly. After dinner he carried me to the bridge stop,<sup>12</sup> and took the cars and came home. Am something unwell. My three large maple-trees, forty feet high, are well set; done yesterday. Great is my loss. The Lord Jesus be my helper.

<sup>1</sup> Robbins Battell.

<sup>2</sup> Francis Le Baron Robbins was born in Norfolk, Ct., Oct. 30, 1787 (ten years after his brother Thomas), was graduated at Williams College, 1803, and after some years employed in teaching, was settled in 1816. His ministry in Enfield was thirty-four years.

<sup>3</sup> Bennet Tyler, D. D., head of Connecticut Theological Institute.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph Vaill, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Asahel C. Washburn, Suffield.

<sup>6</sup> Edward W. Hooker, D. D.

<sup>7</sup> William Thompson, D. D., Professor of Connecticut Theological Institute.

<sup>8</sup> Joseph Battell, of New York.

<sup>9</sup> Joseph Eldridge, D. D., of Norfolk.

<sup>10</sup> Prof. William A. Larned, of Yale College.

<sup>11</sup> Son of Grove and Elizabeth (Robbins) Lawrence, of Norfolk.

<sup>12</sup> At the Enfield bridge, where, in the early years of the railroad, the cars between Springfield and Hartford stopped on signal.

11. Have a good many calls. Received a letter from Mr. Joseph Russell,<sup>1</sup> of Milford, and one from Mr. W. A. Whitehead,<sup>2</sup> of Newark, N. J. Am unwell from the late scenes passed through.

12. Wrote on my diary. Cold, and small advance of the season. Our National Congress do very poorly. The zeal for going to California seems to be unmitigated. Great numbers are emigrating there from the Western States. Wrote.

13. Wet and snow. Worked at my room. Paid Mr. Gleason, \$2.00. Can bear but little labor. Wrote. My late affliction near before me.

14. Very cold, rough wind. Attended meeting at the Centre. Had my case mentioned for prayers. Dr. Hawes preached. Am pretty feeble. Did not go out in the evening.

15. Cold and windy. We have had a very cold April thus far. Did errands. Rode in the stage to South Windsor. Little vegetation.

16. Spent the day at Mrs. Wolcott's. A hard and very rough wind. Wrote to my cousin, Dr. Robbins, of Roxbury. Wrote an important paper for Ursula; she thinks of making a profession of religion.<sup>3</sup> Dr. Hooker called here.

17. Rode home in the stage. The cold wind abates. Wrote to Mr. Allen, of Windsor Locks. Occupied with company. Saw the first ploughing.

18. Walked and did errands. Wrote to the postmaster of Marietta. Received a very kind letter from good Brother Bartlett,<sup>4</sup> of East Windsor. At evening walked out. Gave a good surtout for a missionary box.

19. Worked at my books. Received a letter from Miss Wolcott, and wrote to her in return. Received one from Mr. Allen,<sup>5</sup> of Windsor Locks.

20. Wrote to Mr. Herrick,<sup>6</sup> Yale College. Occupied in my room. Toward evening rode to South Windsor. The ground has become dry, and the roads very dusty.

21. Dr. Hooker<sup>7</sup> preached. I sat with him in the pulpit, and assisted some. A good congregation. Walked with Ursula, and wrote for her relative to a Christian profession.

22. Rode home in the stage. Had my large trees well watered. Wrote. Get easily fatigued. Wrote.

23. Rode in the cars early to New Haven, and attended on the Juniors' exhibition.<sup>8</sup> The composition and speaking were good; about thirty-five speakers.<sup>9</sup> Dined with Mr. Silliman. Called on Judge Daggett. He is

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Joseph Russell.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. William Adee Whitehead.

<sup>3</sup> She was then fifty-four years old.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Shubael Bartlett, then in the forty-sixth year of his ministry in the Scantic parish, East Windsor, and where he remained till his death in 1854.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Samuel H. Allen.

<sup>6</sup> Edward C. Herrick.

<sup>7</sup> Edward W. Hooker, D. D., was pastor at South Windsor, 1849-1856.

<sup>8</sup> This was the class of 1851, which had ninety-three members at graduation.

<sup>9</sup> More than one third of the class took part in these exercises, some in the dialogues simply as actors. A dialogue or colloquy, forenoon and afternoon, was then the order of the day.

quite aged<sup>1</sup> and infirm. Went to Mr. Bishop's. At evening went with him to Mr. Brewster's.

24. Mr. Bishop has a good set of daffies in his garden. Pleasant, but cool. Walked with my cousin, Mrs. Larned; called on Judge Baldwin. He is quite aged, and very feeble.<sup>2</sup> Rode home. Went into the new station. Have a prosperous journey. Wrote.

25. Worked at my room. Had respectable company. Yesterday received a letter from Mr. Herrick, of New Haven. Am pretty feeble.

26. Received a letter from Mr. Allen, Windsor Locks, and wrote to him. Finished and sent a letter to my cousin P. G. Robbins, Roxbury. Gave for the General Bible Society, \$1.00.

27. Wrote. Occupied by company. Took the cars and rode to Windsor Locks. The new station-house is a grand building, but so distant that I have to ride. Kept at Mrs. Haskell's.<sup>3</sup> Warm, spring weather. The river rises.

28. Mr. Allen went to Enfield and supplied that destitute people, and I preached for him. I preached on Micah vi: 8, and Gen. xxxii: 26-29. Was carried through the services, by divine favor, better than I expected. An attentive audience. Warm; went to meeting in the afternoon without an out coat. Yesterday received a long letter from Mr. Preston Cummings,<sup>4</sup> North Dighton, Mass.

29. Last night and this morning we had a hard rain. Very beneficial to the dry ground. Afternoon rode home. The water very high. Worked at my trees. I think I am none the worse in health for my labor yesterday.

30. Wrote. Saw the first fruit-tree blossoms. Took a long walk. The water is very high and rising. Received a good letter from my cousin, Dr. P. G. Robbins, greatly afflicted with a severe wound. Read *Life of Napoleon*.

#### MAY.

1. The river is higher, I think, than I have ever seen it. Had much company. Military gentlemen from abroad came to attend our new Governor.<sup>5</sup> Read Scott's *Napoleon*.

2. There was great parade in taking the new Governor to New Haven. It appeared considerably like an old-fashioned election.<sup>6</sup> Quite cold. Much occupied with company. The water falls a little; not so high for several years. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Then eighty-six.

<sup>2</sup> Judge Simeon Baldwin was then eighty-nine.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Harris Haskell (Frances Wolcott).

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Preston Cummings was born in Seekonk, Mass., in 1800, graduated at Brown University, 1822. He had been several times settled, and was then acting pastor at Dighton, Mass. He was a great gatherer of pamphlets, and was the author of a valuable book entitled *A Dictionary of Congregational*

*Usages and Principles*, etc. He died in Holden, Mass., April 8, 1875, nearly seventy-five years old.

<sup>5</sup> The old election day was close at hand, and some of Gov. Seymour's companions in arms during the Mexican War came to give grace and dignity to the occasion.

<sup>6</sup> The old time election days may not have been so very different, only they were seen through youthful eyes, and when the imagination was in full play.

3. Wrote to my sister Robbins, of Enfield. Read Governor Seymour's Message. A moderate performance. My new trees are coming out well. Extensive accounts of high water. Read Bible.

4. Have some paralysis. Wrote. The fruit-trees are blossoming considerably.

5. Attended meeting at the South. Had the sacrament. A wet day. Read the most of the book of Deuteronomy.

6. Morning and last night a pretty hard rain. Worked at my shade-trees. Afternoon rode in the stage to South Windsor. The meadows are very extensively covered with water. Wrote to the postmaster of Youngstown, Ohio.

7. Dr. Hooker's wife has deceased at the Insane Hospital at Charlestown; to be buried here tomorrow. Was carried to the Hill, and met with Hartford North Association. They appeared well, and acted decidedly concerning Bushnell's book.<sup>1</sup> Returned to Mrs. Wolcott's. Had asparagus for dinner.

8. Rode home. The water higher than last week. No riding on the causeway in East Hartford; was brought across the flood a long way in a skiff. Dr. Sprague was here. Wrote to Mr. Herrick, New Haven. Cool. The water has not been so high since 1793.

9. Did a good deal for Dr. Sprague in making biographical collections.<sup>2</sup> He is a man of great business. Have some paralysis. Much occupied with company.

10. The water falls slowly. Received of Mr. J. B. Hosmer, \$100.00. Wrote to Dr. Arnold, of Hebron. Get easily fatigued. Read.

11. The water falls but slowly. Wrote. Have a new daguerreotype likeness. The great body of water from the north keeps a cold, chilly air. Paid Mrs. Lamb, \$25.00. Have paralysis in some degree.

12. Expected to have preached at the African church, but a colored man from abroad came and supplied them. Heard Mr. Swift,<sup>3</sup> of Northampton, at the Centre, and Mr. Phraner,<sup>4</sup> from New York, afternoon at the Fourth in their elegant new meeting-house. Read Bible. We have cold wind; staying the progress of the season.

13. Had a poor night, paralytical. Received a good letter from my good sister Robbins at Enfield. Wrote to Mr. Amasa Porter,<sup>5</sup> New Haven.

14. Am quite feeble. Warm. Wrote to Deacon Berry, Kent. Had a daguerreotype likeness taken from my painted portrait, and carried to Boston for an engraving. Read. Can do but little.

<sup>1</sup> The men connected with the Connecticut Theological Institute as professors were doubtless present, and helped to give a conservative tone to the meeting.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Sprague was making collections for his great work, *Annals of the American Pulpit*.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Eliphalet Young Swift, born in Fairfax, Vt., 1815, graduated at Middlebury College, 1839. He was pastor at Chillicothe,

O., South Hadley, Mass., Clinton, N. Y., and Williamsburg, Mass., in addition to his pastorate at Northampton, 1845-1851. He was settled in Denmark, Iowa, in 1868, where he has remained pastor till a very recent date, and still resides there.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Wilson Phraner, Old School Presbyterian.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Porter was a native of Hebron.

15. Walked and did errands. Wet and rainy. Read *Life of Napoleon*. The blossoms came out very full. Worked at my room.

16. Had work done for me; locks, etc. In the mercy of God my gold spectacles, which I have supposed were wholly lost, I found. Received a letter from New Haven, Mr. Herrick. Read. Cannot bear much reading.

17. Received from Denison Kimberly, Boston, specimens of engraving. The blossoms on the fruit-trees are very heavy. Much occupied with company.

18. Mr. Eldridge and daughter, from Norfolk, were here. Took a long walk in the morning. Received a letter from Mr. David Putnam,<sup>1</sup> of Marietta; very valuable. Wrote.

19. Put off some winter clothes. Attended meeting at the Centre. Read Bible.

20. Worked at my room. Sat for a daguerreotype likeness. Had different sittings. Wrote on capital punishment. Read history.

21. Quite cold. Rode, by invitation, on the new railroad to Willimantic.<sup>2</sup> The road is good, but a great and difficult work. Treated with much kindness. At evening our society had their annual meeting here. Some rain and hail. Quite fatigued.

22. A very rainy day. Received a letter from my nephew, Grove Lawrence,<sup>3</sup> of Syracuse. Wrote on an article for the printer. Received a letter from Mr. Annibal, of Hebron.

23. Wrote to the postmaster of Newbury, Vt. We have a very wet season. Much occupied with company. Worked at my books. My piece on the punishment of death of the murderer is in the *Courant* newspaper. Have some paralysis.

24. Wrote to Miss Wolcott, South Windsor. Have much respectable company. Have to keep steady fire in my room. Read *Modern Europe*.

25. Worked at my room. Wrote. Afternoon took the cars and rode to Enfield. Found my sister well, but the house seems empty. The season is late. Most of the blossoms are on the trees. I wear an out-coat, and have fire regularly.

26. Cold and rough wind for the season. The people here have been supplied by neighboring ministers since my brother's death. Preached on Prov. xi: 7, and Acts xiii: 38. Baptized six children, five of them the children of a widow. Not greatly fatigued. My sister here has a friend with her, Miss Wheeler.

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<sup>1</sup> Capt. David Putnam, was son of Capt. Israel Putnam, Jr., and grandson of Major General Israel Putnam, the Revolutionary hero. About the beginning of this century, Capt. Israel, Jr., with his uncle, Gen. Rufus Putnam, went to Ohio, and were among the founders of Marietta. All these Putnams were men with grand foundations of character.

<sup>2</sup> He is thinking evidently of the Bolton

Notch with which the writer was very familiar twenty years before this railroad was built. That was a difficult place through which to carry a railroad, but aside from that, and the bridge over the Connecticut, the way was easy, as compared with that of many roads since built.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Grove Lawrence, who married Elizabeth Robbins.

27. Quite rainy. We have a very wet season. Stayed through the day to confer with the church committee. They are in some danger of getting into difficulty in their debilitated state.

28. Rode home in the cars. The ground is very wet, and the waters high. The corn generally not yet planted. Warm. Received a letter from Mr. Kilbourn, of Litchfield, and a very good one from Deacon Berry, of Kent.

29. Wrote. Had much company. My cousin Thomas Robbins, son of brother Samuel,<sup>1</sup> came here from Onondaga with a fine new wife. They were with me in the evening.

30. My good cousins went off about noon. Rev. Mr. Atwater,<sup>2</sup> of Fairfield, and wife, called on me. Received a letter from Mr. J. M. Chadwick, of Newbury, Vt. Yesterday I opened the annual meeting of the Ladies' Beneficent Society, with a large number of female orphans; an excellent institution. Still cold and dark weather.

31. Wrote to the postmaster of Burlington, Vt., and to Tilton E. Doolittle,<sup>3</sup> Cheshire. Worked on the college catalogue. Cold and wet this last day of May. Am something unwell. I am troubled with dissipation of mind. We have had a remarkably cold and wet month.<sup>4</sup>

#### JUNE.

1. Kept a fire through the day. Wrote to Mr. I. M. Hazen, of the city of Washington. Read. Have to wait on company. Paid for carriage hire, \$3.25. Found my grandfather's Plymouth sermon, supposed to be lost.<sup>5</sup>

2. A very pleasant and warm day. Highly gratifying. Read the Bible. Attended meeting at the South, and heard Mr. Clarke. We hope God will give favorable weather for vegetation.

3. Miss Wolcott came down here. Wrote to Mr. Joel Munsell,<sup>6</sup> Albany. Have many things to call my attention.

4. Rode early with Mr. Hempsted<sup>6</sup> to Avon, the south way, and attended the annual meeting of our Association. The majority are determined to sustain Dr. Bushnell in all his notions and errors.<sup>7</sup> Returned in the evening.

<sup>1</sup> The children of Samuel Robbins and his grandchildren have been generally intelligent and prosperous, and have filled important places in society. This one was evidently named from Dr. Robbins.

<sup>2</sup> Lyman H. Atwater, D. D., a graduate of Yale, 1831, pastor at Fairfield, 1835-1854, afterwards Professor of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy and Political Science in Princeton College. He died in 1883.

<sup>3</sup> Tilton Edwin Doolittle was a graduate from the Yale Law School in 1846.

<sup>4</sup> This was the sermon which his grandfather, Rev. Philemon Robbins, of Branford, preached at Plymouth, on the occasion of the ordination of his son, Chandler Robbins, D.D., in 1760. He preached another and a dif-

ferent sermon the following year, on the occasion of the ordination of another son, Rev. Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, Dr. Robbins's father, at Norfolk. Both sermons were published.

<sup>5</sup> Joel Munsell was of the Windsor family of Munsells. His father, of the same name, was born Jan. 14, 1783, and the son was born April 14, 1808. He became a well-known book publisher at Albany.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. John A. Hempsted, a native of Hartford, and a graduate of Yale, 1821. He preached at several Connecticut churches during his life. He died in 1851.

<sup>7</sup> A better statement, perhaps, would be to say that a majority were determined he should not be deposed from the ministry.

5. Warm. A very fine time for husbandmen. Wrote to my cousin Henry Starr, of Cincinnati. Had much company from a distance. At evening attended a splendid Episcopal wedding; Bishop Brownell's daughter.

6. Quite warm. Changed my clothing. Wrote to the postmaster of Kinderhook. At evening a good deal unwell. Paid for horse hire, \$1.50.

7. Very warm. Yesterday the mercury was at 86°. Had work at my book-cases. Paid Mr. Gleason, \$2.00. Wrote. Read Bible. Had some very respectable visitors. At evening attended on invitation a public panorama of the Garden of Eden. It is fairly executed.

8. Received a letter from Mr. N. H. Griffin,<sup>1</sup> Williams College, and one from Mr. J. Munsell, Albany; one from Mr. S. B. Blodgett, Burlington, Vt.; and one from Mr. Herrick, of New Haven, enclosing a bank check of \$25.00 for Mr. Gleason for his collections for the college catalogue. Paid S. D. Richardson, \$12.00. Much occupied with company. We had after a hot day a very pleasant thunder-shower. Am pretty feeble.

9. Read my Bible. Left off some winter clothes. Attended meeting at the Fourth, and heard Mr. Patton. A good congregation, and very fine house. A warm day. Wrote. Cannot bear much exercise.

10. Last night we had a pretty hard rain. Worked at my room, sweeping and putting up book-cases and books. Wrote.

11. Mr. Russell<sup>2</sup> and wife, of Milford, called here. Have a good deal of company. Sister Battell and Mrs. Humphrey called here going to Northampton. Wrote to my cousin Grove Lawrence, of Syracuse, N. Y. Get much fatigued. Paid John, .50.

12. Wrote to the postmaster of Cheshire, Elihu Yale.<sup>3</sup> Received a dividend of Hartford Bank, \$17.50. Paid Mrs. Lamb, \$25.00. Took stage and rode to South Windsor. Vegetation is advancing rapidly; people are hoeing their corn.

13. Rode home in a wagon. Waited on company. Wrote to the postmaster of Hubbard, Trumbull County, Ohio.

14. Walked out early. There is a good deal of building in the city. Yesterday sent Ursula, \$5.00. Heard of the death of Mr. Beach,<sup>4</sup> of Winsted. Wrote to Mr. Griffin,<sup>5</sup> a professor of Williams College. My catalogue business makes me much labor.

15. My nieces, Mrs. Eldridge and Mrs. Larned, were here. Very warm. We had peas at dinner, brought, I suppose from New York. Fatigued by company.

16. Read. Wrote. Mr. Sawtell,<sup>6</sup> a great traveler, preached well at the

<sup>1</sup> Nathaniel Herrick Griffin, Professor of Latin and Greek, and afterwards of Greek and Greek Literature.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Joseph Russell, before noticed, member of the Yale class of 1793.

<sup>3</sup> Named from the ancient benefactor of Yale College, who, like John Harvard of Charlestown, gave his name to the college.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. James Beach was graduated at Williams College, 1804, and was pastor in Winsted, Ct., 1806-1842. He continued to reside there till his death.

<sup>5</sup> Nathaniel Herrick Griffin, before noticed.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Eli N. Sawtell, a resident licentiate at Andover in 1826, and variously employed

Centre both parts of the day. Have some trouble with soreness of feet. Read Bible.

17. Walked considerably. Wrote to Dr. Porter,<sup>1</sup> of Catskill, and to Dr. Hooker, of South Windsor. Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill celebrated at Charlestown. The season is very favorable.

18. Have assistance in the arrangement of my library by Mr. Ripley. Very warm.

19. Worked at the books with Mr. Ripley; a good hand. Attended an important Episcopal meeting on missions. Several bishops present. United with them at sacrament. Paid J. Burke, \$1.00. Oppressive heat. Wrote. Mercury at 92°.

20. A very warm morning. Had much company. Rev. Dr. Stevens<sup>2</sup> and wife were here a good while from Philadelphia. Towards night we had a refreshing thunder-shower. Am debilitated with the heat. Wrote.

21. Received a letter from Mr. Griffin, of Williams College, and one from Dr. Hooker, South Windsor. Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston, and sent them a check on the Suffolk Bank of \$50.00. Much occupied with company. At evening attended a great panorama exhibition of creation, and following scenes from the Mosaic account. Have recently written to Elisha Whittlesey,<sup>3</sup> Washington.

22. Something cooler than in the days past. Can do but little else than wait on company. Paid Mr. Corning towards a new coat, \$10.00; very likely to be my last.

23. Read Bible. Received a good letter from Mrs. Laura Porter Hill in behalf of her father, Dr. Porter, of Catskill, aged ninety years. At evening heard a capital temperance lecture from Gen. Clary, of Cincinnati. Had a thunder-shower in the night.

24. Had visitors from a distance. Worked at my books. Fruits begin to come in. I am debilitated. Our Legislature have adjourned after a very long session, and done very little. Received a letter from Little & Brown, and one from Kinderhook. Had a pleasant visit from Mr. Nathan Robbins,<sup>4</sup> of Boston or West Cambridge, a relation of the Lexington stock of our family.

25. Took an early and long walk. Flowers are very abundant in the

in Congregational and Presbyterian churches for some time in Philadelphia.

<sup>1</sup> David Porter, D. D., of Catskill, great uncle of the writer of this note, was the son of Increase and Mary (Niles) Porter, was a native of Hebron, Ct., born May 27, 1761, graduated at Dartmouth College, 1784, settled at Spencertown, N. Y., 1787-1803, and at Catskill, N. Y., 1803-1831, continued to reside at Catskill till his death, 1851, at the age of ninety.

<sup>2</sup> William Bacon Stevens, M. D., D. D., LL. D., rector of St. Andrew's Church, Phil-

adelphia, 1848-1862, and in the last named year consecrated Bishop of Pennsylvania. He was born in Bath, Me., in 1815. He was a prolific writer, and of marked ability.

<sup>3</sup> Appointed First Comptroller of the Treasury by President Taylor, 1849, which office he held until displaced by President Buchanan in 1857.

<sup>4</sup> A descendant from Richard Robbins, of Cambridge, as was also Dr. Robbins. Nathan Robbins was son of Stephen, of Lexington, and was born June 16, 1771. There were many of the name in Lexington.



yards and gardens of the town. Wrote to Mr. H. Y. Comings at Philadelphia. Paid Brown & Parsons, for binding, \$1.50. Paid J. Burke, .75. Quite feeble.

26. Much affected last night with paralysis. Worked at my room; made improvement in the furniture. At evening heard a very good address to the Female Seminary school by Dr. Adams,<sup>1</sup> of Boston. Find little time or strength to write.

27. Am pretty feeble. Had a very good visit from Rev. Dr. Stevens,<sup>2</sup> of Philadelphia. He much admired my collection of Bibles.

28. Walked considerably. Wrote. Much occupied with company. Worked at my books, with assistance of Mr. Ripley. Warm.

29. Warm and debilitating air. Can do but little. A good collection of summer fruits and flowers exhibited in our Natural History room. Rode in the stage to South Windsor. The shade-trees in the street are grand. Get fatigued easily.

30. Rode to meeting with Mr. Wolcott. Dr. Hooker preached very well both parts of the day. I assisted a little in the services. Did not go out at the third meeting, concert. I think that this congregation increases. Quite warm. We have had a very warm June, and very favorable to vegetation.

#### JULY.

1. Rode home in the stage. Very warm and sultry. Am not able to do but little. Wrote on a letter to Rev. William G. French,<sup>3</sup> of Granville, Ohio, and through him to my kinsman, Chandler Robbins,<sup>4</sup> an Episcopal preacher in that vicinity.

2. Last night a good deal unwell. Have recently written to Mr. Herrick, New Haven. Judge Wayne,<sup>5</sup> of the Supreme Court, United States, made me a good visit. A highly respectable man.

3. We had a pretty hard rain. Cool. Dined at the hotel with Miss Willard, the historian.<sup>6</sup> She is a learned and distinguished woman. Wrote. I fear I have lost a maple shade-tree, very large, set out this season. Paid a post office bill, \$3.00.

<sup>1</sup> Nehemiah Adams, D. D., held a very important place among the clergymen of Boston. He was remarkable for the felicity of his speech and manner, and hardly any minister was more sought for on certain special occasions. He was born in Salem, 1806, graduated at Harvard, 1826, and at Andover, 1829, pastor of First Church, Cambridge, 1829-1834, and of the Union (Essex Street) Church, 1834, to his death, 1878.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. William Bacon Stevens (see June 20).

<sup>3</sup> There was a William G. French, a native of Milford, Ct., who was graduated at Washington (Trinity) College, Hartford, in 1837, and who was without much doubt an Episcopal minister in Ohio.

<sup>4</sup> This Rev. Chandler Robbins was a son

of Rev. Isaac Robbins, a Methodist minister. Isaac was son of Chandler Robbins, D. D., of Plymouth, Mass.

<sup>5</sup> James Moore Wayne, LL. D., was born in Savannah, Ga., 1790, graduate of the College of New Jersey, 1808, died in Washington, 1867. He was appointed by Gen. Jackson, in 1835, Associate Judge of the United States Supreme Court.

<sup>6</sup> Mrs. Emma C. (Hart) Willard was born in Berlin, Ct., 1787, and died in Troy, N. Y., 1870. She married Dr. John Willard, of Middlebury, Vt., in 1809, while teaching there. She was for many years at the head of the celebrated school for young ladies at Troy. She was also distinguished as a writer, and was the author of several volumes.

4. A great noise. Ringing bells and guns, and unnumbered crackers. Was out but little. Had a good deal of company. Great numbers of people have gone out of town to various places.

5. Am feeble, and easily get overdone. Wrote. Have to neglect visitors in some degree.

6. Am quite unwell, with a good deal of pain. It would seem that a holy God will again visit me with sickness as in summers past.

7. Kept my room mostly. Afternoon went into the Baptist meeting, and attended the latter of the exercise, when the communion came on, and I withdrew of course. At evening had much pain.

8. Quite sick; had my physician. He does not give much medicine. Two or three days since my sister Hannah<sup>1</sup> has been in here, looking for a monument for brother Francis. Very warm and dry weather. I am the most of the time on my bed. Holy is the Lord. I am kindly taken care of.

9. We have the news of the severe sickness of President Taylor. His loss will be a great calamity. Sickness seems to be prevailing in the country. A good deal of cholera. Received a letter from Mr. Barstow, of Mattapoisett, with some small coins.

10. The news is confirmed of the death of President Taylor.<sup>2</sup> He deceased at Washington last evening in great composure, in his sixty-sixth year of age, a native of Virginia. The bells of the city tolled different parts of the day, with other emblems of mourning. My sister Battell came here from Amherst. Our cousin Eliza Gridley<sup>3</sup> died on the 6th, last Saturday, aged fifty-seven. Received a kind letter from the postmaster in Hubbard, Ohio.

11. I hope I am some better, through great mercy, but don't go to my room. Mr. Hosmer called to see me, and we had a good deal of conversation. Read. The death of the President, all unexpected, makes a great impression. Weather steadily warm and dry. There has been a terrible fire in Philadelphia.<sup>4</sup>

12. Received a good letter from Mr. Hine, of Youngstown, Ohio, an old college acquaintance, and one from Mr. Whittlesey, at Washington. Dr. Rogers<sup>5</sup> advises me to take an absence from town; was carried in a carriage to South Windsor, my good home. Keep my bed a good deal.

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Hannah (Cook) Robbins, of Enfield.

<sup>2</sup> President Taylor's life at Washington had been greatly disturbed by the slavery agitations then prevailing. He occupied the presidential chair from March 4, 1849, till his death, July 9, 1850. "An honest, unpretending man, he had been steadily growing in the affections of the people, and the nation bitterly lamented his death."

<sup>3</sup> Eliza Lawrence was born in Paris, N. Y., 1793, daughter of Grove and Elizabeth (Robbins) Lawrence. She was first married to

Henry Olmsted, of Norfolk, Ct. (a native of East Hartford), Jan. 6, 1813. He died suddenly Oct. 26, 1814. She was married to Dr. Timothy J. Gridley, of Amherst, Nov. 29, 1823.

<sup>4</sup> In Haydn's *Dictionary of Dates* this fire in Philadelphia is reported as follows: "July 9, 1850, at Philadelphia, 350 buildings; loss estimated at \$1,500,000; 25 persons were killed, 9 drowned, and 120 wounded."

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Benjamin Rogers, who was Dr. Robbins's chief physician at Hartford.

13. My malady, by divine mercy, abates. Read. The week has been remarkably clear, and dry weather, not very hot. Fine for haying. Walked out a little.

14. Am not able to attend public worship. Read Bible. Wrote. The street is very dry and dusty. My complaint is not as burdensome as it has been. Quite warm.

15. Through much mercy, I hope my malady is declining. Wrote to President Hopkins, of Williams College. I had expected to go today to attend the Seniors' examination at that college.<sup>1</sup>

16. Am quite feeble, but think I am better for coming out of the city. Came home in the stage. Very warm. Roads very dusty. Received a letter from sister Battell. Wrote. Attend a little to company. The funeral at Washington on the 13th was very great, unequalled before in the United States. Received from the sheriff, for attending on the Legislature last year, \$7.14.<sup>2</sup>

17. The air is very languid. Wrote to Mr. Herrick, of New Haven, and to sister Battell. Looked over papers. Very warm and sultry.

18. We have very warm nights. Wrote. Preparing for my journey. I hope I get some increase of strength. Read.

19. It began to rain last evening, and continued through the night and this morning till near noon. Some of the time very hard and violent. An abundant supply for the very heated and dry ground. Took the cars in the afternoon to Bristol, then a stage to Plymouth, then a car to Winsted.<sup>3</sup> The latter portion a very pleasant route. Got to Winsted at near nine o'clock. Tarried at a tavern.

20. Had an uncomfortable night. The streams are very high. Rode in the stage to Norfolk. My sister has at present a good deal of family. Quite cool and wet. The storm has been severe here, and very extensive. Walked out.

21. Attended meeting. Spoke to the Sabbath-school. Mr. Eldridge preached very well. This congregation appears very well; it is large. Wrote. The air here is very good.

22. Walked some distance. People are cutting a large crop of grass. Mr. and Mrs.<sup>4</sup> Hoffman, our cousins, came here from New York. My cousin, Robbins Battell, has a good wife<sup>5</sup> whom I have not before seen. We have the decision of the long and tedious trial<sup>6</sup> of Dr. Webster, of Boston, who is sentenced to be hung.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins had been since 1842 one of the trustees of Williams College, and held the office until 1853, when his growing infirmities compelled him to resign.

<sup>2</sup> Opening the sessions with prayer.

<sup>3</sup> This was a zigzag route before the present Connecticut Western road was built.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hoffman. Mrs.

Hoffman was Elizabeth Hale Gilman, daughter of Benjamin Ives Gilman, of Marietta, O.

<sup>5</sup> Miss Ellen R. Mills, of Newark, N. J., with whom he was united in marriage, Aug. 15, 1849.

<sup>6</sup> It was long, and in some sense *tedious*, but hardly ever has there been a trial in this country, whose minutest details were more

23. Have uneasy nights. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Russell,<sup>1</sup> our cousins, came here from Plymouth. Wrote. Very pleasant summer weather.

24. Walked to the burying-ground, and saw our family monument. Get fatigued. Many accounts of the great damages by the late flood. Very great parade in New York on the death of the President. Wrote to P. G. Robbins, Roxbury, Mass. Mr. James Humphrey came here from New York quite late.

25. Had in the night paralytic affections. Rode a distance with Mr. Humphrey. This town appears to be improved in thrift and industry, and particularly in its roads. Wrote to Mr. James B. Hosmer and to Mr. Harvey Seymour, of Hartford. Shade-trees have much increased here.

26. Walked and looked at the manufactories here. They are much increasing. There is a water-wheel of twenty-eight feet diameter. Attended a regular prayer-meeting, weekly, with Mr. Eldridge.<sup>2</sup> It has become quite cool.

27. Had quite a poor night. I believe I have taken some cold. Wrote. Walked out, but did not go far. Read considerably on Mr. Clay's able and very long speech on the dangers of the times.<sup>3</sup>

28. Wet. Preached in the morning for Mr. Eldridge on Acts xiii: 38. Had an attentive audience. Did not go out in the afternoon. Yesterday wrote minutes of a testament.<sup>4</sup> We have here at this time a circle of very respectable relatives.

29. Am better, I think, than in days past. Walked out. Read and wrote considerably. Toward evening left my kind, native home, and rode in the stage to Winsted. The Norfolk Camps<sup>5</sup> are building a very fine new store here.

30. Rode in the cars and stage to Hartford at ten o'clock. Very warm. The heat very oppressive. Found things well. Mr. Miller, my host, is very sick. Think I am much better, by divine favor, than when I left home. Received a letter from David C. Perry,<sup>6</sup> of Barlow, Ohio. At night we had a hard thunder-shower.

31. Still very hot and sultry. Was visited by a military company, very

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widely read, day by day, throughout the country, then in this case. The eminence of the parties, the strange features of the death, and other circumstances, roused the public curiosity to the highest degree.

<sup>1</sup> Andrew Leach Russell was born 1806, and was son of Nathaniel and Martha (Le Baron) Russell. His wife was Hannah W. Davis. Dr. Le Baron Russell, of Boston, is a younger brother of Andrew L.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Eldridge, D. D., pastor at Norfolk from 1832, to his death, 1875.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Clay was now passing his fourth and last term in the United States Senate, where he was long known as the most popular man in that body. But like Daniel Web-

ster he could never reach the presidential chair.

<sup>4</sup> Will, perhaps his own, but probably some one of his kindred, who had asked his assistance.

<sup>5</sup> The name Camp had been one of the old and respectable names in Norfolk. Abraham Camp was one of the deacons of the Congregational church.

<sup>6</sup> David C. Perry was a native of Sharon, Ct., born 1810, graduated at Yale, 1833, studied at Andover, 1834, was pastor at New Fairfield, Ct., 1838-1844, at Barlow, O., 1846-1857, and resided at Barlow, without charge, 1857-1872. He then removed to Columbus, where he died, 1885.

fine, about forty "Greys" from New York. I made them an address.<sup>1</sup> Wrote. At evening rode to South Windsor. Some crops have been injured by late rains.

## AUGUST.

1. Wet and showery. Attended the public performances of the Theological Seminary. They were very good. The number of students are few. I wish there were more.<sup>2</sup> A good number of ministers were present. Mrs. Wolcott is quite feeble.

2. Rode home in the stage. Received a letter from John Eddy, Esq., Mattapoisett. Received a letter from Mr. Herrick, Yale College, and wrote him in return. Wet and sultry hot. Am much debilitated. Mr. Miller, my host, is hard sick. Last night I was called up; he was much alarmed.

3. Occupied with company. Wrote. Can do but little. Toward evening took a long walk, which, I think, was beneficial.

4. Attended meeting at the South Church. Prof. Thompson,<sup>3</sup> of East Windsor, preached. Read Bible. Had a long walk. Still very warm. Wrote.

5. Warm and debilitating. Occupied with company. Wrote. Took a walk, and looked at the building of the new Catholic church; very large and expensive. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

6. Procured a mantel clock for Miss Wolcott for \$2.50. Afternoon very hot and oppressive. Am quite feeble. Can do but little.

7. Wrote to Pres. Hopkins, of Williamstown, and resigned my place in the corporation of that college.<sup>4</sup> Had a large Sabbath-school from Norwich in here. Mr. Eldridge and my cousin Ellen called here,<sup>5</sup> also Mr. Fairchild,<sup>6</sup> of Boston. Wrote.

8. Gave a man with Gordon Robbins, \$1.00, for an article from the *Mayflower* to be sent to me. Received a letter from Mr. J. T. Binney,<sup>7</sup> of Boston, and one from Mr. Herrick, Yale College. Hope I am improving some in health through mercy.

9. Much occupied with company. Afternoon rode to Windsor Locks in the cars. Had a good visit at Mrs. Haskell's. Wild berries are plenty.

10. Came home in the early cars. Wrote on the college catalogue. Did

<sup>1</sup> His old business as a chaplain made him familiar with soldiers and their usages.

<sup>2</sup> The position of the seminary away from city or village, and away from railroads, was unfavorable for the gathering of students. The removal to Hartford, and some modification of ideas and methods, have wrought in this respect a great change, and the institution is now in a prosperous condition.

<sup>3</sup> William Thompson, D. D., still connected with the institution, though beyond the age of eighty. His connection with it began in 1834.

<sup>4</sup> This resignation seems not to have taken effect until 1853.

<sup>5</sup> Azariah Eldridge, D. D., and his wife, now of Yarmouth, Mass.

<sup>6</sup> Joy H. Fairchild, whose first pastorate, 1816-1827, had been at East Hartford, had been pastor also at Phillips Church, South Boston, 1827-1842, and was then settled over the Payson Church, South Boston. He was encompassed with various troubles. He died May 21, 1859.

<sup>7</sup> We do not find any J. T. Binney in the *Boston Directory* at that time.

errands. The heat abates. Attended to company. Mr. Miller is recovering from his sickness. Walked.

11. A solemn birthday.<sup>1</sup> I see what brother Francis could not see. I have often thought it doubtful during the past year whether I should see this day. Heard Dr. Cox,<sup>2</sup> of New York, at the Centre. Long and solemn exercises. Wrote. Cool and pleasant.

12. Had many visitors. Cool. Not able to do but little. The accounts of the harvests through the country are very favorable. The cholera prevails in some parts, but not severe.

13. Am quite weak. Not able to leave home. Occupied with company.

14. In mercy I am better than yesterday. Took the morning car and rode to New Haven. Went into the meeting of the alumni; very numerous. Spoke relative to the new catalogue and obituaries. Moved with the mass of Jubilee alumni to the Centre Church, and Pres. Woolsey delivered a most excellent address, giving a fine history of the college.<sup>3</sup> The alumni dined under a great tent, about eleven hundred. I did not go out in the evening. Kept at Mr. Bishop's.<sup>4</sup>

15. Attended the Commencement exercises. The performances were good. Wet and rainy. Did not go into the afternoon exercises. Called at Judge Daggett's. He is quite feeble. Toward evening took the cars and came home. My health has held out well. The Lord be praised.

16. Had visitors in great numbers. Many returning from Commencement. Cool. My calls affect my maladies.

17. Wrote. The warm weather seems to be closed. Paid \$1.00 for a fine engraving of Mr. Silliman. Did errands. Have some cold.

18. Have to do considerable work at my room. Attended meeting at the Fourth Church. A good congregation. Mr. Patton preached well. I do not attend evening meetings much.

19. Took the cars about ten o'clock and rode to Springfield, Pittsfield, North Adams, and Williamstown. A pleasant day. A good railroad. Not greatly fatigued. Distance about one hundred miles.

20. Called on Pres. Hopkins, and went with him to morning prayers. Took back from the president my letter written to him, lately resigning my place in the corporation.<sup>5</sup> Attended the meeting of the corporation. Governor Briggs<sup>6</sup> was present. Had considerable business. Something wet and

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins was now seventy-three years old.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Hanson Cox, D. D., LL. D., a man of extraordinary powers of intellect and of speech. He was born in Leesville, N. J., 1793. He first studied law, then turned to theology, and was ordained in 1817. He was pastor, 1820-1833, of Spring Street Church, N. Y., and then Professor in Auburn Seminary, 1834-1837. His longest pastorate, 1837-1854, was over the First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn, N. Y. He was a man unique

to a high degree. He was father of Bishop Arthur Cleveland Coxe, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> It was the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the college.

<sup>4</sup> His classmate, Timothy Bishop.

<sup>5</sup> This explains how it happened that he continued a member of the Williams Corporation three years longer.

<sup>6</sup> Hon. George Nixon Briggs, Governor of Massachusetts, 1844-1851, was chosen on the Williams Corporation in 1845, and continued till his death in 1861.

cool. Afternoon we had a very good public address from Mr. Leland,<sup>1</sup> of South Carolina. Roomed with Dr. Cooley.<sup>2</sup>

21. We had an interesting meeting of the alumni. Attended the Commencement exercises. The graduates spoke well; treated with much kindness. Left the exercises at a recess about noon, with company, to take the cars at North Adams. Came to Pittsfield, and made a long stop. I think I have lost my surtout. Took the cars toward sundown, and came to Springfield and home, near ten o'clock. A great convenience in traveling. Not greatly fatigued, through much mercy.

22. Had much company. Received a good letter from my kind classmate Davis, much in years, and very feeble. I have recently received a long letter from my cousin Chandler Robbins,<sup>3</sup> son of my cousin Isaac, an Episcopal minister in Springfield, Ohio. Quite cool. I think my health is improved.

23. Occupied with company. Have many visitors from distant parts of the country. The Commencements this year have excited much attention. Paid for a periodical for a year, \$1.00.

24. It has become very warm again. Summer fruits are plenty. Get fatigued by my labors. The concerns of Congress occupy very much public attention. Have little time for reading.

25. A very rainy day, some of the time very violent. Meetings very thin. Attended at the Centre. In the morning heard Mr. Smith,<sup>4</sup> of Marietta. Did considerable at my room. Read. Went out but little.

26. Much occupied with company the most of the day. The waters are high from the great rain. Get easily fatigued. The fruits are plenty.

27. Quite cool. Get little time to write or do anything for myself. Have visitors from great distances. At evening read.

28. Took a long morning walk. Received of Mr. J. B. Hosmer, \$100.00 on my salary. Wrote. Paid Mr. Hunt, bookbinder, \$7.00. Wrote to Mr. Cooley, of Pittsfield.

29. My visitors are from all parts of the land. Worked some at my books. Wrote. Wrote to Mr. Herrick, Yale College.

30. Wrote to Prof. Griffin, Williams College. The noted Dr. Webster, of Harvard College, was hung today at Boston for murder. Twenty young women were in my room, going to the West as teachers.<sup>5</sup> Have recently received a good letter from Mr. Augustus Fitch,<sup>6</sup> of Columbia, S. C.

<sup>1</sup> Aaron Whitney Leland, D. D., a native of Sherborn, Mass., graduated at Williams College in 1808, Professor in Southern Theological Seminary.

<sup>2</sup> Timothy Mather Cooley, D. D., was born in Granville, 1772, graduated at Yale, 1792, pastor at Granville, 1796-1859, was a corporate member of Williams College, 1812-1859.

<sup>3</sup> See note July 1, 1850.

<sup>4</sup> Henry Smith, D. D., LL. D., born in Milton, Vt., 1805, graduated at Middlebury

College, 1829, and at Andover, 1833, professor at Marietta College, 1833-1846, president, 1846-1855, professor twice at Lane Seminary, 1855-1862, and again 1865, to his death, 1879. He was pastor at Buffalo, N. Y., 1862-1865. A choice man and ripe scholar.

<sup>5</sup> Under the auspices of the National Board of Popular Education, of which Gov. William Slade, of Vermont, was secretary, 1846-1858.

<sup>6</sup> Augustus Fitch, M. D., was a native of East Windsor, nephew of John Fitch, the in-

31. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes preached. A full and very solemn meeting. Had the sacrament. Read Lowman on *Revelation*. Wrote.

SEPTEMBER.

1. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Received a letter from Mr. Stearns, of Tolland. Wrote to my classmate, J. H. Tucker,<sup>1</sup> Island of Bermuda. Was out at tea.

2. A hard rain. Paid for a good map, \$1.00. At evening our society had a meeting here after a long interval. Worked a good deal in sweeping and brushing.

3. Occupied with company. The present season has been remarkable for traveling. Warm and sultry. Have a little time for reading.

4. Had a fine donation of a great spear from the Feejee Islands. The late execution of Dr. Webster at Boston has made a very favorable impression on the community in regard to capital punishment.<sup>2</sup>

5. Very much burdened with visitors. A large Sabbath-school from Norwich; about one hundred, old and young. Warm. Much fatigued. Paid for a hat, \$4.50. Read.

6. Yesterday<sup>3</sup> a gentleman, seaman, gave me a very long and very heavy spear from the Feejee Islands. Wrote. Had a good letter from Miss Wolcott. Saw a number of old friends from Danbury.

7. We have some favorable news from Congress, which is an uncommon occurrence. Took the cars and went to Enfield. Found here Prof. Larned<sup>4</sup> and niece Irene. My widowed sister appears well. Wet and rainy.

8. An interesting day. Preached in the morning on Isa. v: 4. Received ten members into the church. A very valuable addition. Administered the sacrament. Mr. Larned performed a part. There were two baptisms. At evening had an interview with the society committee. I hope God will take care of them, and provide for them.

9. Called on Mr. Lusk.<sup>5</sup> He is very low, and a great sufferer. Rode out with my cousins, and visited Mr. Hazzard's<sup>6</sup> powder manufactory. It is a

ventor, and was a distinguished physician in South Carolina. Dr. Robbins's long pastorate in East Windsor (that part which is now South Windsor) brought him into familiar relations with the Fitch family.

<sup>1</sup> John Harvey Tucker was one of the long-lived members of the class of 1796. He died in 1868, seventy-two years after graduation.

<sup>2</sup> A still stronger impression in this case was, perhaps, that the law was no respecter of persons. Dr. Webster's learning, official position, and family connections could not avail to prevent the execution of the law.

<sup>3</sup> "Yesterday" should have been day before yesterday.

<sup>4</sup> Prof. William Augustus Larned, born in Thompson, Ct., in 1806, was educated for the ministry, and was graduated at Yale Theological Seminary in 1834. He was ordained and settled over the Second Church in Millbury, Mass., 1834-1835, was instructor in Hebrew and Greek in Troy, N. Y., 1835-1837, was Professor of Rhetoric in Yale College, 1839, to his death, 1862. Joseph G. E. Larned, a half-brother of his, was graduated in 1839, was tutor at Yale, 1842-1847. He died suddenly, like his brother, in 1870.

<sup>5</sup> Sylvester Lusk, living in Enfield, not far from the Congregational meeting-house.

<sup>6</sup> Augustus G. Hazzard, before noticed. His place was two or three miles east of



magnificent establishment. About one hundred operatives. Rode home. My cousins went on to Norfolk. Wrote to Mr. Marsh,<sup>1</sup> of Winchester.

10. Wrote. Much burdened with company. The Board of Foreign Missions meet today at Oswego, N. Y. Fatigued. Labored sweeping and brushing. There was a great meeting here of fire companies, some from abroad; great processions.

11. Am able, through great mercy, to do more labor than in months past. Rainy. At evening went out and witnessed a splendid exhibition of fireworks. A great collection of people.

12. Worked at my room. A fire company from Norwich called on me. Paid my merchant tailor, \$15.00. Read. Quite cool.

13. A cold morning, but I do not hear of any frost. Much respectable company. Paid for daguerreotypes, \$2.50.

14. Last evening received a letter from Dr. Spaulding, of Enfield, and wrote back to Mr. Robinson in return. Cold, but no frost. Much occupied with company. I conclude, after much hesitation, to go to Boston, *Deo volente*, next week. Mr. Day will see to my room in my absence.

15. Attended meeting at the South. A Mr. Street\* preached in the morning, and afternoon Mr. Clarke; very well. Read a good deal of the Bible. Wrote to sister Robbins, of Enfield. Preparing for my journey.

16. Mr. Day took care of my room, and I rode to Boston by Springfield. Not much fatigued. Received a letter from Mr. Marsh, of Winchester, and sent it to the postmaster of Enfield. Put up at the Bromfield House.

17. Walked out in the morning. Cool and damp. Took some cold. Did some errands. Rode to Roxbury, and had a good visit with my afflicted cousin, P. G. Robbins, long suffering from a severe wound, now able to walk with crutches. Called on Mrs. Robbins, widow of the late Dr. Edward H. Robbins.<sup>3</sup> He left a good property. Paid Burnham, \$20.13, and balanced his account. Called at Mr. Livermore's great wool store. He was out.

18. Rode in the car to Danvers. Fortunately met with Mr. Cook<sup>4</sup> as I was getting out of the car. Very kindly received. Afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Cook went with me to Nahant. A great curiosity; a cold place. Mr. Field,<sup>5</sup>

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Enfield Centre. Mr. Hazzard furnishes an illustration, of which there are many, of the accidental connection between his name and occupation.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Frederick Marsh.

<sup>2</sup> Owen Street, D. D., born in East Haven, Ct., 1815, graduated at Yale College, 1837, and at Yale Theological School, 1842, at that time preaching as stated supply at North Haven, Ct., but whose chief ministry has been as pastor of the High Street Church, Lowell, where he has been settled since 1857.

<sup>3</sup> He died only a few months before, son of Rev. Nathaniel Robbins, of Milton, and

himself once Lieut.-Governor of Massachusetts.

<sup>4</sup> Father of Mrs. Hannah (Cook) Robbins, of Enfield.

<sup>5</sup> Thomas P. Field, D. D., born in Northfield, Mass., 1814, graduated at Amherst College, 1834, and at Andover Seminary, 1840, pastor at South Danvers (now Peabody), 1840-1850, at Second Presbyterian Church at Troy, N. Y., 1850-1853, professor at Amherst College, 1853-1856, pastor of First Church in New London, Ct., 1856-1876, professor at Amherst, 1877, where he still remains.

minister here, is about to leave on a call to Troy. This is a handsome and flourishing town. Very bad accounts of the potato rot.<sup>1</sup>

19. Returned to Boston. Considerably unwell. I believe I took some cold yesterday. Paid Little & Brown, \$10.00. Purchased of them some valuable books. Paid my hosiery merchant for articles, \$3.00. Quite cool. Very bad accounts of potato rot in Maine and other places. A great fair in the city much increases the present number of people. Can do but little.

20. Am much better than last evening. Very well accommodated at the Bromfield House. Took the car and came from Boston to my room in four and one quarter hours.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Day has taken good care of the room in my absence. There has been a good deal of company. I think I am better, through mercy, for my journey. Employed in my room.

21. Received ten valuable volumes of books from Boston, the cost about \$60.00. One an ancient folio, Shakespeare. Get little time for myself. Received a letter from Mr. J. W. Jarves,<sup>3</sup> of Boston. Paid Mrs. Lamb, \$50.00.

22. Heard Mr. Stoddard,<sup>4</sup> a Nestorian missionary, in the morning and evening, and Dr. Hawes afternoon. The statements of Mr. Stoddard very interesting. Something fatigued. Read Bible.

23. Worked at my chamber and books. Read in the evening. Many visitors from a distance.

24. Did errands. Received of Mr. J. B. Hosmer a payment of \$100.00. Engaged a box in the post office for the first time. Read in ancient *Massachusetts History*. Wrote.

25. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston, and sent them \$20.00. Wet and rainy. There was a great and very fine exhibition of the deaf and dumb. A large portion of the past alumni were present. Large pieces of silver plate were presented to Mr. Gallaudet<sup>5</sup> and Mr. Clerc.<sup>6</sup> Much speaking by signs and language. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

26. A large number of mutes from various parts of the country were in my room. Their collection here is a very noticeable event. Received a letter from Rev. J. A. Clark,<sup>7</sup> of North Woodstock. Received a very large Chinese

<sup>1</sup> This disease among the potatoes, which prevailed so extensively for some years, has never been very satisfactorily explained.

<sup>2</sup> At present (1886) the same journey is made in three hours and ten minutes.

<sup>3</sup> J. W. Jarves was then boarding at 64 Boylston Street, Boston.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. David Tappan Stoddard, born in Northampton, Mass., 1818, graduated at Yale College, 1838, and at Yale Seminary, 1842, missionary at Oroomiah, Persia, 1843-1857. He was tutor at Yale, 1840-1842. He was a man of choice culture, and most earnest Christian spirit.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, LL.D.

<sup>6</sup> At the founding of the American Asylum

for the Deaf and Dumb at Hartford, the first institution of the kind in the country, Laurent Clerc, in 1816, was brought over from Paris to assist Mr. Gallaudet in introducing the system here. His services were invaluable. He remained in connection with the institution for forty-one years, till 1857, and the early fame and success of the experiment were, in a large measure, due to him.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. James A. Clark was a native of Lebanon, born in 1808, graduated at Yale College, 1834, and at Yale Seminary, 1837. He preached at various places, East and West. He was not a pastor at North Woodstock, but was probably supplying the pulpit there. He died in 1881.

dictionary from Little & Brown, Boston, and a letter. A very valuable work.

27. Still have visitors of the mutes. Did errands. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Paid my tailor, \$5.00. At evening we had a hard thunder-shower.

28. Very busy with company, et cetera. At evening rode to South Windsor. Warm. Mrs. Haskell and her daughter are here.

29. Quite cool. Attended meeting and heard Dr. Hooker. Declined taking a part in the exercises. Dr. Hooker is a profitable preacher. The congregation appear well. Miss Wolcott has at length come to the conclusion to unite with the church.

30. Looked at a new school-house in building. Large and convenient. Came home in the stage. The crops generally are very good, and a favorable time for the ingathering. A hard white frost this morning. The first full frost in the season. Till now vegetation has been in full growth. Have fire in my room, and in my sleeping-room.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Find it difficult to do my necessary labor. Had a large Sabbath-school come into my room from Willimantic; more than one hundred, young and older. They behaved well. Wrote. I eat some fruit, but sparingly.

2. The first volume of the *Life of President Adams*<sup>1</sup> has appeared; paid for it, \$2.25. Read. Occupied with company. At evening our society had a usual meeting here. There is a good deal of commotion about fugitive slaves.

3. Have to make a fire. Read *Life of President Adams*. Much of my company is of a character that requires particular attention. At evening read.

4. Did errands. Have many expenses. My books lately procured are much liked. Quite fatigued with labor and company.

5. The late fugitive slave law of Congress produces great excitement in the non-slave-holding States.<sup>2</sup> Am able to do little in the evening.

6. Attended the North meeting. Mr. Patton preached. The congregation is a good one. Read a good deal in the Bible day and evening. Cool and frost.

7. Labored much in sweeping and brushing. The annual fair commenced in the city. An important and useful object. Conversated with brethren about ecclesiastical matters.<sup>3</sup>

8. Have visitors from all parts of the land, not excepting Minnesota. Have very little time for myself. At evening I was present at a great fugitive slave meeting. Very irregular and noisy. It looks as if this excitement may produce important events. May God be our helper.

9. Am almost wholly occupied with company. Much increased by the fair. Pleasant fall weather. At evening read.

<sup>1</sup> *Life and Letters of John Adams*, by his grandson, Charles Francis Adams, in ten volumes, 1850-1856.

<sup>2</sup> The fugitive slave bill was passed Aug. 15, 1850, which seemed to turn the Northern

States into a kind of police force for the capture of runaway slaves.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Bushnell was apt to be the subject for ecclesiastical consultations in those years, but he survived till 1876.

10. Warm and pleasant. The town seems to be full of people. My room much occupied through the day. Wrote to Enfield. At evening wrote at boarding-house.

11. Yesterday I believe there were as many people as I have ever known; fair, cattle show. Fine weather, et cetera. Received college catalogues from Pres. Hopkins; a valuable present. Received an excellent letter from my classmate Tucker, of Bermuda. Received a good number of books and publications from Dr. J. Curtis,<sup>1</sup> of Boston, and library institutions. Paid for a valuable map of Hartford, \$3.00. At evening went into the fair. A very large and elegant collection, honorable to the town and vicinity. Much fatigued.

12. Sweeping, etc. My sister Robbins was here from Enfield. The people there are anxious about getting a minister. Mrs. Adams,<sup>2</sup> of Boston, the last stem of the venerable Wyllis family, was here. A most excellent woman. She is quite lame and feeble; also poor. Gave her \$5.00. Much hurried with labor.

13. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes preached very well, as usual. Read Bible. Put on fall clothes. At evening wrote.

14. Did much in sweeping and brushing. Less company than in days past. At evening visited Mr. P. B. Gleason, sick. Read.

15. We had a valuable donation of books and pamphlets from Dr. Curtis, of Boston. Read the Appleton genealogy.

16. The Pope of Rome has created an Archbishopric at New York, and put in Bishop Hughes.<sup>3</sup> A violent character. Purchased the third annual national picture, "The Spirit of '76." Cost, with frame, \$6.00. At evening read.

17. Wrote to Mr. Stevens, of Tolland, and to Mrs. Deane, of South Glastonbury. Gave a paper to the selectmen, stating that my taxable property

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<sup>1</sup> Josiah Curtis, M. D., was a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1840, and was for some years employed in gathering and preparing for publication the statistics of life and health for the State of Massachusetts. He died in 1883.

<sup>2</sup> This was the Mrs. Adams, of South Boston, whom he used to visit while he was settled in Mattapoisett, on the subject of the Wyllis papers. We have not been able to discover her exact relationship to the ancient Wyllis family, one of the most honorable households of early Connecticut. The founder of the family was Gov. George Wyllis, of Fenny Compton, Warwick County, England, one of the original settlers of Hartford. Mrs. Adams may have been of the name Wyllis before marriage, but at all events was of the Wyllis stock. I. W. Stuart, in his book, *Hartford in the Olden Time*,

relates that one of the latest men of the Wyllis name, being asked why there were no Wyllis monuments set up in the ancient burying-ground, proudly answered: "If the State of Connecticut cannot remember the Wyllises without a monument, their memory may rot." This remark seems justified by the fact that George Wyllis, the planter, was Governor, his son Samuel was Assistant. His grandson and great-grandson held the office of Colonial Secretary for more than a hundred years, and three more of the next generation held prominent positions in the Revolutionary army.

<sup>3</sup> John Hughes, D. D., was born in Ireland, 1797, came to America in 1817, studied theology at the Seminary of St. Mary, Maryland, was ordained priest in 1825. He died in New York city in 1864. He was a man of great activity and marked ability.

is the same as in years past. Rode by stage to South Windsor. Warm and dusty.

18. Came home. Wet and rainy. Wrote. Great complaints about the almost total loss of the potato crop.

19. See in the paper a very interesting statement, English, of great movements among the Jews. It is said they have great influence. I hope they may soon resume their own country.<sup>1</sup>

20. Heard Mr. Clarke at the South. Read Bible. I am much interested in the genealogies<sup>2</sup> of Chronicles. At evening heard an account of an Indian school on the Connecticut Reserve. It has done much good.

21. Wrote. Not much company. Did errands. At evening attended a splendid exhibition of paintings; scenes in Italy.

22. Worked at my room. My good brother, only brother, Samuel,<sup>3</sup> came here. I did not know him. Walked out with him. His son Thomas<sup>4</sup> is like to leave him, and go much further West. His Christian character appears well.

23. Occupied with brother Samuel. Afternoon took a carriage and rode about the town. Brother Samuel holds his age very well.

24. Brother Samuel and I took the cars and rode to Enfield. Sister Robbins appears very well. He visited the grave of brother Francis. At evening it was very dark and wet, and we could not go out. Not much prospect here of getting a pastor soon. My sister keeps the preacher.<sup>5</sup>

25. In the morning left brother Samuel at Enfield, and came home in the car. Wrote to my sister Robbins at Lenox on a private subject. Read genealogy.

26. We had a very hard rain. Took the occasion for much sweeping. Wrote.

27. Dr. Taylor<sup>6</sup> preached for Dr. Hawes very well, fully Orthodox, both parts of the day. Read my Bible. At evening in my room wrote to Miss Wolcott.

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<sup>1</sup> This is a dream that comes up from time to time, and then passes by.

<sup>2</sup> These genealogies are found in the First Book of Chronicles, and chiefly in the early chapters of the book.

<sup>3</sup> His brother Samuel, then living in Onondaga County, N. Y., was born in 1784, seven years later than Dr. Thomas, and he died in 1860, four years later than Thomas.

<sup>4</sup> A few months before, Thomas, Jr., with his newly married wife, was at Hartford.

<sup>5</sup> Who was supplying the pulpit at that time, does not appear, but probably it was Rev. Charles A. G. Brigham, who in the January following was settled as pastor, and remained till 1855, when the church divided amid much strife, and a new church was

formed, with Mr. Brigham as pastor. This was called the North Church of Enfield. In this condition things remained until 1872, when Mr. Brigham was dismissed (May 5, 1872), and has since connected himself with the church known as the Catholic Apostolic. A few years later (1882) the North Church was merged back again into the old Congregational church of Enfield, formed in 1683, of which Rev. George W. Winch has been the able pastor since 1875.

<sup>6</sup> Nathaniel W. Taylor, D. D., of the Yale Theological School, who for fifteen years had been looked upon by many Connecticut ministers as a heretic, but that prejudice was beginning to pass away. He was a great thinker, and of large and noble character.

28. Called on Dr. Hawes, yet quite sick. Brother Samuel called here from Enfield, and went on to Norfolk. Paid for walnut wood, sawed, et cetera, \$4.00.

29. Yesterday Mr. Boswell<sup>1</sup> brought in here an old Bible, said to have belonged to the John Robinson family from Norwich, much broken, and left it on deposit. Paid my annual taxes, \$26.30. They increase every year. At evening I was at a large, splendid party at Mr. Henry Seymour's.<sup>2</sup> Received sufficient attention.

30. Received a letter from Miss Elizabeth Miller, South Argyle, N. Y., and one from John Fanning Watson, of Germantown, Penn. Last night was quite cold, with hard frost. At evening wrote to Sister Battell.

31. There is much solicitude about the sickness of Dr. Hawes.<sup>3</sup> I find but little time for myself. Attended the fine exhibition of paintings in our picture gallery.<sup>4</sup> Read.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Wrote. My good classmate, Mr. Stearns,<sup>5</sup> of Tolland, died October 27th, aged seventy-four. Four deaths since our meeting at New Haven in 1846. Read historic collections of the Revolutionary War. At evening walked out.

2. Dark and wet weather. Took the cars, and went in a very irregular and burdensome progress, by Bristol and Plymouth, to Winsted. Rode in a dark evening to Norfolk. Found brother Samuel here. We three<sup>6</sup> are the remains of the family.

3. Mr. Eldridge preached in the morning, and we attended the sacrament. This church, of which I am a member,<sup>7</sup> is large and appears well. Afternoon I preached on Acts iv : 11, 12. Did not go out in the evening.

4. Brother Samuel and I visited the burying-ground. Wrote. Took tea at Mr. Eldridge's. Sarah<sup>8</sup> has a fifth daughter. Spoke with Mr. Eldridge about church furniture. Brother Samuel went off for home.

5. Left Norfolk, and was brought early to Winsted. Damp and cold.

<sup>1</sup> John L. Boswell, who in 1836 had bought the Connecticut *Courant* of George Goodwin & Sons. Up to that time it had been a weekly paper. Mr. Boswell established the *Daily Courant* in 1837.

<sup>2</sup> Henry Seymour was now an elderly man, father of Gov. Thomas H. Seymour. From 1803 to 1807 he had been Commander of the Governor's Horse Guards.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Hawes lived on seventeen years after this sickness.

<sup>4</sup> He refers to the picture gallery connected with the Wadsworth Atheneum.

<sup>5</sup> Elisha Stearns, Esq., of the Yale class of 1796, well known in Tolland County, Ct.

<sup>6</sup> Mrs. Battell, his brother Samuel, and himself.

<sup>7</sup> This shows that Dr. Robbins had not followed what is now regarded as good Congregational usage, viz., that a minister should be a member of the church of which he is pastor. Dr. Robbins joined the Norfolk church, Sept. 16, 1798, just before he was to be licensed to preach. His membership had been with that church ever since. Many of the old Connecticut and Massachusetts divines defended this practice, but the largely prevailing sentiment, almost universal among Congregationalists, now is, that a minister should be a member of the church of which he is pastor. The pastor is simply one of the brotherhood, raised, by his superior endowments, to the place of teacher and guide.

<sup>8</sup> Mrs. Eldridge (Sarah Battell).

Came home in stage and cars. Received a letter from my niece, Mary E. Robbins,<sup>1</sup> of Lenox. At evening we had a meeting of our society here.

6. Attended to company. Read. The paintings in our picture gallery procure many visitors. Am much fatigued. Read.

7. Worked at my books with help. The destruction of the potato rot is said to be greater than any year before. Paid Burke for labor, \$1.00. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

8. Worked at my books. Ursula and Eveline Wolcott were here. We had a hard rain.

9. The people of this town are very much occupied with shows and exhibitions. Read the Bible. The public elections engage much attention. The community love Democracy.<sup>2</sup>

10. Attended meeting at the Centre. President Woolsey preached exceedingly well.<sup>3</sup> At evening attended a lecture of Mr. Coxe<sup>4</sup> in his church. Read Bible. Yesterday received of Mr. Hosmer, \$150.00.

11. Engaged in re-arranging books. Paid .75 for a map of California, et cetera. Miss Wolcott was here. At evening read chronology. By divine favor I think my health is improved.

12. Busy at my library work. I fear some of my books are lost. Have visitors from afar. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Roberts,<sup>5</sup> of Fairhaven.

13. Warm for the season. Miss Maguire has a good deal of company in my room. Afternoon rode to South Windsor. The crops have come in well. Mrs. Wolcott<sup>6</sup> continues well in old age.

14. Returned home. Walked considerably, and looked at the fine new Washington bridge.<sup>7</sup> At evening walked out.

15. Worked the most of the day at my library. Democracy and Free-Soil<sup>8</sup> are making bad work through the country. Paid Burke for labor, \$3.00. At evening read.

16. I fear I have lost a large sum of money. Something unwell. The Catholics are making much effort through the country. May God prevent the progress of Antichrist, and hasten its fall.

<sup>1</sup> Daughter of his brother, James Watson Robbins.

<sup>2</sup> Democracy is a most excellent word in its original and primary meaning, but it has been gradually turned aside.

<sup>3</sup> President Woolsey would not be called a popular preacher, but he held intelligent audiences fixedly by the compass and power of his thought, joined to a very modest and winning manner.

<sup>4</sup> Arthur Cleveland Coxe, D. D., born in Mendham, N. J., 1813, son of Samuel Hanson Cox, D. D., LL. D., was the first rector of St. John's parish, Hartford, holding office 1842-1854. He was afterwards settled at Morrisania, and at Baltimore, and in 1865

was consecrated Bishop of Western New York.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Jacob Roberts, his old neighbor while settled at Mattapoisett.

<sup>6</sup> Mrs. Abiel Wolcott (Ursula Tudor) was born in the year 1765, and was already eighty-five years old. She belonged to the long-lived Tudor family, of which we have already given notable instances of longevity. She lived on yet four years more, dying Oct. 24, 1854, at the age of eighty-nine. Her husband had died Jan. 15, 1840, aged seventy-eight.

<sup>7</sup> Now known as the Albany Avenue bridge.

<sup>8</sup> Two widely different agencies.

17. Rainy. Wrote. Mr. Spring<sup>1</sup> preached at the Centre in the morning, and Mr. Gallaudet<sup>2</sup> in the afternoon. Read much in the Bible. At evening wrote an anxious letter to my niece, Mary E. Robbins, of Lenox.

18. Wrote to Mr. Chapin,<sup>3</sup> of South Glastonbury. Wrote. Occupied with company. Received a number of papers, quite valuable, from my friend, Elisha Whittlesey, of Washington.

19. Wrote to the postmaster of Deerfield. Worked at my books. My loss, which I thought I had sustained, is mercifully restored.<sup>4</sup> At evening walked out.

20. Cold and rough air. My sister Battell and niece Larned have published our father's diary of his chaplainship in the Revolutionary War in 1776.<sup>5</sup> It is quite valuable, and well worth printing. Much interested in the reading. Have some cold.

21. Walked in the morning to Batterson's<sup>6</sup> marble manufactory. A great concern. Saw the fine block of the Portland stone, designed to be placed in the Washington Monument.<sup>7</sup>

22. Wrote to Prof. Sibley,<sup>8</sup> of Harvard College. Arranging my Bibles. At evening visited.

23. Attended to my room. Had a cold night. Ice appears. Wrote to my cousin Irene at New Haven. Received a good letter from Mr. Charles Williams,<sup>9</sup> postmaster, Deerfield.

24. A cold day. Dr. Hawes came out in his convalescent state and preached in the morning, and Mr. Judkins,<sup>10</sup> a young man from Boston, preached afternoon and evening. Read in evening.

25. Much occupied with company. Wrote. Received a letter from Mr. Daniel C. Gilman,<sup>11</sup> New Haven. Read.

26. Wrote to Ursula Wolcott, and to Mr. Gilman, of New Haven. Walked out.

27. Wrote to Mr. Williams, of Deerfield. I am very desirous to get some relics of the house of the noted John Williams.<sup>12</sup> Read.

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Spring, D. D., of East Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, LL.D.

<sup>3</sup> Calvin Chapin, D. D., of Rocky Hill, then sixty-two years out of college. He died in the following year.

<sup>4</sup> The loss of a large sum of money, just before mentioned.

<sup>5</sup> This was a neat publication in thin board covers, and made an interesting and valuable record.

<sup>6</sup> James G. Batterson, afterwards very much interested in accident insurance.

<sup>7</sup> The Washington Monument in the city of Washington.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. John Langdon Sibley.

<sup>9</sup> Rev. John Williams was the first minister of Deerfield, and was carried captive by

the Indians. The name seems to have remained there.

<sup>10</sup> Rev. Benjamin Judkins, born in Boston in 1820, graduated at Harvard, 1848, and at Andover, 1850. He preached for some years in Congregational churches, East and West, and then became an Episcopal minister.

<sup>11</sup> Daniel Coit Gilman, LL. D., a graduate of Yale in the class of 1852, and now President of Johns Hopkins University. When he wrote this letter to Dr. Robbins he was in the Junior class at Yale.

<sup>12</sup> This serves to indicate a connection between the postmaster Williams, and Rev. John Williams of a hundred and fifty years before. The Williams family was notable for a long succession of long-lived ministers.



28. Thanksgiving. Dr. Hawes had a good Scriptural sermon. A wet day. Dined at Mr. P. B. Gleason's. Mr. Charles Brainerd, my nearest neighbor and kind friend, died today, aged sixty-four. Visited the family. Wet and cold. At evening read.

29. Had a man and a child to work diligently through the day, moving books, brushing and cleansing. Quite fatigued. Had a good deal of company. Have but little time to write.

30. Am considerably unwell; perhaps a cold. Attended to company. We have had a very pleasant fall. Read the Bible. I fear some of my volumes and pamphlets are lost.

#### DECEMBER.

1. Mr. Lathrop<sup>1</sup> preached for Dr. Hawes in the morning. Afternoon attended at the funeral of Mr. Brainerd. The services were in the church and long. Wet. At evening read the Bible.

2. Had wood brought up. Paid Burge, \$1.00. Congress meet today. News was received of their organization. Am something feeble.

3. Rainy. Read the President's Message. Very well written, with very correct political sentiments. At evening had a meeting here of our society. Few attended. Read.

4. Had a pleasant visit from Mr. H. Umann, of New York. Attended to company. At evening wrote to my sister, Mrs. Robbins, of Enfield. Arranged pamphlets.

5. Very dark and wet weather. Worked at my books. Read history. Worked at my room.

6. Much occupied with company. Am apt to be late when I leave my room. Read in my Bible. Have done much of that the present year; generally in course. It was never more pleasant to me.

7. Attended to the arranging my books, and cleaning the shelves. I cannot perform much labor these short days. Endeavored to prepare for the Sabbath.

8. Heard Dr. Hawes. He preached very well on the character of Enoch. Quite cold. The winter seems to have begun. Attended the evening meeting.

9. We had a cold night with our first snow. Had an interesting letter from my niece, Mary E. Robbins, of Lenox; and one from William Cothren, Woodbury; and one from Mr. Benson Wolcott. At evening went out. Had a hard fall in the slippery snow.

10. The ground is hard frozen. My room is cold. Paid Mrs. Lamb my quarterly charge, \$50.00. Wrote to Mr. Cothren, of Woodbury. At evening heard a very fine lecture on astronomy by Mr. Mitchell,<sup>2</sup> of Cincinnati.

<sup>1</sup> Leonard E. Lathrop, D.D., a graduate of Middlebury College in 1815. A few years later, in 1854, he was settled in Sharon, Ct., where he remained till his death in 1857.

<sup>2</sup> Gen. Ormsby MacKnight Mitchell,

LL.D., born in Union County, Kentucky, 1810, died at Beaufort, S. C., 1862. He was graduated at West Point, 1829. He was, 1834-1844, Professor of Mathematics, Philosophy, and Astronomy in Cincinnati Col-

11. Wrote to Mr. Benson J. Lossing,<sup>1</sup> of New York. Read Prescott's valuable *History of Peru*.<sup>2</sup> Have some complaint of headache. Can do but little at my library.

12. Paid my merchant tailor, Corning, \$5.00. The ground thaws some, and is very wet. Received a letter from my sister, Mrs. Robbins, of Enfield.

13. Received a good letter from sister Battell. Mr. Robinson, minister at Penn Yan, N. Y., a very valuable man, has recently died of a short sickness. He was husband of brother Samuel's daughter. Read Prescott's *History of Peru*. A severe cold day. Wrote.

14. The mercury this morning at 10°. The people of Enfield have given a call to a young man, a Mr. Brigham, with much unanimity. My room is cold. My cousins Anna and Robbins Battell<sup>3</sup> called on me. Came from Middlebury, Vt., in about twenty-four hours. Did something with books.

15. Attended meeting at the South. Heard Mr. Clarke. The cold abates. Wrote. Read.

16. Wet and rainy, most of the snow goes off. Worked at my books. Eli Haskell was here. Read Bible and *History of Peru*.

17. Miss Wolcott called here. Mr. Douglass, of New London, was here. Paid Robbins, \$8.75, and Winship. Wrote.

18. A very cold day. Difficult to make my room comfortable. Did errands. Worked what I could at my books. Wrote. Read.

19. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. It snowed through the day. The cold oppressive to me. Public lectures abound here. Read Prescott's *Peru*. Very well written.

20. A good deal of snow and fine sleighing. Received a letter from Prof. J. L. Sibley, Cambridge. Wrote a letter to Rev. John Greenwood,<sup>4</sup> at Kent. My room is cold, and I can do but little business in it.

21. Wrote. Wet, and had but few visitors. Did some at books. My arranging is difficult. Apt to wander in meditation. Read.

22. Attended worship at the Fourth. Mr. Patton preached. He has a good congregation. Read at my lodging-room. Quite rainy, and bad getting out. Had a contribution.

23. Rode in the stage to South Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott grows feeble and declines. Ursula assists me about clothes, etc. It snowed the most of the day, and quite cold.

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lege. In 1845 he was instrumental in having an observatory established at Cincinnati, and was made director of it. He was a popular lecturer, and an extensive author. In the War of the Rebellion he was a brigadier-general, and died of yellow fever in 1862.

<sup>1</sup> Benson John Lossing, artist and writer, was born in Beekman, N. Y., 1813. Without a college education, he became a large and successful author in which vigorous narrative was made very pleasing by apt pictorial

representations. His works were popular and widely circulated.

<sup>2</sup> Prescott's *Conquest of Peru*, two volumes, first appeared in 1847.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins little thought that these two, thirty-five years later, would cause the diary he was keeping to be published.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. John Greenwood had been settled at New Milford, 1844-1849. He was not settled in Kent, but was probably preaching there, as they had no pastor.

24. Gave to Ursula, \$5.00. Rode home. A severe cold day. Could hardly keep my room comfortable. Gave to my workingman, Burke, \$1.00. The river is frozen over and passable. The western part of my room is constantly cold. Paid for a small load of wood, \$1.94. Worked at my wood.

25. Christmas. Attended the service of the North Episcopal Church and communed. Dined at Mr. Nichols's. Had a contribution, \$3.00. The streets very icy, and the walking very difficult and dangerous.

26. Mr. Hosmer paid me, on salary, \$75.00. Had a good deal of company. The sleighing is very good, and greatly improved.

27. Received of Hartford Bank a dividend of \$32.50. They have divided this year ten per cent. At evening heard a good lecture from Mr. Hamersley.<sup>1</sup> Receive much kind attention in walking about.

28. The sleighing is very abundant. Worked at my books. Put on my warmest clothes. The census exhibits much increase in the last decade. At evening read Bible.

29. We have a hard snow. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Linsley<sup>2</sup> preached in the morning, and Dr. Hawes in the afternoon very well, relative to the close of the year. Kept mostly in my room. Wrote.

30. Very cold. Am oppressed with the cold and snow. Mercury this morning in different instruments about zero. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Had a rare present of a piece of ship-bread brought in the Mayflower. Instrumentality of Rev. Gurdon Robbins. At evening heard a good lecture from Mr. Henry L. Ellsworth<sup>3</sup> on Indiana. Procured one more Thomas's almanack; perhaps the last.

31. Wrote to the postmaster of Rowley, Mass. I go out but little on account of the cold. A great body of snow at the north. Through the infinite grace of God I have had a prosperous year, saving the afflictive death of my youngest brother. My health has been better than the year preceding. The year has been rather barren of religious revivals. Holy is the Lord.

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. William Hamersley, book merchant.

<sup>2</sup> Joel H. Linsley, D. D.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Chief-Justice Oliver Ellsworth, and brother of Gov. William W. Ellsworth.

## 1851.

JANUARY.

1. In the infinite riches of divine grace I am permitted to commence one more annual diary, my fifty-sixth. It will be completed or not, as a holy God pleases. I think I desire that his will may be done. At the beginning of the day attempted to commit all my interests, and wants, and duties, and prospects, to the care and disposal of my blessed Saviour for the ensuing year. Have but little time for myself. Very cold. Had many calls of sleigh riders. Paid for *Religious Herald*,<sup>1</sup> one year, \$1.00.

2. The streets are very icy, and dangerous walking. A great deal of sleighing. At evening read. Paid a seamstress, \$2.00; a high charge.

3. Considerably unwell. I think I have got some cold. My room is cold, but my sleeping-room is quite comfortable. Attended to company. Cannot read long in the evening.

4. Many accounts of severe cold and large bodies of snow through the country. Had a fine visit from manufacturers from Waterbury, and a donation of a rich knife.<sup>2</sup>

5. Dr. Hawes preached in reference to the new year very impressively. But few added to his church the year past. We had the sacrament. Put on more clothes. At evening read; could not well go out.

6. The cold abates in some degree. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Read in the *Biography of the Buckminsters*.<sup>3</sup>

7. Have paralytic pains. The season is oppressive. We had a good meeting here of our society. I am anxious to get a movement for a town or State history; perhaps a history of the three towns.<sup>4</sup>

8. Very cold. Read. Heard from Windsor. At evening sister Battell and her son<sup>5</sup> came here. Spent the evening with them at the hotel. She has good health.

9. Very slippery and dangerous walking. Wrote to the postmaster at

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<sup>1</sup> The *Religious Herald* of Hartford was first issued Feb. 1, 1843, by Mr. D. B. Moseley. It still continues in the same family, and is published from the Memorial Building, Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> Which was made in Waterbury.

<sup>3</sup> The Buckminsters were: Rev. Joseph, D. D., born in Rutland, Mass., 1751, graduated at Yale, 1770, minister at Portsmouth, N. H., where he died, June 10, 1812; and Rev. Joseph Stevens, born Portsmouth, N. H., 1784, graduated at Harvard, 1800, settled in 1805 over Brattle Street Church, Boston,

died June 9, 1812. It will be noticed that the son died June 9, and the father the day following. Mrs. Eliza Buckminster Lee, wife of Mr. Thomas Lee, of Boston, and daughter of Dr. Joseph Buckminster, wrote the *Memoir of Rev. Dr. Buckminster and J. S. Buckminster*, which was published in 1849. This was the work which Dr. Robbins was reading.

<sup>4</sup> By the three towns he means Windsor, Hartford, and Wethersfield, the original towns of the Connecticut colony. The *Hartford County History* meets this want.

<sup>5</sup> Robbins Battell.

Enfield. Paid store bills, \$4.75. Received a good letter from Rev. Mr. Greenwood,<sup>1</sup> of Kent. Wrote. My sister left in a stormy time.

10. Last evening wrote on my testament. This morning we find the cold materially abated, and a beginning of a thaw. Had inquisitive visitors. Heard a fine lecture from Mr. I. W. Stuart<sup>2</sup> on Capt. Hale<sup>3</sup> in the evening.

11. The thaw continues, and the streets are very wet. Procured a Boston almanack. That city is great and very prosperous. A large number of visitors.

12. Dr. Hawes preached in the morning very serious. Afternoon attended the annual meeting of the Home Missionary Society. Mr. Bliss's<sup>4</sup> map of our whole country, with his able address, was very impressive. Kept much at my room, wrote, and read. Exercises long, and I was much overdone. At the close I had a hard turn of dizziness. Had help to get home.

13. Received a letter from Mr. Parsons, of Enfield. Their ordination is deferred to next week. Am quite feeble. Wrote to Hon. Ovid F. Johnson, Philadelphia.

14. Had notice that a great centennial celebration of Litchfield County is to be held next September.<sup>5</sup> Am pretty feeble.

15. Had a poor night, something of paralysis. Wrote. Get fatigued easily. The surface of the ground is very wet. Read. Occupied with company.

16. Worked at my room. Afternoon rode to South Windsor in the stage. Mrs. Wolcott is quite unwell, and apparently near to the close of life.<sup>6</sup> A good deal of illness in the family.

17. Rode home. Wet. Paid Mr. Hunt, bookseller, \$19.95, and balanced his account. Paid John Olmsted, \$10.00, on my account. Wrote. Read Bible.

18. Colder. Purchased a small load of hickory wood, with sawing, etc., \$3.60. Much occupied with company.

19. We had a very cold night. Attended meeting at the South. Mr.

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Greenwood was not settled in Kent, but was probably supplying there, as Kent was then without a pastor. Rev. Mr. Greenwood had been settled, 1838-1842, at Bethel, Ct., and 1844-1849, at New Milford, Ct. He received the degree of A. M. from Yale College in 1843. He died in 1879. He was born in Yorkshire, England, 1794.

<sup>2</sup> Isaac William Stuart, teacher and general scholar, son of Rev. Moses Stuart, of Andover, born in New Haven, 1809, graduated at Yale, 1828, died in 1861. Author of several works.

<sup>3</sup> Capt. Nathan Hale, the martyr spy, born in Coventry, Ct., 1755, graduated at Yale, 1773, executed as a spy, Sept. 22, 1776. A

monument to his memory is, as we understand, to be placed in the Connecticut State House.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Asher Bliss probably, a native of West Fairlee, Vt., and a graduate of Amherst, 1829. He had been a missionary to the Seneca Indians, and to other tribes.

<sup>5</sup> It was in August following (not September) when the Litchfield Centennial Celebration took place, and when Dr. Horace Bushnell, a native of the county, delivered his famous oration, entitled *The Age of Home-spun*, one of the most felicitous orations he ever delivered.

<sup>6</sup> Yet, as previously stated, she held out four years longer, dying at eighty-nine.

Brace,<sup>1</sup> of Milford, preached. A worthy man. Spent the most of the day at my sleeping-room. Read in the prophet Ezekiel.

20. Rainy, and the streets exceeding slippery. Could hardly get to my room. Worked at my books. Go out but very little. Read the *Works of President Adams*.<sup>2</sup>

21. Did errands. Wrote. Afternoon took the cars and rode to Enfield. Young Mr. Brigham, their candidate, appears well. My sister has a good deal of company. Mr. Hazzard called, and I went to his house and spent the night.

22. A comfortable day, and a pleasant, solemn ordination. Mr. Brigham appeared well in examination.<sup>3</sup> Good Orthodoxy. Mr. Cleaveland,<sup>4</sup> of New Haven, preached very well. I made the ordaining prayer. The other parts very good. There were many references to brother Francis. Continued at Mr. Hazzard's.<sup>5</sup>

23. Came home in the cars. My sister Robbins lives by herself, and boards Mr. Brigham. Pleasant, and the snow wears away. Am considerably fatigued.

24. Read. Paid my painter, \$2.91. Wrote. Cannot labor long at a time.

25. Much occupied with company. Wrote to sister Battell. Read. The sleighing is mostly gone. Have recently received a good letter from my brother Samuel. His son-in-law, Mr. Robinson, has lately deceased.

26. Colder. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clarke preached. A full congregation. At evening was at Dr. Hawes's meeting. Spoke a little.

27. We had a hard rain. The greater part of the snow is gone. Worked at my books. In the evening read.

28. Employed by company. Received a good letter from Mr. John F. Eliot,<sup>6</sup> of Boston. Showed it to Mr. Sigourney<sup>7</sup> as one of the Huguenots. At evening attended a fine astronomical lecture from Mr. Hale.<sup>8</sup> Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

29. Worked at my wood. Had a good deal of company. Good walking in our streets. Read in President Adams's interesting diary.

30. A very cold day. Wrote considerably. Did errands. A great body of snow yet at the north. Mercury in the evening at 4°.

<sup>1</sup> Jonathan Brace, D. D., born in Hartford, Ct., 1810, graduated at Amherst College, 1831, and at Princeton Seminary, 1835. Pastor at Litchfield, Ct., 1838-1844, at Milford, Ct., 1845-1863, editor of *Religious Herald* at Hartford, 1857 to 1877.

<sup>2</sup> *Life and Works of President Adams*, by Charles Francis Adams.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Charles A. G. Brigham.

<sup>4</sup> Elisha Lord Cleaveland, D. D.

<sup>5</sup> Augustus G. Hazzard.

<sup>6</sup> John F. Eliot was a druggist of Boston,

with his store at 32 Commercial Street, and his house at 75 Atkinson Street.

<sup>7</sup> Charles Sigourney.

<sup>8</sup> Benjamin Hale, D. D., born in Newbury, Mass., 1797, graduated at Bowdoin College, 1818, became a teacher and Congregational preacher, afterwards was made a scientific professor at Dartmouth, and during this time he took Episcopal orders. From 1836 to 1858, he was President of Geneva College. He died in 1863. He was a scholar and writer on a wide range of subjects.

31. Had a poor night. I think I have taken some cold from damp wood in my bed-chamber. Last evening read the interesting account of President Adams's first journey to Congress from his diary. Wrote to Mr. John F. Eliot, Boston. Read Bible.

## FEBRUARY.

1. The cold continues. I believe I am debilitated by the continued cold. Finished my long letter to Mr. Eliot, of Boston. Had to walk out in the evening. The rivers are very hard and thick frozen.

2. It snows, and the cold abates. Heard Dr. Hawes both parts of the day. Had no fire in my room except in the morning. Read much of the Book of Ezekiel. The latter part of that book is evidently a description of the Millennium in the Jewish language.<sup>1</sup>

3. The weather grows mild. In the North States<sup>2</sup> it has been on an average at 16°.<sup>3</sup> Mr. S. T. Wolcott was here. Wrote to my brother Samuel.

4. Wrote. Conclude to give Miss Wolcott<sup>4</sup> a good book-case. At evening our society had their monthly meeting. Some valuable historical articles were read.

5. Worked at my books. Wrote. I am in much want of strength for labor. Holy is the Lord. It grows cold.

6. We had a very cold night, and about as cold a day as any this season. Had a visit from three Catholic priests, two from their college at Worcester.<sup>5</sup> Am feeble with the cold. Wrote on my testament.

7. Much occupied with company. At evening wrote. Received some obituary records of the Yale catalogue.

8. A very rough, cold day; about equal to any during the season. Wrote on my testament. Difficult to keep my room comfortable.

9. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clark preached both services. Read and wrote. Spent the day at my chamber at my boarding-house. Many great and precious promises in the Prophets.

10. The whole ground is exceeding slippery. Am pretty feeble. Worked at my books. Not much company. Read.

11. Read in the biography of President John Adams. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Hindered by visitors. A very cold day. My room is cold.

12. Am not able to labor long at a time. Worked some at my room. Occupied with company. Read *Life of Adams*.

13. Wrote elaborately on an obituary monument<sup>6</sup> for my brother Francis. Mr. S. T. Wolcott called here. At evening called on Mr. Gallaudet.

<sup>1</sup> It is very difficult to tell exactly what the highly figurative language of Ezekiel, in the closing chapters of his book, may mean.

<sup>2</sup> Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

<sup>3</sup> Sixteen below zero.

<sup>4</sup> Miss Ursula Wolcott.

<sup>5</sup> The College of the Holy Cross in Wor-

cester, which was then only five or six years old.

<sup>6</sup> Inscription for his brother's monument. In those days the monument for a minister was generally a heavy stone slab, set on pillars, and covered with an inscription much longer than the usual graveyard inscription.

14. Am a good deal unwell. Had a poor night. Read. Did a little in my room. The weather moderates.

15. We had a very hard rain. Wrote on my obituary, and sent it to Enfield. Soon must one be written for me.

16. Attended meeting at the Fourth. Mr. Clarke preached for Mr. Patton on exchange. Afternoon attended at the South Baptist. Mr. Murdock<sup>1</sup> preached. I assisted some. In the forenoon we had the joyful news of the safety of the great steamship Atlantic, supposed to be lost. All the people arrived, ship left at Cork. Read Bible.

17. The water of the Connecticut River is getting high. It is broken up, and a vast body of ice is going out. Wrote to my kinsman, Rev. Timothy Woodbridge,<sup>2</sup> near Stockbridge. Am not able to do much labor.

18. Much occupied with company. Last evening we had a meeting of the managers of the Retreat. Afternoon spent some time in the court room.

19. The Committee General of the Court of Massachusetts to visit the Asylum called here. They highly approve the state of the institution. Worked some at my library. Wrote. At evening heard a lecture from an able Indian preacher from the West. He did well.

20. Did errands. Wrote to Mr. Henry R. Stiles,<sup>3</sup> of New York. A gentleman here gave a very good account of Liberia, soon to be a great colony.

21. We had a heavy rain. Received a letter from brother Samuel and his widow daughter<sup>4</sup> at Camillus, N. Y., and one from Miss Wolcott, and one from New Bedford. Received various pamphlets and papers by mail. Read in the evening.

22. Did errands. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Read in my boarding-chamber.

23. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes preached in the morning. A Mr. Eddy<sup>5</sup> in the afternoon. Read. At evening was in at Mr. Clarke's evening meeting. A very pleasant day.

24. Worked at my library. Wrote. Quite a rainy day. Occupied with company.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. J. N. Murdock, D. D., who had previously been settled at Lockport, N. Y., was pastor of the South Baptist Church, Hartford, 1849-1857.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robbins calls Mr. Woodbridge his kinsman, but the tie of kindred here was exceedingly frail. It consisted simply in the fact that Hon. Jahlcel Woodbridge, of Stockbridge, a widower advanced in life, married Mrs. Keep, wife of Rev. John Keep, of Sheffield, Mass. Mrs. Keep was Dr. Robbins's aunt, Hannah Rebekah Robbins, of Branford, Ct. The Timothy Woodbridge here spoken of was not her son, but a son by Mr. Woodbridge's first marriage. This Timothy to whom he writes was Rev. Timo-

thy Woodbridge, D. D., born in 1783, and was then blind. He had been settled in Green River, N. Y., and was a man of superior abilities. He died in 1862.

<sup>3</sup> Henry Reed Stiles, M. D., author of *History of Ancient Windsor*, *History of Brooklyn N. Y.*, three volumes, etc. He was born in the city of New York in 1832. His father was born in East Windsor, Ct. He is preparing a second edition of the Windsor history.

<sup>4</sup> A daughter of his brother Samuel had married Rev. Mr. Robinson, a Presbyterian minister, who had died young.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Henry Eddy, probably a native of New Britain, Ct., born in 1805, graduated at Yale, 1832, and at Yale Seminary, 1836.



25. The waters are high, and the frost is leaving the ground. Read. At evening heard a very good lecture from Mr. Stanton, from Vermont.

26. Worked arranging books. Get soon wearied. Set out to ride to Windsor in the stage, met with an accident, and walked back.

27. Am endeavoring to arrange my books on the shelves. Took the stage and rode to South Windsor. The ground very wet, and hard traveling. Mrs. Wolcott is some better of her sickness, but her mind is mostly lost.

28. Wet and rainy. Came home in the stage. The roads very soft and deep. Attended to genealogical matters. Read and wrote. Considerable company. Some from a distance.

#### MARCH.

1. Much occupied with company. Wrote on my testament.<sup>1</sup> We have something like a spring day. Troubled with wandering thoughts.

2. Had a very solemn season at Dr. Hawes's sacrament. Afternoon and evening Mr. Eddy\* preached, and spoke very well. Had concert of prayer. I fear Dr. Hawes's health is declining.

3. We have cold and rough winds. Received a good letter from Miss Wolcott. Much occupied with company. My health, through divine mercy, is improving a little. Read Hoyt's valuable history.<sup>2</sup>

4. Paid at the *Courant* office, \$4.50. Paid at my shoemaker's, \$7.38. Had a meeting of our society here in the evening. Few attended. Was up late.

5. Wrote on my testament. Paid my joiner, \$4.25. The weather is more mild. Fatigued with writing. Read.

6. Took a long walk in the morning. Paid my tailor, Corning, \$4.27. Received a letter from Mr. James W. Hickok, of Burlington, Vt. Wrote on my testament.

7. Wrote and finished my will. The death of my brother made it necessary to write a new one. It has been a work of much solicitude and labor. I think it will be the last of several. Took tea with company at Mr. Brown's.

8. Paid Mrs. Lamb my boarding quarter bill, \$50.00. Revised my testament. I make many mistakes in writing.

9. Heard Mr. Clarke at the South. At evening heard Mr. Bernard, a Scotch missionary at St. Helena, open communion Baptist. An extraordinary character. Cold. Read.

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<sup>1</sup> Several times Dr. Robbins has told us that he was writing on his testament. Since the death of his brother at Enfield, he had found it necessary to write another will. Because of such changes in life, he had been called to write several wills.

<sup>2</sup> See note Feb. 23, 1851. Mr. Eddy had been supplying the church in North Guilford, Ct., 1848-1851. He had just finished

his labors there. He then became a physician, and died in 1872.

<sup>3</sup> Gen. Epaphras Hoyt was born in Deerfield, Mass., 1765, and died in same place, 1850. He was an antiquarian and historical writer. At his death he left for publication a work entitled *Burgoyne's Campaigns*, which was the work probably Dr. Robbins was reading.

10. Mr. Bertrand called on me; a pleasant man. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Received an annual dividend of \$135.00 from the Phoenix Bank. Was out in the evening, and got quite fatigued.

11. Worked with help at my room. There is a movement here for the erection of a new splendid church.<sup>1</sup> Wrote to David Baldwin, Esq., Newtown. Read a description of the lower Mississippi. I think unimprovable.

12. Occupied with company. I find that intellectual labor is quite fatiguing. Wrote. Did something in arranging books. Donation, \$1.00.

13. Received from Senator Baldwin<sup>2</sup> a valuable volume on our national history. We have wet and snow. At evening walked out.

14. A cold morning; the ground hard frozen. Paid my livery stable man, \$8.50. Wrote on a difficult article. Close thinking wearies me.

15. Occupied with company. Read. The business of building begins early and actively. A great robbery of a bank in Norwich.<sup>3</sup> I think crime increases in the country.

16. Quite cold and wet. Heard Mr. Eddy<sup>4</sup> at the Centre. Kept mostly at my boarding-house.

17. Wrote on the character of the Pilgrims. Employed with company. I fear I shall have the burden of moving my boarding-place. Read.

18. Cold, and a good deal of snow. Heard of the death of Rev. Dr. Chapin.<sup>5</sup> He has lived a long life of great *labor, activity, and usefulness*.

19. Wrote as much as my strength admits. Received a letter from sister Battell. Cousin John Le Baron's wife,<sup>6</sup> at Mattapoisett, is dead. A great loss to him, and many others. Received a letter from Judge Church,<sup>7</sup> of Litchfield; and one from Dr. Timothy Woodbridge, Spencertown; and one from Gen. Sedgwick,<sup>8</sup> Sharon.

<sup>1</sup> This was the meeting-house of the Pearl Street Church, which was finished and dedicated in 1852.

<sup>2</sup> David Baldwin, of Newtown, State Senator.

<sup>3</sup> In the old days of banking, when the Suffolk Bank of Boston was the place for the interchange of bank bills, Mr. Henry Witter, a bank messenger, was in the depot at Norwich about two o'clock in the morning, waiting for the boat train, with about \$30,000 in his keeping to take to Boston. This belonged to four banks in Norwich and vicinity. A stranger came into the depot while Mr. Witter was lying on a sofa, and engaging him in conversation, suddenly struck him on the head with a cane, and seizing the money made good his escape.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Henry Eddy.

<sup>5</sup> Calvin Chapin, D. D., born in Springfield, 1763, graduated at Yale, 1788, pastor at Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, 1794-1847. He

died there March 17, 1851. He was a man of large stature, and striking in his personal appearance, and was also quaint and original in all the action of his mind. He was on the Yale Board of Trustees, 1820-1846.

<sup>6</sup> John A. Le Baron's wife was Martha Phillips, and they were united in marriage in 1807. Mr. Le Baron was the fourth child and third son of Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, the life-long minister of Mattapoisett, and was born in 1782.

<sup>7</sup> Samuel Church, LL. D., born in Salisbury, Ct., 1785, graduated at Yale, 1803. He first settled in his native town, but removed to Litchfield in 1845. He was Chief-Justice of the Superior Court of Connecticut. He died in 1854.

<sup>8</sup> Gen. John Sedgwick, born in Cornwall in 1813, graduated at West Point, 1837, killed at Spottsylvania, May 9, 1864. He was a true soldier, and a man of great excellence of character.

20. We still have very rough March winds. Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston, and sent them \$30.00 from my book account. Received a good letter from my cousin, Dr. Peter G. Robbins, Roxbury. Gave to the Fourth Society here, some in debt, \$5.00.

21. Took a long walk. Wrote on my Pilgrim work. Attended to company. Have a prospect of a convenient station in my expected removal. My God has never forsaken me.

22. I get easily fatigued by mental or muscular labor. Our streets are very muddy; bad crossing.

23. Read in my sleeping-room. Attended at the South meeting. Heard the Methodist, Mr. Fox, in the morning. Mr. Clark afternoon. Was at a Baptist meeting in the evening; assisted some.

24. Wrote. Much occupied with company. I can make but small progress in writing on the Pilgrims. Get weary at the close of the day. Paid for a book of epitaphs, \$1.00.

25. Received a letter from sister Battell. Her son Robbins's wife is dead.<sup>1</sup> God is calling us. Received a letter from Little & Brown, of Boston. Was out in the evening. Wrote.

26. Wrote to my nephew, Robbins Battell, in his affliction. Completed and signed my will, which has been a burden to me for some time. I think it will be my last. I think some of my relatives may not be well satisfied, but I have endeavored to do my duty.

27. I have had a new, elegant, mahogany book-case made for Miss Ursula Wolcott, just finished. Wrote to her to give her the information. Called on Dr. Hawes. He has been on a journey, and is a good deal unwell. Put cords on my high trees to keep them erect. Quite warm. Much fatigued.

28. Paid Dr. Rogers my annual bill, \$6.00. Much less than in years past, through divine mercy. The book-case was carried to South Windsor.

29. Changed my dress in some degree. Rode in the cars to Middletown, and attended Dr. Jarvis's<sup>2</sup> funeral. A considerable number of people, mostly Episcopalians. Dr. Williams<sup>3</sup> preached. I was very kindly treated by the family. Looked at his library; very large and costly. The most of the works are European, some quite ancient. Rode home in the evening.

30. Dr. Hawes preached. He is better than he has been. Read the Bible. Wrote.

31. Had assistance in work at my room, and at my books. Wrote on the character of the Pilgrims. An important subject and laborious.

#### APRIL

1. Am a good deal unwell. Quite feeble. Have had my father's copy

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Ellen R. (Mills) Robbins. They were united in marriage Aug. 15, 1849. Her only child was born March 10, 1851, and she herself died March 24 following.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Farmer Jarvis, D. D., LL. D., born in Middletown, Ct., Jan. 20, 1786, grad-

uated at Yale, 1805, died at Middletown, March 26, 1851. He was a man of wealth and large learning, and notable in his day.

<sup>3</sup> John Williams, D. D., then President of Trinity College, made Bishop of Connecticut in 1851, and still (1886) holding the office.

of Henry's *Bible Commentary* brought in. Brother Frank had it, and gave it to Mr. Robinson,<sup>1</sup> brother Samuel's son-in-law, and I buy it of his widow. At evening our society had a meeting here.

2. Had a poor night. Rainy. Read. Took the stage and rode to South Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott is much better than she has been. Their new book-case<sup>2</sup> is a very fine one.

3. Rode home. The joiners are doing much work in my room below. Our State is in much excitement relative to our approaching election. Not able to do much labor.

4. Wrote. Occupied with company. Preparing to move. Dined at Mr. Spencer's on Lord's Hill. He has an elegant place. Much company.

5. Am quite ill. Slept at Mr. Brown's last night, and took some cold. Have got to move my residence with Mr. Miller. Took the stage, and rode to South Windsor to stay over the Sabbath.

6. In the forenoon rainy. Kept in. Read. Few went to meeting. Afternoon attended meeting. Dr. Hooker preached. The people well out. At evening had company.

7. Rode home in the morning. Went to the public meeting and voted. A very great collection of people. Near three thousand votes in this town. A great many make a miserable appearance. Went to Mr. Miller's to board. Most of my furniture was carried before I went there.

8. New sleeping-place not very good. Attended our Association meeting on Bushnell's business.<sup>3</sup> Had in the afternoon a hard rain. Wrote. Dined at Judge Williams's.<sup>4</sup>

9. Am pretty feeble. Have a new sleeping-place. Vegetation appears early. They are making valuable alterations in my room. Attended to my chamber. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

10. Wrote considerably. I think I have lost some small keys. Did errands. The result of our State election seems to be uncertain.<sup>5</sup>

11. I am feeble without much malady. Read Bible. Had a good deal of company. I have no room in my sleeping-room.

12. Wrote on my Pilgrim paper. Much occupied with company. We had considerable frost this morning. Streets very dusty. Read.

13. Attended meeting at the Fourth Church, and heard Mr. Patton. Did not go out in the evening. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Robinson has already been several times mentioned. His full name was Rev. William Willshire Robinson, a native of New York State, born Nov. 18, 1818, graduated at Yale College, 1842, studied theology at Auburn Seminary, married, Sept. 16, 1847, to Miss Fanny Robbins, daughter of Samuel Robbins, of Camillus, N. Y., ordained and settled at Penn Yan, N. Y., Jan. 18, 1848, died of typhoid fever, Nov. 14, 1850, leaving a wife and two daughters.

<sup>2</sup> Which he had just given to Ursula

Wolcott, partly out of his kind regards for her, and partly as recompense for the many favors bestowed on him by the Wolcott family.

<sup>3</sup> It took the ecclesiastical bodies of Connecticut some years to drift through this "Bushnell" business.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas S. Williams, LL. D., Chief-Justice of Connecticut.

<sup>5</sup> Thomas H. Seymour, the Democratic Governor, was reelected, and was continued till 1853.

14. Paid for a map, \$1.00. Judge Daggett<sup>1</sup> died yesterday, aged eighty-six. Quite cool. Have fire in my sleeping-room. Wrote on my long paper. It requires a good deal of study. Read..

15. Wrote. Went to New Haven in the cars, and attended the funeral of Judge Daggett. Cold and rainy. Many prevented from attending the funeral. Mr. Dutton<sup>2</sup> delivered a very good address, mostly biographical. Mr. Dwight was the first man in New Haven, if not in the State. Kindly treated. Put up at Mr. Bishop's.<sup>3</sup> Could not attend the exhibition at college on account of the rain.

16. A very hard storm through the night. Quite cold. Some blossoms appear. Called on my cousin Irene<sup>4</sup> and Gen. Kimberly.<sup>5</sup> Rode home. Wrote.

17. Wrote on my long work. Do not find my past conveniences in my present boarding-place. Our cold, dark storm still continues.

18. Fast. Attended meeting at the Centre. Mr. Eddy<sup>6</sup> preached in the afternoon. Read and wrote. Public worship well attended.

19. Did errands. We have many accounts of high waters and damages during the late long storm. A great fire in the town of Palmer, Mass.

20. In the morning had a hard snow-storm. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. My mind is too apt to wander in reading the Scriptures. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes and Mr. Eddy preached. Meetings very thin. Snowed and rained through the day. We have had six days without seeing the sun.<sup>7</sup>

21. The sun appeared a little this morning. The large quantity of snow mostly went off. Cold. Wrote. The streets very wet.

22. At length we have pleasant weather. Had considerable company.

<sup>1</sup> Hon. David Daggett, LL. D., was born in Attleborough, Mass., Dec. 31, 1764, graduated at Yale College, 1783, was Judge of the Supreme Court, 1826-1832, and Chief-Justice, 1832-1834. He held many important offices in public life, and was one of the instructors in the Yale Law School.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel William Southmayd Dutton, D. D., born in Guilford, Ct., 1814, graduated at Yale, 1833, pastor at North Church, New Haven, 1838-1866. In the last named year, January 26, he died suddenly of pneumonia in Millbury, Mass.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Timothy Bishop.

<sup>4</sup> Mrs. William A. Larned.

<sup>5</sup> Gen. Dennis Kimberly was a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1812, and was a well-known lawyer and public man in New Haven. He was a major-general of militia, 1827-1830.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Henry Eddy.

<sup>7</sup> It was during this season of dark, wild,

stormy weather, that the Minot Ledge Light-House was carried away. "The structure was begun in 1847 and finished in 1849, and stood till the terrible storm of April, 1851, when the iron supports were twisted as if they had been made of straw, and the whole structure was swept away." This destruction took place Wednesday, April 16. It so happened that Mr. Bennett, the keeper of the light-house, had been summoned to Boston on business connected with the light, leaving his two assistants in charge. When he returned from Boston it was impossible for him, so terrible was the action of the sea, to go from the shore to the light-house, but on the morning of Thursday, April 17, he saw fragments of the structure with which he was so familiar washed on the shore. The last time the building was seen standing was on Wednesday afternoon towards night. The two men who were left in charge perished, and their bodies were never found.

Mr. and Mrs. Bissell<sup>1</sup> were here. Wrote. Received a letter from Miss Wolcott.

23. Paid for a lamp, .75. Obtained some new keys in place of lost ones, after much difficulty. Wrote on my long paper for publication. Mr. Miller is quite unwell.

24. Procured a small quantity of good wood; cost, with sawing, etc., \$1.83. Saw Mr. Rockwell,<sup>2</sup> now minister at Sharon. Can labor but little. The ground dries.

25. Pleasant spring weather. My company of visitors seems to be increasing. Our streets are quite busy. Purchased books, remains of Mr. Barzillai Hudson,<sup>3</sup> twenty-five volumes, cheap.

26. Took a long walk in the morning. Many trees are setting. Afternoon set out to go to Windsor Locks; near the station met sister Battell and returned. She is quite well. The late breach in her family much affects them all.<sup>4</sup>

27. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clarke preached; had help in the morning. Read. Mr. Clarke preached on sending the Bible to California. A chilly, cold day. Wrote.

28. Wrote to Miss Wolcott, and sent her Orton's *Exposition*; six good volumes.<sup>5</sup> I think I took cold yesterday. I am now quite unwell. Some renegades have formed a design for an assault on Cuba. The President has issued a proclamation against them.

29. Wrote on my long work. Am quite feeble from my late cold. Occupied with company.

30. Rode in the stage to Rocky Hill. Kindly treated at my old class-mate's, Levi Robbins. He grows old. Attended the public meeting on the memory of Dr. Chapin.<sup>6</sup> It was the fifty-seventh anniversary of his ministry in that place. Dr. Hawes preached exceeding well. A very wet afternoon. Rode home in the stage in a steady rain.

MAY.

1. Am pretty feeble since my labors of yesterday. Occupied with company. Quite cold. Wrote some. Toward evening rode with Mr. and Mrs. Bissell to South Windsor. Paid Mr. Bissell, for works on keys, etc., \$1.00.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Bissell.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Charles Rockwell supplied the pulpit in Sharon, Ct., 1850-1851, but was not settled there. He was born in Colebrook in 1806, graduated at Yale 1826, and at Andover in 1834, was for a time chaplain in the United States Navy, was teacher and preacher in several different places, and died in Albany, N. Y., 1882.

<sup>3</sup> Barzillai Hudson was one of the old and highly respected citizens of Hartford. He was made a member of the first council when the city charter was granted in 1784.

<sup>4</sup> The death of Mrs. Robbins Battell.

<sup>5</sup> This was a work of considerable reputation in its day, but has now been superseded by abler volumes. Rev. Job Orton was an eminent dissenting minister of England, born in Shrewsbury, England, 1717. He died in 1783, and his *Practical Exposition of the Old Testament*, in six volumes, was not published till after his death.

<sup>6</sup> Dr. Calvin Chapin, of Rocky Hill, as will be remembered, died the month before, March 17, 1851, after a ministry of fifty-seven years.

2. Came home in the stage. Worked at one of my tall trees. I fear it is failing. Had work at my room. Many books carried to the room below. It continues cold. Many preparations for election.<sup>1</sup>

4. Attended meeting at the Centre. Had the sacrament. The church quite full. Four women added, and about the same number by letter. Afternoon Mr. Eddy preached. At evening walked to the North Episcopal Church, and heard Mr. Clark<sup>2</sup> preach very well and evangelically. Rainy the most of the day; a cold rain.

5. Have a full set of fine glass doors put up in my room. A great improvement. Worked at my books. A *little above* an additional day is included in the 2 and 4. Had female help cleaning my room. Worked at my books.

6. Worked at my books. Much labor is necessary in arranging my books. At evening we had here a thin meeting of our society. Read. Most of the members of the Legislature are in town.

7. Went into the Senate by request. Prayed at the organization. All present. A respectable collection of members. The House of Representatives is also organized. Parties are nearly balanced. Afternoon was in the House of Representatives. They had very hard voting. Finally, Mr. Foster had one hundred and forty-one votes, and Gov. Seymour had one hundred and forty-two, and was chosen Governor.<sup>3</sup> All were present but one; at Ashford sick. Much fatigued.

8. A very great collection of people in town. Much like old times. The Governor came up with great parade, and was qualified. I prayed again.<sup>4</sup> My room was much crowded, and I had to close the doors. At evening there was much noise and rejoicing in the streets.

9. Wholly occupied with the company. Am pretty feeble. The militia yesterday did well. Put a valuable article into the Hartford Bank for safe keeping. Read some, not much.

10. My boarding is not quite regular; late. Did errands. Our Senate is very respectable. The blossoms are out full, and vegetation advances rapidly. Can do but little beside waiting on company. Mr. Miller is quite unwell.

11. Kept in my room most of the day. Wrote. Read. Had a front upper tooth come out, used from my childhood. At meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes preached, and afternoon Mr. Beadle.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Beadle also preached in the evening. Quite eloquent.

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<sup>1</sup> That is for what was commonly called election day, but was the day for the assembling of the Legislature, on the first Wednesday of May.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas M. Clark, D. D., LL. D., was born in Newburyport, 1812, graduated at Yale, 1831, rector of the First (North) Episcopal Church, Hartford, 1851-1855, then made Bishop of Rhode Island.

<sup>3</sup> Connecticut, unlike most of the States,

still keeps the law of the majority, and when there is no election by the people, it goes to the House of Representatives.

<sup>4</sup> It was certainly remarkable, in a city like Hartford, with so many able ministers, settled and unsettled, that Dr. Robbins, with his increasing age and infirmities, should be so often called upon to open the Senate and House, as also the courts, with prayer.

<sup>5</sup> First pastor of the Pearl Street Church

12. Have a cold, and a good deal of coughing. Oppressed with company. The season advances rapidly; vegetation and blossoms. Have to retire early in the evening.

13. My cough is burdensome.

29. Went out in the air.<sup>1</sup>

30. Was dressed and walked out, through divine mercy. Read some.

31. Read some. Wrote. Am attended daily by my physician. Have uncomfortable nights.

#### JUNE.

1. South Windsor. God in his holy wisdom has visited me with a turn of sickness. On Thursday, May 15th, I came here in the stage, supposing I was going to be sick. Saw young Dr. Wood.<sup>2</sup> Friday, 16th, was sick; had my physician. A sick day, and much distressed. The days pass. My sickness is not severe, but steady. Have calls from friends here, and from Hartford. My disease is said to be influenza with fever. Am very weak. Read the Scriptures. Sit up but little. My appetite improves. Cool for the season.

2. The summer crops appear very promising. Dr. Wood carried me a short distance in his wagon. Wrote Mrs. Brown, of Hartford. Have some difficulty in procuring a future boarding-place. Wrote to sister Battell.

3. I gain strength very slowly. I read some, but can hear but little.

4. Our Legislature make small progress. Cool for June.

5. Have appetite. My physician concludes to suspend his visits. Mrs. Haskell, with son and daughter, made us a fine visit. Have rather restive nights.

6. Received a good letter from sister Battell, and wrote in return to her. My confinement is afflictive, but I wish God to do his pleasure. Wrote. Yesterday received a valuable letter from Mr. F. E. Woodbridge, Vergennes, Vt.

7. Am quite feeble; cannot walk far. People here are setting out great quantities of tobacco. Read partially. Wrote to sister Robbins, of Enfield. We have a hard rain. Read considerably, but it fatigues me.

and Society. This society was organized, March 29, 1851, but the church was not gathered and constituted until Oct. 15, 1852. Dr. Elias R. Beadle, who had been sent a missionary to Syria, but who had been forced to return by the disturbances prevailing in the East, was pastor at the Pearl Street Church, 1852-1863. He was a man greatly beloved by his people.

<sup>1</sup> These two short entries, sixteen days apart, are an example of what will often occur in the remaining pages of this diary. It will no longer be a solid compact diary with its daily entries, but will, from time to

time, be broken and interrupted by failing health.

<sup>2</sup> William Wood, M. D., was born in Waterbury, Ct., 1822, and received his medical degree in 1846 from the University of the City of New York. He established himself in practice at East Windsor Hill in 1847, and remained there till his death, Aug. 9, 1885. He was united in marriage, Nov. 9, 1848, with Miss Mary L. Ellsworth, daughter of Hon. Erastus Ellsworth. In addition to his medical practice he was distinguished as a scientist, especially in the department of ornithology.



8. Deprived of the privilege of public worship; a great privilege. Read Pres. Edwards.<sup>1</sup> Wrote for Ursula. Had converse. My physician called.

9. Very wet. Read. Afternoon rode out with Mr. Rollo.<sup>2</sup> I cannot bear close thinking. Much more grass in this street than was common years ago.<sup>3</sup>

10. Wrote to sister Robbins at Enfield. Took a long walk in the field.

11. Rode in a carriage to Hartford. Was much fatigued when I got there. Came home better. Found my room in a pretty good state. The Legislature find it difficult to elect a Senator.

12. Paid Ursula, \$10.00. Wrote. My debility continues. Walked considerably. The season is fine. Cannot read much.

13. We have strawberries. Worked a good deal with Ursula, trying to arrange some old book accounts. Called at Mr. Tudor's.<sup>4</sup> Was up late.

14. Had a very ill night. Am quite unwell; paralysis. I believe I got overdone yesterday. Can exercise but little. Read. Cool.

15. Am some better, but feeble. Wrote. Read Bible. I think not as many people attend public worship as did years ago.

16. Rode to Hartford in the stage. Have much difficulty in getting a temporary boarding-place. Returned. Quite cool for the season.

17. Read newspapers. Worked most of the day with Ursula, arranging her long family accounts. Get easily fatigued.

18. Wrote. Am quite feeble. We have cold nights. Our Legislature have a very long session. Afternoon rode to Hartford and took the cars, and went to Enfield to my sister's. Mr. Brigham lives with her. Not much fatigued.

19. Rode out with Mr. Brigham, and visited the Quaker Village;<sup>5</sup> a great curiosity. My brother's people appear to be in a good state.

20. Mr. Hazzard<sup>6</sup> is building a splendid house. Rode down to the Locks. Made a stop at Mrs. Haskell's. There has been a very great fire at San Francisco.<sup>7</sup>

21. Called on Mr. Allen.<sup>8</sup> I fear I do not gain much in strength. This

<sup>1</sup> Within the very parish where he was born, and where his father, Timothy Edwards was minister sixty-three years.

<sup>2</sup> The name Rollo was not one of the Old Windsor or East Windsor names, but was brought in sometime after the beginning of the present century.

<sup>3</sup> That was the old turnpike between Hartford and Springfield, but after the railroad was built on the west side of the river, the tide of travel was diverted. However, there has always been, and is now, a great deal of local travel along that wide street, with its overarching elms.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Oliver Tudor.

<sup>5</sup> The Quaker Village in Enfield might

properly be called four or five villages, or clusters of buildings, though they were all under one system of management. The Quakers were a thrifty people, and grew rich, but there are not so many of them now, as thirty or forty years ago.

<sup>6</sup> Augustus G. Hazzard, who carried on the manufacture of powder.

<sup>7</sup> This fire raged from May 3d to May 5th, and about twenty-five hundred of the wooden buildings then prevailing were destroyed, and many lives were lost. On the 23d of the same month, another fire occurred, which destroyed about five hundred buildings more.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Samuel H. Allen, of Windsor Locks.

family appear to be prosperous. I write very poorly. Visited Mr. Wood's<sup>1</sup> very handsome garden on the hill. This appears to promise to be a very handsome village.

22. Attended meeting by the grace of God; a privilege of which I have been deprived for five Sabbaths past. Mr. Allen preached well. This congregation increases. Not much fatigued.

23. Took the stage and rode to Hartford. Kindly treated by Mr. Hazzard. Went to Mrs. Wright's. She concludes to take me into her family for awhile. Rode in the stage to Mrs. Wolcott's. Road very dusty and dry.

24. Wrote to Mr. Miller, at Hartford, informing him that I must leave his house for boarding on account of its distance from the Atheneum. Was carried to Hartford kindly by Mr. King. Quite warm and dusty. Went to Mrs. Wright's and commenced boarding. Kindly accommodated.

25. Had my furniture moved from Mr. Miller's to Mrs. Wright's; well done. Miss Wolcott came here and made a good call. Warm, summer weather.

26. Opened the two legislative bodies with prayer. They have sat long. I am quite feeble, and can do but little.

27. Wrote. Difficult to find time and strength to labor on my own concerns. I fear I have lost my gold spectacles. At evening Mr. Stone,<sup>2</sup> of Boston, delivered a very good address to Miss Strong's<sup>3</sup> Ladies' School.

28. Quite warm. Had much company from distant States and our own. Samson Occum's<sup>4</sup> Hebrew Bible was deposited here.

29. With joy I see another Sabbath at my own proper home. Last evening took tea at Mr. Alden's; very fine strawberries. Dr. Hawes preached very well. Afternoon an agent for seamen. Could read but little. Quite warm.

30. Wrote. Spent some time in the Representatives' room. They labor hard at difficult business. Very warm. Wrote. Have a good many visitors. Little time for myself.

#### JULY.

1. Very warm. Mercury from 92° to 96°. Paid to Robbins & Winship, \$17.50, and received a dividend of Hartford Bank, the same sum, \$17.50.

<sup>1</sup> William Wood, M. D., at East Windsor Hill. See note June 1, 1851.

<sup>2</sup> Andrew L. Stone, D. D., born in Oxford, Ct., 1815, graduated at Yale, 1837, pastor of Park Street Church, Boston, 1849-1866, and of the First Congregational Church in San Francisco, 1866-1882. Since that time he has lived at San Francisco as pastor *emeritus*. His health in these late years has been greatly impaired.

<sup>3</sup> This was the Young Ladies' Seminary of which Miss Catharine E. Beecher was the founder and first teacher, 1827-1833. The

teacher at the time of this entry was Miss Frances A. Strong.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Samson Occum was a Mohegan Indian, born about 1723, who was the first Indian pupil educated in Moor's Indian Charity School, kept by Dr. Eleazar Wheelock at Lebanon Crank (now Columbia), Ct. He became quite celebrated as a preacher, and went over to England to aid in raising money for the Charity School, which became in 1769 Dartmouth. Dr. Robbins's library had now become the place of deposit for Occum's Hebrew Bible.

Received of Mr. Hosmer, \$75.00. Paid Mrs. Deane for Gregory's *Dictionary of Arts and Sciences*,<sup>1</sup> \$9.00. Paid post office, .35. My room very warm.

2. Sat some time in the Senate Chamber. They turned off business rapidly. Afternoon the two houses met, and the Governor adjourned the session. Sister Battell is here and quite well. Not quite as warm as yesterday.

3. Many visitors call from a distance and the vicinity. Paid Mr. Miller for board, about a quarter, deducting \$10.00 for my absence, \$40.12.

4. Independence. Am quite feeble. Yesterday was rainy, and the ground is wet. A great collection of people. Closed my room. A very long procession. I was chaplain, and Dr. Nott,<sup>2</sup> of Franklin, aged ninety-seven, was with me. A very good oration by Mr. Andrews.<sup>3</sup> At evening great fireworks. Did not go out.

5. My room almost filled with company through the day. Much fatigued. Jenny Lind<sup>4</sup> had a public singing, and performed very well, but some of the people without did badly. I could not go out on a Saturday evening.<sup>5</sup> Cannot get time and strength to write diary.

6. Sacrament. Dr. Hawes preached in reference to the great alterations now to be made in the meeting-house, dedicated in 1807.<sup>6</sup> Read Bible. Hard showers.

7. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Paid Mr. Hudson, for books, \$6.75. Received a circular from Litchfield, Seth P. Beers, etc., and one from Thomas Thacher,<sup>7</sup> Yale College, and one from Little & Brown, Boston. Cool.

8. Did errands. Wrote considerably. Fatiguing. Had many visitors. Read. My diary for a few days has been something irregular.

9. Rainy. Worked at my room. Found my gold spectacles, through

<sup>1</sup> George Gregory, D. D., an Irish divine, 1754-1808, was the author of the *Dictionary of Arts and Sciences*, London, 1806, quarto, two volumes, with plates.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Nott, D. D., born in Saybrook, Ct., Jan. 23, 1754, graduated at Yale College, 1780, pastor in Franklin, Ct., 1782-1852, died in Franklin, May 26, 1852, aged ninety-eight years and four months. His brother, Eliphalet Nott, D. D., LL. D., President of Union College, who died aged ninety-two years and six months.

<sup>3</sup> Probably Rev. William Watson Andrews, who had been settled in Kent, Ct., 1834-1849, and had recently come to reside in the vicinity of Hartford. He is now one of the chief leaders of the Catholic Apostolic Church.

<sup>4</sup> This was the time of Jenny Lind's visit to our country, when she went from city to city, captivating all hearts with her sweet songs and simple manners.

<sup>5</sup> He means that he could not go out because he kept Saturday evening. That was the way he had been brought up in his Norfolk home, and that was then the general custom throughout the country towns of Connecticut. But in the cities Saturday night was giving place to Sunday night.

<sup>6</sup> These extensive changes were completed in 1852, at an expense of between ten and eleven thousand dollars, including the removal of the old square pews, and the substitution of slips.

<sup>7</sup> Prof. Thomas Anthony Thacher, LL. D., was born in Hartford, Ct., Jan. 11, 1815, graduated at Yale, 1835, and from Yale Theological School, 1840, was tutor at Yale, 1838-1842, and Latin Professor, 1842-1886, when he died. He was a man of admirable spirit and character, and a most valuable officer of the college. Few men connected with the Faculty have exerted a finer influence, social and religious, than he.

mercy, which I had supposed to be lost. I am now liable to lose. The Lord help me.<sup>1</sup>

10. Wrote. Waited on company to weariness. Had respected travellers from Philadelphia. We had a very hard thunder-shower. Much fatigued.

11. Wrote to Little & Brown, Boston, booksellers, and sent them a check for \$40.00. Had my likeness taken by several daguerreotypers; by Bartlett well done. Heard from Miss Wolcott.

12. Wrote to Mr. John Collins,<sup>2</sup> Wapping. Did errands. Fatigued by company. Walked considerably. Paid for paper, etc., \$1.12. Read. Cool.

13. I think I took some cold this forenoon; attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clark preached very well. The Centre have to meet at their conference room. Read Bible. Paid for work, \$2.00.

14. Am quite feeble. Had company from great distances. My folio Shakespeare is said by high authority to be truly the first edition of his works.<sup>3</sup> Walked some distance.

15. Am able to perform but very little labor. Received valuable articles for our society from the Smithsonian Institution.<sup>4</sup>

16. Worked some at my library. Rode in the stage to South Windsor. Very dusty. At night we had a hard thunder-shower. Wrote for Ursula. Quite warm.

17. Returned to Hartford. People are reaping. Oppressive heat. Mercury above 90°. Wrote to my cousin J. R. Lawrence, Syracuse, New York. Oppressed with the heat.

18. Made a change in my dress. Much occupied with company. Still very warm. Read. The nearness of my boarding-house a great favor. Mr. Miller quite unwell from his Western fever of last year.

19. The season is very debilitating. Have visitors from distant States. Wrote. Have a tremor.

20. Last night we had a hard rain. Attended meeting at the Fourth. Mr. Patton and Dr. Bushnell exchanged. Read much in the Bible.

21. Prayed at the opening of the Supreme Court of Errors. Something cooler. Wrote. Received of the sheriff, \$6.66, for chaplain services for the Legislature.

22. Much occupied with visitors. Wrote to my cousin, Capt. Le Baron, of Mattapoisett. I think my strength gradually increases.

23. Opened the court. Paid the last claim, I hope, from Mr. Milton, \$2.10. Sat some time in the court. Very warm. Mercury at 90°. Quite feeble.

24. Heard from a Mr. Hungerford<sup>5</sup> a part of a long argument before the

<sup>1</sup> Old age has its compensations, in that it has the joy of finding that many things supposed to be lost are not lost.

<sup>2</sup> Col. John Collins, of Wapping (South Windsor), died Nov. 5, 1857, aged seventy-eight years.

<sup>3</sup> There is such obscurity about the de-

tails of Shakespeare's life, that one cannot be very positive on a point like this.

<sup>4</sup> The Smithsonian Institution was established in Washington, D.C., in 1846, by a legacy of more than £100,000 from James Smithson, of England.

<sup>5</sup> William Hungerford was not favored

court. Received a new catalogue from Cambridge University. Wrote. Can do but little labor. Paid children for work, .50.

25. Sat some time in the court, and heard an able argument from Mr. Toucey.<sup>1</sup> Another hot day. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Worked some at books.

26. Very little abatement of the heat. Attended on company. Have much debility. Received a letter from Mr. William Sill, Ohio. Received a very valuable letter from my kinsman, James R. Lawrence, of Syracuse.

27. In the morning my cousin Grove Lawrence,<sup>2</sup> with his daughter and others, going to the sea-side, came here. Traveling for health. Attended Dr. Hawes's meeting with my cousin in the chapel, while the church is repairing. Afternoon attended the North Church with cousin Grove, an ex-general and judge. Mr. Clark, from Worcester, preached at the North Church a neat, learned, Arminian sermon. Spent some of the day with friends at the hotel.

28. Had a pleasant view of the eclipse of the sun in the morning.<sup>3</sup> We have frequent showers. Employed with my valuable relatives. Toward evening they went away for the sea-shore.

29. Received a letter from Dr. Jenks,<sup>4</sup> of Boston. Wrote. A time for public excitement, Commencements, etc. Afternoon took the cars and rode to New Haven. Kindly received at Mr. Bishop's. At evening heard the *Concio* by Mr. Atwater,<sup>5</sup> of Fairfield; a very able sermon, but nearly two hours in length. Much fatigued.

30. Had a very poor night. Was up repeatedly. Got a little better, and went up to college and attended the meeting of the alumni. Was able to speak but little. Not able to attend any other services. Afternoon took the cars and came home. Was better than I expected. Did a little in my room.

31. Have a great deal of company. Attended the exercises of the Trinity College Commencement. Performances good. In that church it is difficult to be audible. I had a bad fall on the stage,<sup>6</sup> a severe jar. Was carried

with the graces of oratory, nor was he a handsome man, as may be seen by his picture in the *Hartford County History*, Vol. I, p. 130. But he was called the most learned lawyer in Connecticut, and was a rough but powerful pleader. He was born in East Haddam, Ct., graduated at Yale College, 1809, studied law with Matthew Griswold, LL. D., and his son, Roger Griswold, LL. D., of Lyme, Ct. He settled in Hartford in 1830, and remained there till his death, 1873.

<sup>1</sup> Isaac Toucey, LL. D., Ex-Governor of Connecticut, filled many high offices, State and national.

<sup>2</sup> Again Dr. Robbins uses the word *cousin* for *nephew*. Strictly speaking, Grove Lawrence was neither the one or the other.

<sup>3</sup> This was a total eclipse of the sun in some parts of the earth, but not here. It began seven o'clock and forty-four minutes,

on the morning of July 28, and ended at nine o'clock and thirty-one minutes.

<sup>4</sup> William Jenks, D. D., LL. D., author of the *Comprehensive Commentary*, born in Newton, Mass., 1778, graduated at Harvard College, 1797, died in Boston, 1866. He was pastor in Bath, Me., 1805-1823, pastor for many years in Boston, and a ripe and polished scholar.

<sup>5</sup> Lyman Hotchkiss Atwater, D. D., LL. D., born in Hamden, Ct., 1813, graduated at Yale, 1831, pastor at Fairfield, Ct., 1835-1854, then made Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy in Princeton College, N. J., and afterwards of Logic and Moral and Political Science. He was an able and conservative divine. He died in office in 1883.

<sup>6</sup> At the church where he was attending the Commencement exercises of Trinity College.

home and rested favorably. Judge Woodbury<sup>1</sup> has delivered an address here recently.

## AUGUST.

1. Am quite feeble. My headache from my fall yesterday is abated. Much occupied with company. Many travellers on journeys. Quite cool. The hot season seems to be past. Get little time to write.

2. The famous statue of the Greek Slave was brought to this building below. Cold. Attended the laying of the corner-stone of the new church<sup>2</sup> by Dr. Hawes; finely done. A prospect of a splendid building. Am quite weak.

3. Wrote. Have been in arrear with my diary. Read Bible. Attended Dr. Hawes's meeting. Afternoon Mr. Brace preached.<sup>3</sup> At evening had a good concert of prayer.

4. My kinsman, Chandler Robbins,<sup>4</sup> an Episcopal minister at Springfield, Ill., made me a pleasant visit. He appears to be a useful man, and a good minister. Received three volumes of President Adams's *Life and Works*, \$3.25 per volume. Did errands. Paid \$4.50<sup>5</sup> for a hat. Had much company. Quite tired.

5. Wrote. The exhibition of the statue<sup>6</sup> here brings many visitors. At evening we had a meeting of our society here. Attended to company.

6. Attended to company. Read. Afternoon rode to South Windsor. Very warm and dusty. Stage heavily loaded. Mrs. Wolcott well for her.

7. Rode to the Hill and attended the public services of the Theological Seminary. Public performances very good. A good number of people. They make much effort to maintain divine truth.

8. Rode to Hartford. Quite feeble. Had company. Very warm. Can study but little.

9. Very warm and sultry. Wrote. Had friends here from South Windsor. Toward evening we had a violent, sudden thunder-shower.

10. Attended meeting at the Centre. Mr. Harding,<sup>7</sup> of Longmeadow, preached on exchange with Dr. Hawes. Afternoon preached for Mr. Mur-

<sup>1</sup> Judge Levi Woodbury, of Portsmouth, N. H., born in Francestown, 1789, and graduated at Dartmouth College, 1809. He was a very prominent Democratic politician, and held many high offices. He died in Portsmouth, N. H., September, 1851, a little more than a month after giving this address.

<sup>2</sup> It was not a new church building, but the old one, built in 1807, enlarged and remodeled. Ordinarily, in such cases, there would have been no laying of a corner-stone.

<sup>3</sup> Jonathan Brace, D. D., a native of Hartford, but at that time pastor at New Milford, Ct., afterwards editor of *Religious Herald*.

<sup>4</sup> This Chandler Robbins was son, as

before stated, of Rev. Isaac Robbins, Methodist minister, son of Chandler Robbins, D. D., of Plymouth, Mass.

<sup>5</sup> In his earlier life Dr. Robbins sometimes paid ten dollars for a Danbury hat.

<sup>6</sup> Hiram Powers's statue of the Greek Slave.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. John W. Harding was settled in Longmeadow, Jan. 1, 1850, and still continues (1886) his pastorate there. He was born in Waltham, Mass. (where his father, Rev. Sewall Harding, was then pastor), Oct. 12, 1821, graduated at Yale College in 1845, and at Andover Seminary in 1848. He has written much for the *Springfield Republican*.

dock<sup>1</sup> at the South Baptist Church on Rev. xxii: 11. It is some months since I preached. Not much fatigued. I close another year of my days by God's blessing.

11. God in his great mercy has added another year to the length of my days. I am now seventy-four years old. Great is my deficiency, and infinite my transgression. I give my life and soul to God for time and eternity.

12. Quite cool for the season. Am much unwell. Wrote. Occupied with company. Am not able to go on a journey as I expected.

13. Am some better than I expected. Took the cars and rode to Bristol. In a stage I rode to Plymouth. Was carried in a wagon to Litchfield.<sup>2</sup> Received with great hospitality and kindness by many friends. Kept at Mrs. Marsh's. Family friends are here. The great centennial celebration of the organization. A great collection of the natives of the county. Public performances have been heard today; very acceptable.<sup>3</sup> A number of tents are spread. See very many acquaintance. My health holds well.

14. Am treated with great attention. My father's portrait and many others are here. Had a great meeting of sermon, singing, and speaking, with a vast concourse of people. All circumstances very favorable.<sup>4</sup> Left Litchfield and rode in an open wagon with sister Battell and cousin Robbins, and several others, mostly in the evening, to Norfolk.<sup>5</sup> A cold evening. A joyful and prosperous event. The Lord be praised.

15. In great mercy I took no cold last evening. Walked out. This town is much increasing. Walked out and visited the large woolen manufactory, and other works. They told me there were about one hundred and fifty operatives, all told. The town exhibits indications of thrift and improvement.

16. Mr. Eldridge<sup>6</sup> is a man of much taste and industry, as well as learning. My sister<sup>7</sup> retains her energy remarkably. Not much time to write. Troubled about shaving.<sup>8</sup> I think my health improves.

17. Rainy all day. Mr. Whittlesey,<sup>9</sup> of North Canaan, preached; exchanged with Mr. Eldridge. A thin meeting. Read. Professor Larned and Irene, our cousins, are here.

18. Could not get away till towards evening. Took the stage and went to Winsted. Many effects of the late rain here. Some crops are much injured. Much company here. Many boarders at the tavern.

19. Rode from Winsted to Hartford. Have had a prosperous journey. There have been several funerals here in my absence. My room not in a bad state.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. J. N. Murdock, pastor of the South Baptist Church, Hartford, 1849-1857.

<sup>2</sup> This was the zigzag route out to Litchfield County.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins does not mention Dr. Bushnell's famous oration, *The Age of Homespun*, which was really the great thing of that celebration.

<sup>4</sup> A ride of nearly twenty miles. Dr. Rob-

bins, with all his infirmities, could still bear considerable hardship. The occasion was of such interest Dr. Robbins could not lose it.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. Joseph Eldridge, D. D., pastor at Norfolk, 1832-1875, when he died.

<sup>6</sup> Mrs. Joseph Battell.

<sup>7</sup> His hand began to tremble.

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Elisha Whittlesey, pastor at North Canaan, 1851-1853.

20. Received a letter from Miss Wolcott, and one from Mr. Park, president of Andover,<sup>1</sup> and one from Mr. John Collins, of Wapping, and one from Mr. Charles Whittlesey, of Cleveland, Ohio. Quite cool for the season. Had much company.

21. I think I have improved in health by my late journey. Can do but little more than wait on company. Read.

22. Today is my sister's birthday. Get but little time to write. My room is occupied early and late. Worked on my books. Still cool.

23. Paid \$1.00 for a book, and gave it away. Wrote. Have found it difficult lately to write my diary.

24. Attended meeting at the South Church. Mr. Stone,<sup>2</sup> of New Britain, preached well. At evening heard an interesting discourse from Mr. Goodell,<sup>3</sup> long a missionary at Constantinople. Quite cool. Read Bible.

25. Very busily occupied with company. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. We have an account of our people making war upon the Island of Cuba.<sup>4</sup> Received a letter from Miss Wolcott. At evening walked out.

26. Have been backward with my diary. Quite cool. Have some donations to my room. Not much time to read. Did errands.

27. Walked considerably. Useful for me. Quite cold. A little frost. The Cuban news is alarming. Bad characters go from our country. Worked on my room sweeping and brushing. Had a present of a fine new picture, French, from New York.

28. Wrote to Mr. Charles Whittlesey, of Cleveland, Ohio. Can do but little beside my ordinary round. Fruits are not good with this cold season.

29. Occupied with company. A large public meeting here relative to the deaf and dumb. Get much fatigued.

30. Had many visitors from various parts of the land. Wrote. Afternoon took the stage and rode to South Windsor. The desolation produced by the tempest in this place and vicinity was very great, much beyond my expectation, in woodland, shade-trees, buildings, and crops. An immense force of wind from the west.<sup>5</sup> Roads very dusty. Pretty feeble.

<sup>1</sup> Prof. Edwards Amasa Park, D. D., born in Providence, R. I., Dec. 29, 1808, graduated at Brown University, 1826, pastor of First Church, Braintree, Mass., 1831-1834, Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy and Hebrew Literature in Amherst College, 1834-1836, Professor of Sacred Rhetoric in Andover Seminary, 1836-1847, Professor of Christian Theology, 1847-1881. Professor *emeritus* since 1881. He was President of Andover in the sense that his professorship of Christian Theology was the leading one in the institution.

<sup>2</sup> This Rev. Mr. Stone was not a settled minister in New Britain, but some one supplying or residing there.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. William Goodell, D.D., born in Templeton, Mass., 1792, graduated at Dartmouth College, 1817, and at Andover Seminary, 1820, a missionary in Turkey, 1822-1865, died in Philadelphia, Feb. 18, 1867.

<sup>4</sup> The following is the brief account of the result of this second expedition against Cuba: "Failure of the second expedition against Cuba by Lopez and his followers; they are all defeated and taken; fifty-one are shot by the Cuban authorities; Lopez is garroted, and the rest are sent prisoners to Spain, where, after some negotiations, they were mercifully set at liberty."

<sup>5</sup> Destructive winds, thunder-gusts, hailstorms, etc., are more common in the Con-



31. Dr. Hooker preached very well. A good congregation. A fine maple shade-tree, that I set here many years ago, is broken off at the middle of the body. At meeting we had a contribution for Foreign Missions. They have a third meeting here before evening.

## SEPTEMBER.

1. Have had a pleasant visit at my old home. Came to Hartford by stage. My nephew, Francis Robbins,<sup>1</sup> now commenced Sophomore at Williams College. A very promising young man; called on me. I pray that he may add another faithful minister to our family stock. Occupied with company. A little unwell.

2. Wrote. Rainy. Visited the Whittleseys at Mr. Brown's. At evening we had a good meeting of our society.

3. My cousin Francis Robbins left here for Enfield and Williamstown. I gave him \$20.00 for his sister Robinson,<sup>2</sup> in payment for father's old Henry's Bible and *Commentary*, five folios. Quite cold.

4. Received an extra dividend of \$15.00 from Hartford Bank. Purchased six valuable plated forks for \$6.00,<sup>3</sup> and sent them to Miss Wolcott. Was kept late at my room. Wrote.

5. Purchased Murdock's *History of the Early Period of Christianity*,<sup>4</sup> two volumes, at \$4.00. Wrote.

6. Received of Mr. Hosmer \$100.00 on salary, due at the close of the month. A very fine collection of fruits and flowers at the Natural History Rooms.

7. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clark has got home and preached. We had the sacrament. I assisted. At evening attended Mr. Turnbull's<sup>5</sup> meeting on different races of men. Had a contribution.

8. Wrote. Occupied with company. Quite warm. Worked at my room.

9. In the forenoon quite unwell. Fearful of becoming sick. Afternoon rode with Deacon Allen in a carriage to Mrs. Haskell's at Windsor Locks. The ravages of the late tornado are visible and great. The heat very severe, and dusty riding. People gathering tobacco. Am some better for my ride.

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necticut Valley than among the hill towns of Connecticut.

<sup>1</sup> Francis Le Baron Robbins was a son of Samuel Robbins, of Camillus, N. Y. He was named from his uncle at Enfield. He was graduated in course at Williams College in 1854, became an able New School Presbyterian minister, received the degree of D. D. from Union College in 1878, now (1886) pastor of the large Beacon Church, Philadelphia.

<sup>2</sup> Widow of Rev. William W. Robinson.

<sup>3</sup> That would be a high price for plated forks now.

<sup>4</sup> James Murdock's *Commentaries on the Affairs of the Christians Before the Time of Con-*

*stantine the Great*, two volumes, New York, 1852. Dr. Murdock was born in Westbrook, Ct., 1776, graduated at Yale, 1797, died in Columbus, Miss., 1856. He was pastor at Princeton, Mass., 1802-1815, then was Professor of Languages in University of Vermont, from 1819 to 1828 was Professor at Andover, and in 1829 removed to New Haven. He was an eminent scholar, and able author, and, in his departments, had few superiors.

<sup>5</sup> Robert Turnbull, D. D., 1845-1869, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Hartford. An able preacher and writer. He died in 1877.

10. Had a good night. Was carried in the morning to Enfield. My sister Robbins and Mr. Brigham are out of town. I am called for a wedding. Married Rev. William B. Bond, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., to Miss Eudora R. Parsons, of Enfield. A wedding not numerous, but very pleasant. Afternoon was brought home. Heat unabated, the mercury at 92°. Received from Mr. Bond, \$10.00.

11. The heat is very oppressive. I can do but little. Mr. Gallaudet<sup>1</sup> is dead. Few men have done more good in this town than he.

12. The heat continues. Afternoon attended the funeral of Mr. Gallaudet. A great collection of people. He is held in great respect.

13. A very hot week. The mercury rose to 96° and 98°. Towards evening we had a pretty hard thunder-shower. Wrote. Am much debilitated.

14. A great change in the weather; cool. Attended Mr. Clarke's meeting. Towards evening I had a neighborhood meeting by request. Did not go out at evening.

15. Quite cool; some frost. Had<sup>2</sup> many visitors. Fruit quite plenty, especially peaches. Wrote. I do but little.

16. A deal of frost. Made a fire in my room. My good kinsman, John Le Baron, of Mattapoisett, came here with his niece, Miss Mayhew.<sup>3</sup> Rode with them, and visited the Retreat, etc. They were with us in the evening.

17. My cousin left here for his return home. He is a little unwell like many others. Wrote. Occupied with company. The cold, chilly weather is continued. Wrote to the postmaster in Baltimore.

18. Read. Am quite feeble. Was left by the stage. Wrote. My company abates some. A great parade in Boston in honor of the President.<sup>4</sup>

19. Mr. Adam and wife, of Canaan, made me a good visit. My illness continues, and gradually increases. Took the stage and rode to South Windsor.<sup>5</sup> We have had a cool week, steady frosts. Vegetation checked.

20. Had a sick night. Am quite feeble. Walked out. Lieutenant Green<sup>6</sup> is building a large, elegant cottage.

21. Am better of my illness, through divine mercy. I am feeble, and conclude not to go to meeting. Wrote. Read the Bible. Mrs. Wolcott is quite feeble. On the night of the 18th there was a large fire near the Atheneum.<sup>6</sup> A very great parade in Boston in honor of the President.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, LL.D. He was the pioneer in this country in the instruction of the deaf and dumb. The Asylum at Hartford was the first school of the kind in this country. Mr. Gallaudet was born in Philadelphia, 1787, graduated at Yale, 1805, and died at Hartford, Sept. 9, 1851.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Mayhew (or Mayo) married Lucy Le Baron, daughter of Capt. William Le Baron. We suppose this Miss Mayhew in some way connected with this marriage.

<sup>3</sup> By the death of President Zachary Taylor, July 9, 1850, Hon. Millard Fillmore, Vice-President, was made President. He it was that received the honors of the great parade in Boston in September, 1851.

<sup>4</sup> When Dr. Robbins felt especially ill, and needed nursing, he turned like a child to his old home in South Windsor.

<sup>5</sup> The name Green, though in general common, was not one of the early and ancestral names of Windsor or East Windsor.

<sup>6</sup> The Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford.

22. Am better of my late complaints. Have to keep fire. Read. In the morning walked out. Have had a pleasant visit. Took the stage and came home. There is a great failure at Enfield; the great carpet manufactory.<sup>1</sup> Great pecuniary losses will result.

23. Cold and rainy. Wrote to Dr. Joseph Perkins,<sup>2</sup> of Baltimore, and to Mr. Lot Newell,<sup>3</sup> of Bristol. The nights are cold. Have visitors from a distance.

24. Am not able to perform much labor. Read Bible. Traded, .75.

25. Paid Mrs. Wright, \$50.00 on my boarding bill. Wrote to Miss Wolcott, East Windsor.

26. Wrote. My health improves, through divine mercy. Was out at tea; a pleasant visit. Occupied with company.

27. I have many visitors from New York. Worked at my books. The weather becomes more mild. The late celebration of railroads at Boston was a very great work.<sup>4</sup> Wrote to President Carnahan,<sup>5</sup> of Princeton College. Read the Bible.

28. Wet. Attended meeting in the lecture-room. Dr. Hawes preached solemn and tender. Read in my room.

29. Much occupied with company. Wrote. Read Hildreth's<sup>6</sup> *History of the United States*. At evening there was a very splendid aurora borealis.

30. Paid my tailor, Mr. Stockbridge, \$16.67, and balanced his account. Gave for missions, \$4.00. Received a letter from my cousin J. R. Lawrence, Syracuse, and one from Nathan C. Bacon, of Walpole, Mass. Called on Gen. Johnson in the evening; in a low, feeble state.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Attended the funeral of the good minister, Mr. Hempsted;<sup>7</sup> a very

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Orrin Thompson, who had hitherto been so successful in business, by a series of disasters in the various companies with which he was connected, failed in 1851.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Perkins, M. D., was a graduate of Middlebury College in 1821.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Lot Newell was a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1810. He died in 1864.

<sup>4</sup> This Railroad Jubilee celebrated the completion of great lines connecting Boston with the West and with Canada. J. Prescott Bigelow was then Mayor of Boston, and the occasion was a memorable one, covering September 17, 18, and 19, and calling together a great crowd of people.

<sup>5</sup> James Carnahan, D. D., LL. D., a native of Pennsylvania, born 1775, graduated at College of New Jersey, 1800, President of the college, 1823-1854. He died in Newark,

N. J., 1859. He was also one of the Trustees of Princeton Theological Seminary.

<sup>6</sup> Richard Hildreth was born in Deerfield, Mass., 1807, and graduated at Harvard College, 1826. He was the son of Hosea Hildreth, a graduate of Harvard, 1805, who died in 1835, while pastor of the Unitarian Church in Sterling, Mass. Richard Hildreth, the son, was distinguished as a historical scholar and writer, and his *History of the United States*, in six volumes, was published in New York, 1849-1856. He died in 1865.

<sup>7</sup> Rev. John A. Hempsted, before noticed, was either a native of Hartford, or had lived there in his early life. He was graduated at Yale College in 1821, and though he had never had a long settlement over any one church in Connecticut, seems to have made himself beloved as a minister.

useful man. Received donations to our collections. At evening there was interesting young company at Mrs. Wright's.<sup>1</sup>

2. Wrote. Am pretty feeble. Walked out. Afternoon took the stage and rode to South Windsor.

3. Paid Dr. Wood's<sup>2</sup> medical bill for my sickness in May. Paid for horse hire, etc., \$2.00. Ursula came down with me as I came home. Bought and gave to her nine table forks. Walked out. Am thinking for a chaplain for the Retreat. The forks have a good silver plate.<sup>3</sup> Read Hildreth in my own room in the evening.

4. Had a good many visitors. Wrote. Have to keep a fire most of the time.

5. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clarke preached very well. Attended at evening Dr. Hawes's monthly concert. Read the Bible, and finished once more the sacred volume in course. I have been longer than at preceding times. The late meeting of the Foreign Missionary Board<sup>4</sup> has excited great attention.

6. People are much engaged preparing for the fair. Warmer than it has been. Attended on visitors.

7. Miss Wolcott was down here. Mrs. Ripley, from New Hampshire (Florilla Mills), called in here. Wrote. Get fatigued easily. At evening we had one of our regular meetings; after which went into Mr. Hall's lecture.

8. We have pretty warm days. People are gathering for the fair in great numbers. Wrote to Little & Brown, of Boston, and sent them a bill of \$10.00. Wrote to my old classmate Davis,<sup>5</sup> of Paris, N. Y. The stopping payment of Mr. Imlay<sup>6</sup> excites great surprise. Paid Mr. Hubbard for books, \$8.00.

9. A very great number of people in town for the fair, and other objects. I think I have never had so many people here in one day. Some of the time over fifty.<sup>7</sup> Very much fatigued.

10. Afternoon went to the exhibition of the fair. It is rich in domestic productions and manufactures. A great collection of people. Paid \$1.25 for

<sup>1</sup> The lady with whom he now boarded.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. William Wood, of East Windsor Hill.

<sup>3</sup> These were also silver plated. The six before given cost a dollar each, but the price of these is not given.

<sup>4</sup> This meeting was held in Portland, Me., beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 9, and closing Friday, Sept. 12. It was an important meeting, and is remembered also for the extraordinary heat then prevailing. The thermometer was up in its highest summer ranges through the whole progress of the meeting. The change from this came suddenly Saturday afternoon, Sept. 13, and that night there were hard frosts over large portions of New England. Turning back to Sept. 13 in the

diary, Dr. Robbins records: "A very hot week. The mercury rose to 96° and 98°." Sunday morning, Sept. 14, he writes: "A great change in the weather, cool."

<sup>5</sup> Henry Davis, D. D.

<sup>6</sup> William H. Imlay had been regarded for many years as one of the wealthiest men in Hartford, but in 1851 he was obliged to suspend payment; but he rallied from this failure, or partial failure, and became again a large and successful business man.

<sup>7</sup> This continued tide of visitors to the Athenaeum was due in large measure to Dr. Robbins and his library, but also to the pictures, antiquarian relics, and other curiosities gathered there. This line of visitors still continues, but in diminished numbers.

old copper coins. Wrote. Very fine weather for the public occasion. Am feeble.

11. Last evening attended on another lecture of Mr. Lord.<sup>1</sup> Ably done. Received a good letter from Messrs. Little & Brown, Boston. My account with them is balanced. Mr. T. Day<sup>2</sup> was in here; he has got a letter from Boston wishing to have my Mayflower chest carried there to be exhibited on a public occasion.

12. Began to read my Bible again in course. I think it not likely that I shall finish it. As far as I do go I hope to profit by it. Attended Mr. Hawes's meeting, and afternoon a stranger. Had a contribution. Quite warm. Sister Battell went off for home. She came on Saturday. Little time with me. I am very feeble. We had a very refreshing rain. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

13. I believe I got overdone with labor. At evening was quite unwell. Still wet.

14. Had a poor night, but am better than yesterday. Attended at the funeral of the aged Mrs. Seymour,<sup>3</sup> mother of the Governor. Read the Bible. Wrote. Attended on visitors.

15. Afternoon cleaning and brushing my room. Am quite feeble for labor. Mr. Hosmer paid me \$100.00, on salary, which became due last September. I make many mistakes in writing. At evening Mrs. Wright had a large and elegant party.

16. Quite cold. We need a steady fire. At evening attended Dr. Hawes's weekly lecture. Read Bible. Have to sleep a good deal.

17. Walked out and did errands. At evening attended the interesting lecture of Mr. Lord. Quite cold. My chamber needs a fire.

18. We had a cold night. Waited on visitors. Worked some at my library. I can do but little. Had a new hat brought in.

19. Wet and rainy. Mr. Smith preached. Afternoon Dr. Hawes. That congregation holds out well in their unsettled state.<sup>4</sup> Read Bible.

20. Am feeble. Occupied with visitors. Conversed with Mr. Goodwin about chaplain for the Retreat. Have to sleep a good deal.

21. Wrote to the gentleman at Boston, Mr. Henry C. Brooks,<sup>5</sup> about my journey there relative to the Mayflower chest. Walked out.

22. Last night we had a hard and useful rain. Walked out and did errands. Traded for sundries, .83. Read Bible.

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. John Lord, LL. D., before noticed, whose life-work has been historical lecturing. He was graduated at Dartmouth in 1833, and is still living.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Thomas Day, LL. D., Connecticut Secretary of State, 1810-1835, son of Rev. Jeremiah Day, of New Preston, Ct., and brother of Pres. Jeremiah Day, D. D., LL. D., President of Yale College.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Henry Seymour, wife of Major Henry Seymour, a broker in Hartford.

<sup>4</sup> The congregation was worshipping in the lecture-room while the house was undergoing its reconstruction.

<sup>5</sup> This Mr. Henry C. Brooks had been writing, as will afterwards more clearly appear, in behalf of the Cape Cod Association. He was of the firm of Crowell, Brooks & Co.

23. Walked out. I need exercise. Wrote. Afternoon took the stage and rode to Mrs. Wolcott's. Frances Haskell<sup>1</sup> is sick. Wet.

24. Returned home. The crops are generally light, particularly tobacco.

25. Paid for a book, "Great Battles," \$1.00; valuable.<sup>2</sup> Occupied with visitors. Can hardly get time to write diary. Read Bible.

26. At the South Church, Mr. Brigham,<sup>3</sup> of Enfield, a good preacher. Afternoon Dr. Bacon.<sup>4</sup> Wet. Went in to see Mr. Brown, hurt at the railroad.

27. Worked at my room. Very cold. Some snow. Read my "Great Battles." Visited Mr. Goodrich.

28. Wrote. At evening came to my room and wrote to Miss Wolcott. Had many visitors. Walked and did errands.

29. Attended the Episcopal ordination of President Williams.<sup>5</sup> A great collection of clergymen in their scarfs. The ceremonies very numerous and long. The collection of people not very great. Paid my annual taxes, \$12.44, less than in years past. At evening attended a splendid singing exhibition by foreigners. The evening wet. Much fatigued.

30. We had a very hard rain through the day. Had my chamber changed at my boarding-house, and now have a very good one. Wrote. Read "The Great Battles."

31. Wrote again to Miss Wolcott, and again am disappointed in sending my bundle. Am pretty feeble. Read. At evening attended, on invitation, on a splendid public singing by foreigners, mostly in foreign language. Was out late.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Wrote. Attended to my books. Mr. Everest,<sup>6</sup> teacher at Hamden, called here with his large school. Read.

2. A rainy day. Much water has fallen. At evening had the monthly concert. Read Bible.

3. Occupied with visitors. At evening walked out. Much to do in my room, sweeping and brushing. Read "Great Battles." Waterloo probably the most eventful and greatest of the whole.

4. Wrote. Received a very good letter from Miss Wolcott, with a large bundle. Quite cold. Occupied with company. At evening we had a meeting of our society.

5. We had a cold night. Paid for a traveling bag, \$2.00; the first I have ever had. Have visitors from a distance. At evening read Bible, and wrote in my own chamber.

6. Much fatigued in changing clothes, etc. Have a full fire. At evening walked out.

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Harris Haskell, of Windsor Locks.

<sup>2</sup> Prof. Creasy's *Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World*.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Charles A. G. Brigham.

<sup>4</sup> Leonard Bacon, D. D., of New Haven.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. John Williams, D. D., at that time

President of Trinity College, was consecrated on this 29th day of October, 1851, Bishop of Connecticut.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Charles W. Everest, writer in prose and verse, was for many years of the Episcopal Rectory School in Hamden, Ct.

7. Quite cold. Wrote. We have a new letter from Mr. Brooks,<sup>1</sup> of Boston, sent to Mr. Day. Am feeble for labor. At evening attended a splendid panorama exhibition.

8. Paid Mr. Hunt a bill for books, \$8.71. Two of them a Bible, \$3.00; *Concordance*, \$2.75; lately sent to Miss Wolcott. Preparing for my expected journey. Wrote. Balanced with Hunt. Had some new clothes; well made.

9. Put on full winter dress. Much exposed to a cold at Dr. Hawes's morning service. Did not go out in afternoon. Wrote. Read a good deal in Exodus in course.

10. Something fatigued in fitting for my journey. Took an early dinner at Mr. Day's, and went to the cars. We went on and arrived at Boston without much fatigue in the evening. Put up at the Revere House.<sup>2</sup> Very amply and kindly accommodated. Mr. and Mrs. Day went to their daughter's.<sup>3</sup>

11. Gentlemen of the Cape Cod Society<sup>4</sup> called on me. Much pleased with the sight of the Brewster Mayflower chest,<sup>5</sup> which I carried with me. Quite cold. Went into the bookstore of Little & Brown. Mr. Hurlburt, of Winchester, is here, and very attentive to me. In the evening attended and dined with the Cape Cod Society, a very numerous company, and exhibited the chest; very much admired. Got home late. There was an oration and much speaking.

12. Very cold; ice in the streets. Went into the Supreme Court. Judge Curtis<sup>6</sup> appeared very well. Called on Mr. Amos Lawrence.<sup>7</sup> Kindly treated. He is a great friend of Williams College.

13. The cold continues. Mr. Lawrence carried me about to various objects. The custom-house is a grand establishment. Mr. Lawrence gave me several valuable articles. Mr. Day has received a letter from home, and we must go today. We left Boston, Mr. and Mrs. Day and the chest, after three o'clock, and got home between eight and nine in the evening. All my

<sup>1</sup> Henry C. Brooks, before noticed.

<sup>2</sup> The Revere House was then a comparatively new hotel.

<sup>3</sup> The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Day here mentioned was Hariette Day, the wife of John Phelps Putnam, Esq., afterwards Judge of the Superior Court. They were married Sept. 21, 1842. He and his wife were both natives of Hartford. He was graduated at Yale in the class of 1837, and died at his house on Commonwealth Avenue in 1882. His widow is still living in Boston.

<sup>4</sup> The Cape Cod Association in Boston is composed of people who originated on the Cape. Boston has long had a great number of valuable citizens who came from that quarter of the State.

<sup>5</sup> The chest which had belonged to Elder William Brewster of blessed memory.

<sup>6</sup> Benjamin Robbins Curtis, LL. D., born in Watertown, Mass., 1809, graduated at Harvard College, 1829, an eminent lawyer who had just been appointed one of the judges of the United States Supreme Court. He held this position from September, 1851, to the fall of 1857, when he resigned and returned to the common practice of law. He died in 1874.

<sup>7</sup> Amos Lawrence, the father of Amos A. Lawrence, who has just died, was, as the diary states, a great friend to Williams College, but his charities were broad and almost boundless. Amos A. Lawrence had much of his father's spirit and habit.

expenses have been paid.<sup>1</sup> I have been treated with great attention in my journey, and been much prospered. Not much fatigued.

14. I believe I am better for my journey. The cold abates. Much occupied with company. Have little time to write or read.

15. Did errands. Rainy. Attended to visitors. Have much to do in my chamber. Read Bible.

16. Attended meeting at the Centre. They have renewed the church, with great changes, at the expense of about twelve thousand dollars. In some respects there is an improvement. Dr. Hawes spoke well in the evening.

17. Wrote. We had a very hard rain. Am not able to do much labor. My library needs much new arrangement.

18. Occupied with company. Afternoon rode in the stage to South Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott has improved in health since I last saw her. Ursula has much care and labor. Gave to Ursula, \$5.00. This sum of \$5.00 is to be added to the sum lent. It is rather difficult for me to sleep in a chamber without fire.

19. Rode home in the stage. Weather more mild. Attended on company. Have a good deal from New York. Read "Great Battles."

20. Wrote diary, which has been lately neglected. Have some headache.

21. We had a very hard rain. Wrote to Rev. Gad Newell,<sup>2</sup> Nelson, N. H., an aged minister, and old acquaintance. Read.

22. The streams are getting high. Walked out and did errands. Constantly employed in my room. Read Bible.

23. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clark preached very well. Read. At evening they had quite a company at our house.

24. Found a lost, very valuable pamphlet. Occupied with company.

25. Worked some at my library. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. At evening attended the reading of a public performer of Shakespeare. Quite cold.

26. Have considerable snow on the ground. Had a fall on the ice; not much hurt. Read. Pretty feeble as to any labor. Some sleighs move. A good deal of company.

27. Thanksgiving. Dr. Hawes preached very well. A very pleasant day. Dined at Mr. Miller's. A good deal of company at Mrs. Wright's in the evening.

28. Wrote. Worked at my books. Had a Thanksgiving dinner at our house. Find but little time for reading.

29. Much occupied with company. Have a good deal at the boarding-house. It is getting to be common to pay little attention to the two evenings of the Sabbath.<sup>3</sup> Read.

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<sup>1</sup> The Cape Cod Association doubtless paid all the expenses of this expedition.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Gad Newell was born in Southington, Ct., 1763, graduated at Yale College, 1786, studied theology with Dr. John Smalley, of Berlin (now New Britain, Ct.) He was

ordained in 1794, and died in 1859, at the age of ninety-five, seventy-three years out of college.

<sup>3</sup> That is, as people ceased to keep Saturday evening, they did not take up the keeping of Sunday evening.



30. Attended meeting at Dr. Bushnell's. Mr. ———<sup>1</sup> preached in the afternoon. I walked a distance without difficulty. The cold season seems to be coming on.

DECEMBER.

1. Our winter commences with a cold day. Had another Thanksgiving entertainment.<sup>2</sup>

2. The mercury at about 16°. It seems quite cold for winter. Have a good deal of company. At evening our society had a small and short meeting; after which went and heard a very good lecture from Mr. Silliman.<sup>3</sup> Received a good letter from Miss Wolcott.

3. Exchanged the Bible I had of Mr. Hunt, and paid him \$2.50, the difference, a better one for Ursula. Its cost, \$5.50. Read. The cold continues.

4. Wrote. Received \$100.00 of Mr. Hosmer on my salary, due last September. Gave to Mr. Hosmer<sup>4</sup> \$10.00, as a donation for the Theological Institution of East Windsor. Read "Great Battles." I get fatigued easily.

5. The Hungarian, Kossuth,<sup>5</sup> is arrived at New York. It makes a very great excitement. Worked at my books. Read Bible. No diminution of the cold.

6. Read. Occupied with company. Wrote. It appears that the public entrance of Kossuth at New York is today. Am feeble.

7. Dr. Hawes preached very well. His congregation sit in prayer, and stand in singing.<sup>6</sup> A great change. We had the sacrament. The church were out very full. Read.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins forgot to fill this blank.

<sup>2</sup> Three Thanksgiving dinners in one year.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. Benjamin Silliman, LL. D., who for many years was much employed as a popular lecturer on scientific subjects.

<sup>4</sup> This was James B. Hosmer, who gave more money than any other man to this institution, now located in Hartford, and popularly known as the Hartford Theological Seminary, but whose legal name is The Theological Institute of Connecticut. From 1834, the year of its foundation, it remained at East Windsor Hill till 1865. Mr. Hosmer early founded one of its professorships. He gave \$100,000 to build Hosmer Hall, its present chief building at Hartford, and by his will it received a large legacy after his death.

<sup>5</sup> On the 14th of April, 1849, Hungary declared itself free and independent, and elected Louis Kossuth, Supreme Governor. Austria, which had before included Hungary in its dominion, received the aid of Russia in putting down this uprising. The Hungarian

army, after some early successes, was utterly defeated on the 9th of August, 1849, and Kossuth escaped into Turkey. The Turks would not give him up to Austria and Russia, yet he was held as a kind of prisoner. In September, 1851, Turkey set him at liberty, and France having refused him a safe passage through her territories, an American vessel carried him to England, where he had a grand reception, and a triumphal progress. On the 5th of December, 1851, he reached New York. His reception by the people of the United States was such as to fill the old despots of Eastern Europe with chagrin. Everywhere he went he was attended by sympathizing multitudes who eagerly listened to his wonderful eloquence. He went back to England in 1852, and after some years removed to Italy after Italy was free, and made his abode at Turin, where, not long since, he died.

<sup>6</sup> Until the present century the New England custom was for the congregation to stand during prayer, and the long prayer then was

8. The newspapers are much occupied with the great parade for the noted Hungarian. Have some cold. They have a good deal of company at Mrs. Wright's. Worked at my books.

9. The Hungarian wants assistance from our country in war. I have recently received a good letter from Rev. Gad Newell, of Nelson, N. H., aged eighty-eight. Wet, and the cold moderates. Considerably unwell. The parade was great at New York. At evening attended a splendid exhibition in the panorama of *Pilgrim's Progress*.

10. Received dividend of Hartford Bank. They have divided ten per cent for the year. The dividend was seventeen and one half. Paid Robbins & Winship, my cabinet makers, \$20.00. Gave to Mrs. Wright, for room, fires, etc., donation, \$10.00. Paid for quarter board to Mrs. Wright, \$50.00. At evening we had some company, and very good music. Had a special meeting of our society.

11. Attended, by invitation, at Mr. Day's, on occasion of the marriage of his son.<sup>1</sup> Wrote. A very cold day.

12. Am fatigued with considerable exercise in the cold. I have been in debt lately more than I was aware of. Read. Have some paralysis.

13. Very cold; thought to be the coldest of the season. Dined out. Read Bible.

14. The meeting-house cold. Dr. Hawes preached well. The house rather hard for hearing. Could not read much. The great St. Patrick's Church's\* was dedicated here by the Catholics.

15. Worked at my books. The great Kossuth<sup>3</sup> makes much movement in the country. Wrote. Read Bible.

16. A cold, wintry day. Wrote to Miss Wolcott, and sent her a valuable new Bible; a second one, the former one returned. Price of this, \$5.75.<sup>4</sup> Read.

17. The coldest night we have had this season. The mercury this morn-

*long.* The old meeting-houses, with their seats on hinges, were constructed with reference to this custom.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Day had six daughters, but only one son, which gave occasion to the butt of Hartford humor about "six week days and one Sunday." The daughters, however, instead of being *weak*, were very superior women. His son, Thomas Mills Day, was graduated at Yale in the same class (that of 1837) with his brother-in-law, Judge Putnam, and is still (1886) living.

\* St. Patrick's Church stood at the southwest corner of Church and Ann Streets. It was consumed by fire Jan. 24, 1875, but has been rebuilt upon the same spot.

<sup>3</sup> The writer heard him twice in Boston, and it was remarkable how he had so

soon made himself master of the English language so far as to be really eloquent in it.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins had known Miss Ursula Wolcott ever since he went to board in her father's house in East Windsor, June 11, 1808. She was then a girl of twelve years. During the nineteen years of his stay in that family he grew into the feeling of an elder brother, even if a tenderer sentiment did not find place in his heart. Now that he had become an elderly man, and she between fifty and sixty, the old relationship remained. He had a very kind feeling for her, and she was very useful and helpful in many ways to him. The old Wolcott mansion where she lived, was the place, more than any other, which he called *home*, and where he visited very frequently.

ing was at 4° below. Purchased a thermometer, \$1.12. I think about three years since my last was stolen. Something difficult to bear the cold. Read at my home.

18. The cold very oppressive. Mercury about 3° below. Could do but little. Consume much wood. Wrote. My evenings being often occupied by company at home I am prevented from reading. The ground and streams hard frozen.

19. Paid a merchant, balance, \$12.93. Am frequently kept up too late. Read.

20. The weather abates. Thermometer above 20°. Occupied with company. Read. Use a great deal of fuel.

21. Attended meeting at the South. Did not go out in the evening. Spent most of the day at my boarding-house. Read.

22. Wrote and sent a letter to Mr. Delavan Bloodgood, of Madison University, N. Y. Did errands. The thermometer keeps about 20°. There has been something of a revolution in Paris.<sup>1</sup>

23. Wrote. Worked at my books. Fear that some are lost. I increase in errors and mistakes. I am oppressed with the cold. Read.

24. Am not able to do but little. My room is cold. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Cannot go out much. At evening went into Mr. Coxe's<sup>2</sup> church, and heard from him a very good account of his late travels in Europe.

25. Attended meeting at the North Episcopal Church. United with them at the sacrament. They have a long service and short sermon. Dined at Mr. Nichols's. A good deal of company at Mrs. Wright's.

26. There has been a great fire at Washington. The capitol much injured, and a great part of the library destroyed.<sup>3</sup> No abatement of the cold.

27. Last night the coldest of the week, and probably for many years past. The thermometers indicated from 10° to 20° below zero at sunrise.<sup>4</sup> Mine was 3° below at nine o'clock. Some abatement in the course of the day. Could do but little. My chamber cold with large fire. Read the Bible.

28. The cold abates; gradual rain. The surface of the ground all glare ice. At meeting in the Centre in the morning; afternoon did not go out. Read in my Bible.

29. In divine mercy I have been carried safely through as cold a week as I have experienced, I fully believe. The surface thaws, and the cold abates. Attended to my room and to company. At evening heard an elaborate

<sup>1</sup> What was going on in France during this month of December, 1851, was the *coup d'état* by which the Legislative Assembly was summarily dissolved, and a large number of its members imprisoned, universal suffrage was decreed, and by it (such as it was) Louis Napoleon was elected Prince President. The vote throughout France stood 7,481,231 *for*, and 640,737 *against*, and so Louis Napoleon

took up his residence at the Tuileries, and began to play his game of empire.

<sup>2</sup> Arthur Cleveland Coxe, D. D., rector of Christ Church, Hartford, 1842-1854.

<sup>3</sup> This fire at Washington occurred Dec. 24, by which the Congressional Library lost 35,000 volumes, and valuable works of art.

<sup>4</sup> The thermometer at Hartford seldom falls lower than this.

lecture on Southern Indians by the noted Samuel Houston.<sup>1</sup> Thermometer rose to 40°.

30. The weather abates, and it rains some. Worked at my room. Wrote. Difficult to keep my books in order. Read.

31. A hard rain through the day. Mercury at 40°. Wrote to my sister Battell. Paid Bolles & Roberts, \$4.75, for the frame to Dr. Strong's portrait. Endeavored to close the year in humble intercourse with my Father in Heaven. A prosperous year. All of unmerited mercy. I am permitted to close one more diary; the last or otherwise, as God shall see fit. I have written fifty-six annual diaries, and have them all unbroken.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> A strong, generous, rough man. He was United States Senator from Texas, 1846-1859.

none of them, and except for a very few interruptions by reason of sickness, the line had been wholly unbroken, and had run in daily entries for fifty-six years.

<sup>2</sup> By *unbroken* he means that he had lost



## 1852.

### JANUARY.

1. Spent much of last night awake. I am committed, life and all my interests, to the care of my Father in Heaven. Occupied with much company. Dined at Mr. Redfield's<sup>1</sup> with the Governor and others. A very pleasant day, and much moving abroad. Have little time for myself. Did something at my books.

2. Read. Received a letter from my sister. She has been sick for some time past. Wrote to her in return. Finished my last diary. Read.

3. Made this diary. Mr. Gleason did the most of it. There are many accounts of high water in the rivers, and large and numerous damages.

4. The ground is covered with ice, very glare. I cannot go about without assistance. Did not go out in the afternoon or evening. Read Bible.

5. Worked at my books and papers. Some I fear are lost. Mr. Finney<sup>2</sup> has preached here lately very well. At evening I had a hard fall on the sidewalk.

6. The weather moderates. Wrote the former part of this diary. Professor Stuart<sup>3</sup> is dead. Occupied with company at home. Read. Cold.

7. We have a hard snow. Wrote to Hon. James Savage,<sup>4</sup> of Boston. At evening heard a very fine eulogy on the life and character of the late Mr. Gallaudet.<sup>5</sup> Worked at my books.

8. Received a letter from my sister Battell, written some time since. Paid \$10.00 to Mr. Stearns for Miss Wolcott, and finished her debt. Received \$50.00 from Mr. Hosmer, on salary. At evening attended an annual Sabbath-school of Dr. Hawes's church. A very interesting meeting. Very fine sleighing, and thoroughly improved. Thermometer at 10°.

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<sup>1</sup> Probably Mr. Alfred B. Redfield.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Charles G. Finney, an evangelist of remarkable power. He had recently returned from England, where he had been preaching, 1848-1851.

<sup>3</sup> Prof. Moses Stuart, a unique and remarkable scholar. He was born in Wilton, Ct., March 25, 1780, graduated at Yale College, 1799, studied law and was admitted to the bar in Danbury, Ct., 1802. Studied theology and was ordained pastor of First Church in New Haven, 1806, where he remained till 1810. Professor of Sacred Literature in Andover Seminary, 1810-1848. He was father of Mrs. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, wife of Prof. Austin Phelps, D.D., author of several volumes, and grandfather

of Miss Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, the well-known writer, and of Prof. Moses Stuart Phelps, Ph.D., who was cut off in his early usefulness. Prof. Stuart died at Andover, Mass., Jan. 4, 1852.

<sup>4</sup> Hon. James Savage, LL.D., was the author of the *Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England*—a work of very great value, in four volumes, and always commanding a high price whenever a copy is offered for sale. He was born in Boston, 1784, graduated at Harvard College, 1803, and died in 1873, at the age of eighty-nine.

<sup>5</sup> Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, LL.D., founder of the Hartford Deaf and Dumb Asylum, who died the year before.

9. We had a cold night. Wrote. A great amount of sleighing. At evening walked out. Very difficult walking.

10. Busy in my room. Cannot get much time for intellectual labor. Read.

11. The walking is very difficult. Our snow is increased. Meeting at the Centre. Mr. Kirk,<sup>1</sup> on an exchange, preached very well. Read Bible. Had a fire in my room.

12. Last week I looked over my diaries, fifty-six, and all complete. Received a very good letter from Mr. Savage,<sup>2</sup> of Boston. Did errands. Wrote to my sister Battell. Read Bible.

13. Mercury about 20°. Attended to company. At evening heard a learned lecture from Mr. Atkinson, from Boston. Read.

14. The cold continues with little change. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Read the long and great speech of Gov. Kossuth.

15. The river is again frozen, and people cross upon the ice. There is a great deal of sleighing. Paid Mr. Boswell,<sup>3</sup> for the year's *Courant*, weekly, \$1.50; daily, \$4.50 = \$6.00. Read. Have but little time to read.

16. Exceeding cold. Thermometer at 6°. Difficult to keep my room warm. Last evening heard Mr. Finney<sup>4</sup> at the Centre Church; a good sermon. Had considerable company. Wrote. Difficult and dangerous walking in the street. Read.

17. We have had a very cold night. My silver case, which has been at several places, I procured and placed at Mrs. Wright's. Read.

18. It snowed the most of the day. Thermometer about 12°. Dr. Hawes preached very plainly and very earnestly. People attend very well for the season. Did not go out in the evening. Read in Judges.

19. It continues to snow. Thermometer 8° at three A. M. The water in my room was frozen. Wrote. Could not go out at evening because of cold.

20. My thermometer at eight o'clock A. M. was at zero. Very cold through the day. A school, with their teacher, of Newington, made me a pretty long visit. The cold makes an impression on my health. Wrote.

21. A very cold night. Thermometer afternoon 6°. Dined at Mrs. Lamb's. Mr. Eldridge and wife came here from Norfolk in the cold. Sister Battell has had a hard and long sickness, now hopefully recovering.

22. The thermometer in the morning at 6°. Can do but little on account

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<sup>1</sup> Edward N. Kirk, D. D., from 1842 to his death in 1874, was pastor of the Mount Vernon Church, Boston. He had previously been settled, 1828-1836, over a church in Albany, and had besides been most successfully employed as an evangelist. He was an eloquent and moving preacher, and was greatly beloved both as pastor and as evangelist. No minister in this country was perhaps better known in Europe than he.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. James Savage, LL. D.

<sup>3</sup> John L. Boswell.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Mr. Finney had been a professor in Oberlin College since 1835. He was made president of it in 1852, and held the office till 1866. He was a native of Warren, Ct., born in 1792. He had an academical education, but not a collegiate. He studied law and practiced it till 1821. He then studied theology and was ordained in 1824. After a truly remarkable career, he died in Oberlin, August, 1875.

of the cold. Spent some time with Mr. Eldridge. Did not go out in the evening. Read Bible. The cold nights are severe. Very fine sleighing, and much used. The river is crossed with teams.

23. Thermometer at 9°. My Norfolk friends went home. Many accounts of the cold. Harbors are closed. Read. Have many visitors notwithstanding the cold. I burn much wood. Many people are engaged in sleighing. A very cold week.

24. The mercury keeps mostly below 16° from day to day. Walking slippery and difficult. Am debilitated by the severe season. Wrote. Teams cross the river. A good number of visitors.

25. Heard Mr. Brace,<sup>1</sup> of Milford, at the South Church. A good preacher. At evening heard Mr. Finney at the Centre. There is evidently a general work in the town. The Lord carry on his own work. The evening meeting very full.

26. The cold abated some, and was very pleasant. At evening Mr. Finney preached very well for Dr. Hawes. A full house.

27. Yesterday heard from Mrs. Wolcott's, South Windsor, that there is a great deal of sickness in her families.<sup>2</sup> The weather is more mild, but still cold, and the walking very slippery. On the 23d attended at the funeral of Mr. Charles Seymour,<sup>3</sup> born the same year with me. Interrupted in reading at home.

28. Attended to business in my room. I fear that valuable articles are lost. Sat awhile for a painter. Occupied with company.

29. Paid for a hat, \$4.50. Visited Mr. Joseph Terry.<sup>4</sup> Attended at the funeral of Mr. Farwell.<sup>5</sup> He has left the most costly house in the town. The snow and ice are wearing away. Thermometer at 45°. A great religious awakening in the town of Manchester.

30. Worked at my chamber. Went into a religious meeting; very solemn. I have to get assistance in walking in evening the most of the time.

31. It snowed considerably. Can do but a little in my room. Evening meeting quite full. Read Bible. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. It snowed the most of the day. Mr. Baldwin<sup>6</sup> preached in the afternoon. Dr. Hawes in the forenoon, and had the sacrament. We had a full meeting in the evening. Mr. Finney preached.

2. Still cold. Thermometer 16° the most of the day. Read Bible.

<sup>1</sup> Jonathan Brace, D. D., a native of Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> That is, of her kindred, including Wolcotts, Tudors, Bissells, and Haskells.

<sup>3</sup> The new *History of Hartford County*, Vol. 1, p. 662, says: "Charles Seymour & Co., the oldest firm now in business, dealing in West India goods and hardware, was established in 1799. From 1801 Charles Seymour carried on the business alone until

1829, when he took his son, Charles Seymour, into partnership, and since the elder Mr. Seymour's death, in 1852, the business has been carried on by his son, in the store on Main Street, built by his father in 1816."

<sup>4</sup> Joseph Terry was a leather merchant of Hartford.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Asa Farwell, whose house was 125 Main Street.

<sup>6</sup> Theron Baldwin, D. D.



People go much at evening to religious and other meetings. Wrote. Many accounts of great cold and its effects.

3. Miss Maguire has made a painting for me, and Mr. Case has worked off a large number of copies. I paid him \$3.50 for one hundred. A pretty poor concern. Read.

4. The season moderates gradually. Sent a large bundle to South Windsor. The icy walking continues very bad. Quite busy.

5. A very pleasant day, and the snow diminishes. Wrote. Attended to visitors. Rode to South Windsor in the stage sleigh. Mrs. Wolcott is quite well. There is a good deal of a religious revival here; partly in the Baptists. It appears very well.

6. Left with Ursula \$7.00, to pay what I owed Dr. Wood for medical service. Came home. The weather moderates.

7. Wrote. Occupied with company. Have some trouble about my likeness. Read.

8. Attended meeting at the Fourth; Mr. Finney afternoon; Mr. Clark evening; Centre, Mr. Finney. The work of grace in the town is great. Meetings very full and solemn.

9. Paid Miss Maguire \$10.00, for her painting of my likeness. Occupied with company. Trading, etc.

10. Worked at my books. Read Bible. My strength, through divine mercy, improves in some degree.

11. Assisted in getting up my wood. Wrote to Mr. Francis L. Hodges<sup>1</sup> at Yale College. Wrote.

12. Wrote an important paper for Miss Wolcott. At evening read. The snow is mostly gone. Read Bible. Received from England a letter relative to the publication of a Bible greater and more costly than any other. Am more feeble than usual.

13. Occupied with visitors; some accomplished characters, some quite otherwise. Did errands. Have received lately some valuable articles. Cold.

14. Wrote. Not able to do much. Want to go to Windsor; too cold. A good deal of company.

15. Attended meeting at Dr. Bushnell's. He has a large congregation. Much religious interest in this society, as in the others. Fatigued, and did not go to the evening meeting.

16. Paid the John Olmsted store, \$22.58. Cold, and the ground very hard. Read Bible. Many and various meetings in the town every evening.

17. The cold of winter continues. Occupied with visitors. Generally sleighing in the country. Wrote. Keep much within doors. Read.

18. Wrote for Miss Wolcott. Worked at my books. A good number of visitors, and persons of character. Very wearied, and can do but little business.

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<sup>1</sup> Francis L. Hodges was a graduate of Yale in the class of 1847, and was tutor there 1851-1852. He died in 1853, six years out of college.

19. The cold is steady and severe and enervating. The mercury this morning was at 10°. Read Dr. Hooker's life of his great ancestor; a very good work.<sup>1</sup>

20. A very cold night and morning. Thermometer 10° at 8 o'clock, A. M. Can do but little except my daily business of the chamber. I burn a large amount of wood. Read my Bible.

21. Worked at my books. A good number of visitors. Concluded not to go out on a Saturday evening. Very many meetings of various kinds.

22. Heard Dr. Hawes. Did not go out at evening. The revival here evidently continues. Read Bible. Some rain and decline of cold.

23. The weather grows mild after long cold. Wrote. Attended to company. Keep my house mostly at evenings. Worked at books.

24. The mercury rose to 50°. The snow disappears. Took stage and went to South Windsor. Much religious attention here. I hope well for Edgar Bissell and his wife, with some concern for him.

25. Left my pleasant home, and came to Hartford. The ground thaws. I took some cold.

26. Bought the *Life of Kossuth* for \$1.25. Am more feeble than I have been lately. Am in want of sleep. Read.

27. The ground freezes again. Worked at my library. Wrote at my diary. At evening attended a full meeting at the North Church. Mr. Finney preached. Something ill from my cold.

28. Snow of considerable quantity. Wrote. Too stormy and cold for me to go out in the evening. Have some hoarseness. Considerable company at our house.

29. Walked to my room with assistance. The surface of the ground is perfectly glare. Did not leave my room at noon. Afternoon heard Dr. Hawes. The winter closes with severe cold. Read the Bible.

#### MARCH.

1. Wrote to Dr. Norton,<sup>2</sup> Clinton, N. Y. Cold and icy walking continue. I consume a great deal of wood. The thermometer about 16°.

2. I can hardly walk in the street at all without assistance. Wrote. At evening heard a very fine lecture from Mr. Stuart,<sup>3</sup> on a part of our State history. Something enfeebled. No diminution of cold.

<sup>1</sup> Edward W. Hooker, D. D., then pastor at South Windsor, 1849-1856, published, in 1849, his life of Thomas Hooker, first pastor of the First Church of Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> Asahel Strong Norton, D. D., one of the pioneer preachers in Central and Western New York, and among the chief founders of Hamilton College, was born in Farmington, Ct., in 1765, graduated at Yale in 1790, and died in Clinton in 1853, in his eighty-eighth year.

<sup>3</sup> Isaac W. Stuart, Esq., son of Rev.

Moses Stuart, was an accomplished writer, orator, and scholar. By his marriage with Catharine Bulkeley, daughter of Mr. Stephen Bulkeley, he came into possession of the old Wyllys place, where the Charter Oak stood. He was owner of this estate at the time the tree was prostrated by a tempest in 1856. Mr. Stuart, during his life, was one of the honored citizens of Hartford. He was graduate of Yale in 1828, and died in 1861, with an excellent reputation as a public spirited citizen.

3. Made a donation of \$5.00 to a society at Detroit for the relief of slaves escaped to Canada.<sup>1</sup> Receive great assistance from friends in difficult walking. At evening we had a meeting of our society. Few present.
4. A very cold night. Thermometer about 10°. Attended on visitors. Wrote. People cross the river on ice with teams.
5. Last evening heard a very good sermon from Mr. Finney in the North Church; a large audience. The cold moderates gradually. Am not able to read much.
6. Visitors rather few. The snow and ice are getting away gradually.
7. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clarke preached well. We had the sacrament. At evening attended a very full meeting at the Center. Mr. Finney preached; expecting to leave here soon. The work of grace continues with power in the town. A good deal fatigued.
8. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Spring approaches. Received of the Phoenix Bank my dividend for a year, \$135.00. Paid Mrs. Wright,<sup>2</sup> a quarter term, \$50.00. The spring appears to approach. Read. Received a letter from Mr. Benjamin F. French,<sup>3</sup> of New York, and one from Mr. Preston Cummings,<sup>4</sup> of Leicester, Mass.
9. A pleasant, spring day. Thermometer at near 60°. My books are a good deal out of order. Have company steadily. Can read but little.
10. Worked at my books. Had the unexpected pleasure of a sudden call of dear friends: Sister Battell, brother Frank's widow, brother Samuel's youngest daughter, and Irene Larned. A pleasant visit, but short.
11. Had a singular accident. My inkstand, purchased at New Haven in my Junior year, fell from my table and broke. I have long expected that to be noted when I was gone.<sup>5</sup> Worked at my room.
12. Sister Battell went off for Norfolk. She has had a long and hard sickness during the winter. Occupied with company. Read. Have some cold.
13. Wrote. Attended to my books. I can perform but little labor. The spring gradually advances. Read Bible. Rainy.
14. Heard Dr. Hawes at the Centre. Mr. Goodrich<sup>6</sup> in the afternoon preached. Great changes in the seats of the church. Kept at home in the evening. Read.

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<sup>1</sup> Not so conservative in matters pertaining to slavery as he used to be.

<sup>2</sup> His landlady.

<sup>3</sup> Benjamin F. French was a well-known historical scholar and writer, born in Richmond, Va., in 1799. He was educated for the law, but abandoned it for literature, in which he obtained an honorable reputation as the author of valuable volumes.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Preston Cummings was an able preacher and thinker, but by reason of infirmities did not occupy the pulpit much

in his later years. He wrote a valuable handbook on Congregationalism, and was a collector of books and pamphlets for the British Museum.

<sup>5</sup> He had owned and used that inkstand about fifty-four years, and its loss under such circumstances was a positive affliction. He hoped to be remembered by it.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Chauncey Goodrich, of the class of 1837, at Yale, son of Prof. Chauncey Allen Goodrich, D.D., long connected with Yale College.

15. Worked at my library. Wrote. Attended to company. The river is breaking up.

16. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Heard of the death of Dr. Gridley,<sup>1</sup> of Amherst, my respected kinsman. Also today have heard of the death of Dr. Henry Davis, my esteemed classmate, and also the death of Charles Bostwick. Six of my classmates have deceased since we were together at Commencement in 1846. Ten now remain.<sup>2</sup> There was a great parade today by the Irishmen for St. Patrick. Am pretty feeble.

17. Had a box made, and sent a good clock to Miss Wolcott. I hope it will last long. The expense will be about \$5.00. Purchased a very fine new map of the United States. Paid for it, \$2.50.

18. Wrote considerably. Worked some at my books. Had last night a body of snow. Read.

19. Am something unwell, and made an application, by medical advice, which produced very unhappy effects. Quite cold.

20. Quite unwell. In my room but little. Procured medicine. Have uncomfortable nights.

21. We had a cold, rough night. Kept in my room the most of the day. Did not go to meeting at all. Quite feeble, and had to attend to clothes, etc. Have assistance at home; very kindly. Read.

22. Much occupied with company. We have a good deal of snow. Wet. I go out but little.

23. Bad moving about. In the afternoon rode to South Windsor. The stage went very heavy. Mrs. Tudor is quite low, probably near the close of life. Mr. Wolcott's daughter<sup>3</sup> quite sick; Eveline has had a long illness. The religious attention continues. Ursula is much burdened with labor and care. Yesterday the doctor came to see me, and gave me some medicine.

24. Came home in the stage. Very bad traveling. Am a good deal unwell. I think I have some cold. Paid for the clock that I have sent to Miss Ursula Wolcott, \$4.00.

25. Am much occupied by company. The approaching State election connected with temperance makes a great excitement. Our Governor, Seymour,<sup>4</sup> comes out Unitarian.<sup>5</sup> Am pretty feeble.

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<sup>1</sup> Timothy J. Gridley, M.D., was graduated at Yale in 1808, and received the degree of M.D. from Dartmouth College in 1812, as also from the Vermont Medical College in 1839. He married, for his second wife, Mrs. Eliza Olmsted, of Norfolk, in 1824.

<sup>2</sup> The three longest-lived men in this class of 1796 were Gold Selleck Silliman (brother of Prof. Silliman), who died in 1868, seventy-two years out of college, John Harvey Tucker, who died also in 1868, and Timothy Bishop, who died in 1873, seventy-seven years after graduation.

<sup>3</sup> Daughter of Samuel Tudor Wolcott, now Mrs. Powers, wife of a Unitarian minister.

<sup>4</sup> Col. Thomas H. Seymour, Governor of Connecticut, 1850-1853.

<sup>5</sup> The earliest Unitarian society in Hartford was organized July 27, 1844, and a church building erected, which was sold to Trinity Church in 1860, and public services were discontinued. This society was reorganized April 12, 1879. The only Unitarian church in Connecticut, of any considerable age, is the one in Brooklyn, dating from 1817.

26. Worked some at my books. We have a cold spring. Have some donations to our library.

27. Wrote. Occupied with company. Not able to do much labor. Read. Much employed.

28. Attended at the South meeting. Mr. Clark preached. His congregation smaller by other meetings. At evening read my Bible.

29. Wrote to Mr. Bostwick, of New Haven, nephew of my late classmate. But ten of our class now survive.<sup>1</sup> Do not go out much in the evenings. Read.

30. Worked at my books. I make many mistakes in writing. Sent a letter to Dr. Henry Mandeville,<sup>2</sup> of Albany, written by Mr. Gleason.

31. Read. We have a very cold winter, and a rough and chilly March. By divine favor I have had comfortable health through the cold weather. Buds come out, and a few blossoms.

#### APRIL.

1. The spring comes on gradually. Had various characters for visitors; some from Scotland. Worked arranging books. At evening had some dizziness.

2. Wrote. Had much company. Am not able to go out much in evenings.

3. Attended Dr. Hawes's meeting, with the sacrament. Twelve members were admitted into his church. Attended in the evening the monthly concert. Spoke some. Cold.

4. The annual State election. Great excitement. Went and voted. Wrote to my sister Battell. At evening there were bonfires, great commotion, and noise at the triumph of Democracy.

5. The result of our State election is unfavorable to the Whig party, and to the temperance cause. The Lord is holy. Quite cold. Read.

6. We have a heavy body of snow; none larger during the winter.<sup>3</sup> I am fearful the failure of our election will injure the temperance cause. Wrote.

7. Much occupied with company. The snow continues. Wrote. Worked at my books.

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<sup>1</sup> These ten were : Rev. Archibald Bassett, Timothy Bishop, Prof. Bancroft Fowler, William Henry Jones, Levi Robbins, Thomas Robbins, D.D., Prof. Benjamin Silliman, Gold Selleck Silliman, Fanning Tracy, and John Harvey Tucker.

<sup>2</sup> Henry Mandeville, D.D., came to Albany from Geneva, N. Y., about 1825, where he was pastor first of the Dutch Reformed Church, and then of the First Presbyterian Church. In 1841 he was called to Hamilton College as Professor of Moral Philosophy

and of Rhetoric. He remained there till 1849, when he returned again to Albany and remained for several years. He died in Mobile, Ala., Oct. 2, 1858.

<sup>3</sup> Such snowfalls as this are not common in April, and yet they are not very uncommon. If we remember correctly, it was this identical fall of snow which nearly stopped all movement for one day on the Boston & Albany Railroad, in the vicinity of Boston. Of course such blockades must be short in April.

8. Wrote to Dr. Goodrich,<sup>1</sup> Professor of Yale College. Rejoicings continue for Democracy.

9. Fast. Attending at the Centre. Dr. Hawes had Mr. Goodell,<sup>2</sup> missionary; afternoon Mr. Clarke. Kept much in my room. Read.

10. Received of Mr. Hosmer, on salary, \$50.00. Am rather feeble. The spring advances gradually. Attended on company. Read.

11. Went into the Episcopal church early in the morning, and attended the Easter service. Went to the Fourth and heard Mr. Patton. He has many meetings in the course of the week. Kept house in the afternoon. At evening attended a Baptist meeting, and twenty persons, male and female, were baptized. A great collection of people.

13. They had their annual city meeting. A messenger came for me, and I went and voted. The Whigs were very successful.<sup>3</sup> Wet. Read Bible.

14. Worked at my library. Am a good deal feeble. Saw at evening friends from Washington.

15. A hard northeast rain. We had our annual meeting of the members of the Insane Retreat. I am the oldest member. Got some wet in the great rain. Dined at Mr. Brown's with Washington friends.

16. Feeble from much labor and wet. Received a letter from my cousin P. G. Robbins, of Roxbury, and one from Rev. Ephraim Lyman,<sup>4</sup> of Plymouth, Ct. Not able to read much. Sick in our boarding family.

17. High water and pleasant weather. Had many visitors. Could not read much. Wrote.

18. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clarke preached very well in the morning; afternoon Mr. Corning.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Clarke propounded forty-nine persons to be received into his church; *de novo*. Mrs. Wright's sister is hard and long sick. Read my Bible.

19. We have a hard rain. I can go out but little. My visitors are few.

20. Worked some at my books. I take some cold from the rough and wet air. I fear I am getting debilitated. Read.

21. Wrote to Mr. Ephraim Lyman, Plymouth, Ct. A hard rain. The rains are very extensive and powerful.

<sup>1</sup> Prof. Chauncey Allen Goodrich, D. D.

<sup>2</sup> William Goodell, D. D., who, after a long absence from his native land, was home on a visit. He was a native of Templeton, Mass., born in 1792, graduated at Dartmouth, 1817, at Andover, 1820, in missionary service in Turkey, 1822-1865. He was a noble specimen of a missionary.

<sup>3</sup> Forty years ago the cities in Connecticut were apt to be Whig, though the State might be Democratic. This is reversed now. The cities are apt to be Democratic, though the State may be Republican.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Ephraim Lyman was pastor of the church in Plymouth, Ct. (formerly North-

bury), 1835-1851. He was born in Goshen, 1810, graduated at Yale, 1832, and at Yale Seminary in 1835. He was afterwards pastor in Washington, Ct., 1852-1863, and then made his home in Northampton. He died in 1880.

<sup>5</sup> Rev. William Henry Corning was born in Hartford, 1820, graduated at Trinity College, 1842, and at Yale Seminary, 1845, was pastor at Clintonville, Mass. (now Clinton), 1847-1851, at First Congregational Church, Owego, N. Y., 1854-1857, and at First Presbyterian Church, Whitehall, N. Y., in 1862. He died that same year at Saratoga Springs.

22. Wrote. Get easily fatigued. At evening attended the annual meeting of the Retreat. The institution is much increasing. Many applications.

23. Received a very good letter from sister Battell. The noted Hungarian, Kossuth, passed through this town. Constantly occupied in my room. Wrote. Still cold and chilly.

24. We have many accounts of very high waters, and great damages. Our river not so high for many years. Have a hard, lasting cough. Can do but little.

25. Had a sick night, with a hard cough. Took medicine. Did not leave my bed till noon. Afternoon came to my room. At evening read. Traveling is much interrupted.

26. My cough and illness, by divine mercy, abates. Am feeble. Attended a little to company.

27. The earth dries. Bought a very large German Bible, splendid externally, with another folio. Also a very fine English Bible, two folios. Rode out with Dr. Hawes. Got too much chilled. Vegetation comes on slowly.

28. Took some cold yesterday. My new Bible was brought in; a very fine one; the price, \$25.00. Looked at genealogies. Worked at my room. Paid Mr. Gleason, for writing, \$1.00. Read.

29. Have a number of visitors. The spring advances. Read a bad description of Southern slavery;<sup>1</sup> revolting.

30. Had a call from a number of Yale scholars.<sup>2</sup> Wrote. Worked at my library, but soon got weary; took the stage and rode to South Windsor.<sup>3</sup> The traveling is passable. Mrs. Wolcott is better than she has been. Ursula is burdened with many cares.

#### MAY.

1. Came home in the stage. My new Bible is much esteemed. Read in it day and at evening. The season advances but late.

2. Attended meeting at the Centre. Great additions are made to various churches today. At the South there were fifty, and eleven by recommendation. Dr. Hawes's will be a few weeks hence. At evening attended the monthly concert. Mr. Benton,<sup>4</sup> an eastern missionary, preached very well.

3. Am troubled with a lameness in my foot. Mr. Gleason is absent, and I have much to do. Have many visitors. Had a stone walk made before our front door at my expense.

4. There was a good military parade.<sup>5</sup> The Governor gave a flag to the Guards. Am feeble. At evening had a meeting of our society.

<sup>1</sup> The description may have been good enough. The thing described was what was bad.

<sup>2</sup> That is, students then in college.

<sup>3</sup> When he gets weary and overdone, he betakes himself to his old home where he lived forty years before.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William A. Benton, born in Tolland, Ct., 1818, graduated at Yale College

1843, and licensed to preach in 1846. He went as a missionary of the American Board to Syria and was stationed at Aleppo. After some years difficulties arose between him and the Board and this missionary service ceased. He died Aug. 29, 1874.

<sup>5</sup> This was the first Wednesday of May: the old election day, and the Legislature that year was to sit at Hartford.

5. Warm, and spring comes on. Dined out at Mr. Spencer's. Have a complaint on my foot. I feel like growing feeble. Had a letter from Miss Wolcott.

6. Much occupied with company. Wrote. The mercury is above 70°. I have to sustain some pecuniary losses. Received a Message of the Governor to the Legislature.

7. Wholly unexpected, my good cousin Peter Starr,<sup>1</sup> and his wife, of Middlebury, Vt., came here, and we had a very fine visit. Had a very warm day, and company. Was out in the evening with my friends.

8. My friends visited about town, and went off for Litchfield, etc. The mercury at summer heat. Wrote. A good deal of company.

9. Attending meeting at the South. Mr. Strong,<sup>2</sup> of New Haven, preached, and Mr. Goodell, missionary. Read in my room.

10. Wrote a little on the *Magnalia*.<sup>3</sup> Had very little fire in my room. Read my Bible. We have summer weather.

11. I think I gain some in strength. Assisted in preparing the Mather's *Magnalia* for the third edition. Extensive and full blossoms are on the fruit-trees. Paid for a periodical, \$1.00. By divine favor I have found some articles supposed to be lost.

12. Paid at the John Olmsted store, \$1.73; nearly balanced. A heavy, rainy day. Worked at my books partially. Read.

13. Had some books brought in. I have now a row of very heavy and splendid folios, mostly Bibles. Had a pleasant call from two of my nieces at Norfolk on a journey. Worked at books. Have help about the large ones.

14. Cold again and chilly. Paid Hunt, for books, \$10.00. At evening went into the Episcopal meeting. Worked at my large books.

15. Wrote to cousin P. G. Robbins, Roxbury, Mass. Had much company. Am trying to re-arrange my Bibles. A heavy task. Quite fatigued and feeble.

16. Attended Dr. Hawes's meeting, and also in the evening. Read the Bible.

17. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Walked out with company. People begin gardening.

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Peter Starr, LL. D., whom, as a student of Williams College, we used to meet in the early pages of this diary. He was son of Rev. Peter Starr, of Warren, Ct., and his mother was Sarah Robbins, daughter of Rev. Philemon Robbins, of Branford, Ct., and sister of Rev. Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, of Norfolk. In his later years he was treasurer of Middlebury College. He died in 1860, at the age of eighty-two. He was one year younger than Dr. Robbins.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Strong, D. D., born in Somers, Ct., 1813, son of Rev. William L. Strong, graduated at Yale College in 1838, and at Yale Seminary, 1842, pastor of College

Street Church, New Haven, 1842-1862, of South Church, Pittsfield, Mass., 1865-1871, and of South Evangelical Church, West Roxbury, Mass., 1872-1882. Since leaving West Roxbury he has traveled and lived in Southern California. He is a brother of Hon. William Strong, LL. D., one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States.

<sup>3</sup> Cotton Mather's *Magnalia*, which was first published in London in the year 1702. Dr. Robbins, it will be remembered, superintended the publication of the first American edition, which was issued at Hartford, Ct., in 1820.



18. Miss Terry, at my boarding-house, is quite sick with a hard, long illness.

19. Wrote an additional letter to my cousin, Dr. Robbins, of Roxbury. Had a good deal of company. Am feeble in my muscular system.

20. On the evening of the 18th we had here the annual meeting of our society; a good meeting. Wrote to the postmaster of South Britain. At the evening meeting heard Mr. Hitchcock,<sup>1</sup> expected to come to this town. Found some valuable articles that I feared were lost. Much fatigued.

21. Fatigued with company, and worked at my library. Recently have had a good letter from Miss Wolcott. Wrote. Waited on friends. Read.

22. The spring advances, with rich vegetation. Afternoon rode in the stage to South Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott is better than she has been. Mrs. Bissell<sup>2</sup> is feeble.

23. Attended Dr. Hooker's<sup>3</sup> meeting. His church is soon to be increased. The congregation is much less than when I was with them.

24. Rode home. Worked at my library. Had a good deal of company.

25. Had a carpenter to work at my library. Made some improvement in the shelves. Read Bible.

26. Have to change my dress with the season. Worked at my books. Occupied with company.

27. We have a poor Legislature this year. I can do but little labor. I have some very large and valuable Bibles.

28. Wrote to Miss Wolcott in answer to a good letter from her. Have many calls. Get much fatigued.

29. Worked at my books as much as I was able. Many ecclesiastical meetings are held. All denominations, except ours, seem to be anxious to be increased.

30. Pleasant weather. Went to meeting at the North. In Dr. Bushnell's absence Mr. Child<sup>4</sup> preached. Am pretty feeble. Wrote. Read.

31. Put up a large budget for South Windsor. Rode to Windsor Locks. Mrs. Haskell<sup>5</sup> and her small family do very well. At evening went into the meeting-house, and heard very good music with their new organ.

#### JUNE.

1. Walked out. The Hartford North Association met here.<sup>6</sup> Went in

<sup>1</sup> Roswell Dwight Hitchcock, D.D., LL.D., born in Machias, Me., 1817, graduated at Amherst College, 1836, pastor of First Church, Exeter, N. H., 1845-1852, and then instead of settling in Hartford, he accepted a call to Bowdoin College, where he was Professor of Natural and Revealed Religion, 1852-1855, when he was elected Professor of Church History in Union Theological Seminary, New York, which office he held 1855-1880. In that year he was made President of the institution.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Edgar Bissell (Eveline Wolcott) is

still living, in this year 1886, at the age of eighty-two, in comfortable health and in the good use of her powers, mental and physical.

<sup>3</sup> Edward W. Hooker, D. D.

<sup>4</sup> Probably Willard Child, D. D., born in Woodstock, Ct., 1796, graduated at Yale, 1817, and at Andover, 1820, teacher, and an able preacher. He died at Mooers, N. Y., in 1877.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Harris Haskell (Frances Wolcott).

<sup>6</sup> When Dr. Robbins in this case says "here" it will be remembered that he is visiting at Windsor Locks.

with them. The body is large and respectable. Came home in the cars. Went into the meeting of *our* Association in Dr. Bushnell's *church*.<sup>1</sup> They soon closed. They did poorly. Attended to company. At evening our society had a meeting. I did not attend.

2. Quite warm. Labored with company in re-arranging my library. Much fatigued.

3. Warm. Had a shower. Wrote. Walked out. The people of the town are very busy. Worked, with assistance, at my books.

4. Fatigued with company. Wrote to my cousin, Dr. P. G. Robbins, of Roxbury, Mass. Something unwell.

5. The Democratic Convention have at length made a nomination for President with rejoicing.<sup>2</sup> Worked at books. Visited at Gov. Seymour's. Quite cool. Am feeble.

6. Made some change in my clothes, and have some cold. Attended meeting at the Centre. We had the sacrament. Dr. Hawes received fifty new members into his church. Had a good meeting in the evening. Was up late.

7. The weather is quite cold. Miss Wolcott came here, and looked over my clothes, etc.<sup>3</sup> Sent to her \$5.00. Met with a few ministers, and did some important business. I hope God will add his blessing.

8. Rainy. Have a good deal of cough. Paid for two good knives, \$1.00. Was out considerably.

9. Paid Mr. Brinley for books, two volumes, rare and valuable. Am unwell with a cough. Paid Mrs. Brinley, \$10.00.<sup>4</sup>

Saturday, June 26th. At Mrs. Wolcott's, South Windsor.<sup>5</sup>

At about the 7th and 8th of June I became unwell, the complaint influenza connected with a cough. It was soon such as to confine me the most of the time to my bed. Had the attention of Dr. Rogers. The heat some of the time was very severe. The mercury has been some days above 90°. I am very kindly taken care of by Mrs. Wright and her family. Paid her on my board bill, \$50.00. Rode out several times with Dr. Rogers. Wrote to sister Battell. I read an account in a Boston newspaper of the death of my cousin, Dr. Peter G. Robbins.<sup>6</sup> The last of my Uncle C. Robbins's family. Sabbath,

<sup>1</sup> His Association was the Hartford South, which met at the same time with the North, viz.: The first Monday and Tuesday of March, June, September, and December.

<sup>2</sup> Franklin Pierce, of New Hampshire, was nominated, and the next autumn was triumphantly elected President, receiving 296 electoral votes against 42 cast for Gen. Winfield Scott.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins's washing, mending, and miscellaneous sewing, was attended to at South Windsor, during his life at Hartford, under the direction of Miss Ursula Wolcott.

They had a great regard for each other, and were in their relations like a loving brother and sister.

<sup>4</sup> He means probably that the \$10.00 was paid to Mrs. Brinley for Mr. Brinley.

<sup>5</sup> Here fifteen days drop out because of sickness, of which he gives a general account in the paragraph appended.

<sup>6</sup> Peter Gilman Robbins, M. D., whose name has so often been mentioned, was the youngest child of Chandler Robbins, D. D., of Plymouth, Mass., and was born Dec. 10, 1781.

June 20th. I attended meeting; one service, Dr. Hawes. On the 26th my sister Battell made me a good visit, though short, at Mrs. Wright's. Very good efforts have been recently made through the country relative to the election of the next President.<sup>1</sup>

26. Took the stage and rode to South Windsor. Not much fatigued. The roads dry and dusty. Mrs. Wolcott pretty well for her age.

27. Am feeble, but no worse, I think, for my ride yesterday. Walked out, and made some calls. The crops and gardens appear well.

28. Attended meeting. Walked in part. Dr. Hooker preached both parts of the day on the support of ministers. The congregation is reduced from past years. This whole street is greatly declined.

29. Rode home. Wrote to Mr. Swan,<sup>2</sup> of Litchfield. Get fatigued very easily. Read, Getting new clothes; present ones have endured long.

30. Read. Did errands. We have the news, long expected, of the death of Mr. Clay; died this morning.<sup>3</sup> It produces a great excitement through the country. Some errors here.

JULY.

1. Newspapers in mourning on the death of Mr. Clay. He was a few months older than I am.<sup>4</sup> Paid Mr. Brinley for books, \$5.00. Last evening a young minister was ordained in the First Presbyterian Church in this town.<sup>5</sup> I hope my health improves, but it is slowly. Paid barber, \$1.86. Wrote.

2. Worked some at my books. Get easily fatigued. Much occupied with company. Last evening read quite late.

3. Much cooler than it has been. Wrote. Am a little apt to make mistakes in my diary. Received a good letter from sister Battell. She thinks of making a journey to the West. I think it would not be safe to attempt it. Received an important letter from Mr. Swan,<sup>6</sup> of Litchfield. Read.

4. In the forenoon heard Mr. Clarke at the South. He received six members into his church; one of them, a man, he baptized yesterday in Connecticut River.<sup>7</sup> We had the sacrament. Mr. Seeley<sup>8</sup> preached in the afternoon at the Centre. At evening attended the monthly concert.

<sup>1</sup> But all in vain. Hardly ever does a man, especially if he is strong and able, receive such a majority for President, as was awarded to Mr. Pierce.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Benjamin Lincoln Swan, pastor at Litchfield, 1846-1856. He was licensed by the Fairfield West Association in 1835, and was pastor at Fair Haven, Ct., 1836-1845. He preached afterwards at Stratford, Ct., and New Canaan, Ct., but his later ministry, since about 1867, has been with the Presbyterians.

<sup>3</sup> He died the day before, June 29, in Washington, D. C. He was born in Hanover County, Va., April 12, 1777.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Clay was born April 12, 1777, and Dr. Robbins Aug. 11, 1777.

<sup>5</sup> In May, 1852, a small Presbyterian congregation, which had held services in halls and hired places, bought the South Baptist meeting-house, and July 1, Rev. Thomas S. Childs, a graduate of Princeton Seminary, was ordained pastor. The *Hartford County History* puts this ordination in June, but Dr. Robbins is probably correct in placing it on the first day of July.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Benjamin L. Swan, before noticed.

<sup>7</sup> Congregational ministers sometimes baptize by immersion, not because they think that mode any better than sprinkling, but to satisfy the scruples of the candidate for church membership.

<sup>8</sup> Raymond Hoyt Seeley, D. D., born in Norwalk, Ct., 1812, who died in Haverhill,

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who is now

14. Can read but little. Had a very hard and very refreshing rain. Many travelers are passing at the present season.

15. My chamber is very warm. Our country is constantly receiving foreigners, almost from all countries.<sup>1</sup> They have had a very great fire in Montreal.<sup>2</sup> Cannot walk much.

16. Wrote diary. Get fatigued in attending to visitors. The heat abates some. I lose some articles from my room.

17. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Wet and rainy. Had a new coat made. Am quite feeble. Wrote to Rev. Dr. Hopkins, President of Williams College.

18. Attended meeting at the Centre. Dr. Hawes preached in the morning; afternoon a stranger. At evening we had a meeting; the number of inebriates and persons without public worship in the city is alarmingly great. Read the Bible.

19. Wrote. A cold morning. I get easily fatigued with almost any labor.

20. Did errands. Had many visitors. Afternoon rode in the stage to South Windsor. Sickness at Mrs. Wolcott's. Crops look well.

21. Rode home in a carriage. Warm and dusty. Wrote to Mr. S. Hopkins Emery,<sup>3</sup> of Taunton, in answer to a letter received from him yesterday. I make many mistakes in writing. Gave to Ursula, \$1.00 for a penknife. Read something late.

22. Had a very warm night. Walked a little. The heat is great. During the day the mercury was 90° and more. Wrote. Occupied with company.

23. The heat debilitates. Reduced my clothing. Much complaint of the dry weather. Much traveling in various parts of the country.

24. Wrote to Mr. Emery, of Taunton, in answer to one from him yesterday. The heat abates a little. Read. Miss Terry at Mrs. Wright's is very low with a very long sickness.

25. At meeting at Dr. Hawes's; afternoon a stranger. Read Bible. The heat abates some.

26. A very refreshing rain. Wrote. Attended company. I lose some valuable articles.

27. Did errands. Took the cars and rode to New Haven for Commence-

<sup>1</sup> There had been a rapid increase of immigrants to the United States during several years preceding this entry. But the stream had not then reached its height. For 1852, the number of immigrants from all countries is given as 371,603. But in 1854 it was 427,833, and then there was a falling off for several years, until in 1862 the number was only 89,007. Then the tide turned again, and in 1882 the number is given as 788,992. The countries, during the last sixty-six years, that have sent the largest numbers to our shores, have been Ireland and Germany. Up to 1879, Ireland had sent 3,065,761, and Germany 3,002,027.

<sup>2</sup> This fire occurred July 12, destroying twelve hundred houses, and the loss estimated £1,000,000.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel Hopkins Emery was born in Boxford, Mass., 1815, graduated at Amherst College, 1834, and at Andover Seminary, 1837. He has been twice settled over the Winslow Church, Taunton, Mass., and afterwards, 1855-1869, was pastor of the First Congregational Church, Quincy, Ill. He preached also at other important places, East and West. Since 1876 he has been minister at large for the churches of Taunton, where he has endeared himself to all classes of the people.

ment. Stopped at my old friend's, Mr. Bishop's. At evening attended the meeting of the *Concio ad Clerum*.<sup>1</sup> Quite fatigued.

28. There was a great and very interesting meeting of the alumni. Our catalogue grows more important annually. Good speaking. I got much fatigued. Kindly accommodated at Mr. Bishop's. The season here has been very dry. Took the cars and came home. In the evening Miss Terry, sister of Mrs. Wright, after a long and severe sickness, died, aged about sixty.

29. Attended the Commencement of our Trinity College. The performances were good and very respectable. I was treated with much attention. Attended to visitors. Very warm.

30. Much occupied with company. We had the funeral service at the house, and then I went with the family to Enfield, and carried the corpse there and buried it. Went in the cars. Mr. Brigham was with us. Stayed at Mr. Brigham's. A good number of people attended at the burying.

31. Rode home in the cars. Received a letter from Mr. H. C. Brooks,<sup>2</sup> of Boston, inviting me to a public meeting at Cape Cod. Fatigued with company.

#### AUGUST.

1. Dr. Hawes preached in the forenoon, and a stranger from Newark afternoon. Had the sacrament. Read Bible. Wrote. Did errands. Can do but little in my room.

2. Miss Wolcott came here. I gave her a fine gold watch, purchased of Mr. Goodsell. She went with me and selected the article. The price is \$25.00. I hope she may use it for years.

3. Purchased of Mr. Hubbard, of Meriden, ten volumes of new books,<sup>3</sup> and paid for them \$8.00.

4. Am pretty feeble. Wrote. Paid Mr. Goodsell, the watch-maker, on my account, \$10.00.

5. Read. Am better than I have been, I think, by divine mercy. Wrote to Mr. H. C. Brooks, of Boston. I think a journey to Cape Cod would be too much for my bad health.

6. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Had many visitors, persons of high character, and from distant parts of the land. Our people journey abroad in great numbers.

7. We have very needed showers. Have much debility. Read the Napoleon history.

8. Dr. Hawes and many other people are out of town. Mr. Bruen, of

<sup>1</sup> The *Concio* that year was preached by Rev. Benjamin S. J. Page, pastor of the First Church in Bridgeport. He preached as substitute for Rev. William B. Weed, pastor at Stratford, Ct.

<sup>2</sup> This was the same gentleman, acting in behalf of the Cape Cod Association, who had invited Dr. Robbins and Hon. Thomas

Day to visit Boston, and exhibit Gov. Carver's chest to the members of the Association. Now he is invited to a meeting down at Cape Cod, which would have been too laborious a journey for him to make.

<sup>3</sup> These books came probably from the library of Rev. John Hubbard, pastor of the First Church in Meriden, 1769-1786.

New Orleans,<sup>1</sup> preached twice, and another once. Very well. Difficulty in hearing at meeting.

9. Mrs. Wright and her two sons and daughter are gone to the seaside for relaxation. Attended on visitors. Afternoon took the stage and went to South Windsor.

10. Came home. Have much company. The prospect of the presidential election excites great attention.

11. I am seventy-five years old, preserved by the mercy of infinite grace. Was taken unwell in the morning, and was unwell through the day. Slept much.

12. Am something better than yesterday. Warm. Can do but little. Wrote poorly.

13. Quite warm. Am troubled with headache. Received a letter from Miss Wolcott, and one from Mr. Tillinghast,<sup>2</sup> of Bridgewater, Mass., and one from Mr. Joseph E. Woodbridge.<sup>3</sup> Wrote, not without some difficulty. Attended on company.

14. Had much company. Quite warm. I am weak with regard to labor. Wrote to Mr. Tillinghast. My writing fails.

15. Dr. Hawes is absent. We had two strangers for preachers. I find difficulty in hearing. Preparing for my journey.

16. Took the cars and went on to Springfield, to Litchfield, to Adams, and dined. Met friends and rode to Williamstown. Find many acquaintance. The corporation mostly present.

17. Quite unwell. Had a poor night. Well accommodated. The corporation had a good deal of business. The college increases. I have never seen its prospects as favorable.

18. I am too unwell to attend the Commencement exercises. Rode to Adams and took the cars and came to Pittsfield, Springfield, and home about middle of the afternoon.

19. Attended on visitors. Very warm. The mercury rose to 90°. Am much debilitated. Did errands. The ground very dry.

20. Complaints of drought very extensively. Have little time for myself. Paid my barber, a quarter, \$2.00. Many people here out of town.

21. Was out at dinner. Wrote. I have lately heard of Webster's first spelling-book, long sought for.<sup>4</sup> Was called to visit a neighbor, very sick.

22. Read Bible. Cooler than it has been. Wrote. A stranger preached very well at the South Church. Cool. Took some cold. Quite cool.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Edward B. Bruen, who seems to have been, at this time, settled in Philadelphia. There was also James M. Bruen, at that time in active service as a minister in the Presbyterian church. James M. died in 1881, but Edward B. was then alive, and may be still living.

<sup>2</sup> Col. Nicholas Tillinghast, his old-time correspondent, first principal of the State

Normal School at Bridgewater, Mass., and eminently successful in this office.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Effingham Woodbridge, of Brooklyn, N. Y., born in Stockbridge, Mass.

<sup>4</sup> He means a copy of the first edition of Webster's spelling-book, which was published in 1783. He wanted it as a literary curiosity for his library. Between forty and fifty millions of copies have since been published.

23. Read Much occupied with visitors. Visited the sick. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Donation for Western schools, \$2.00.

24. Very warm. Am quite affected with the heat. Thermometer near 90°. Read.

25. Many visitors most of the time. We have some refreshing rains. I can do but little labor. Read Bonaparte.

26. Occupied with visitors. I keep mostly in my room. There is considerable sickness in various parts of the country.

27. I am affected with illness and complaints. Read the *History of Napoleon*. Worked at my room. Mercury above 80° much of the time.

28. Have many respectable visitors. Wrote. This season has been remarkable for traveling. Got some medical application of Dr. Rogers.

29. A hard rain, near twenty-four hours; a great blessing. Dr. Hawes is returned from his long absence, and preached in the afternoon. Read the Bible.

30. Occupied in my room. Read. I am quite weak. The ground is greatly refreshed. Donation, \$2.00.

31. Wrote to Mr. Woodbridge,<sup>1</sup> and others at Boston, to discontinue the *Recorder*, which I have taken the most of its time from the beginning in 1816. Sent them \$5.00. Read.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. I enter the fall, by the favor of heaven, as I trust, with improving health. I leave it all with God. Gave Augustus Fitch,<sup>2</sup> of South Carolina, an early manuscript sermon. Wrote. Warm.

2. Mr. Professor Kingsley, of Yale College, is dead.<sup>3</sup> Paid my quarter boarding bill to Mrs. Wright, \$50.00. Read in the evening. Some cholera in certain parts of the country.

3. The heat very oppressive. Mercury near 90°. Can do but little. Did errands.

Hartford, Sept. 20th.<sup>4</sup> In the fullness of divine mercy I am permitted again to take hold of my diary. At the commencement of the month I was unwell and feeble. My illness increased, and in a few days I was brought

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Jonathan Edwards Woodbridge, born in Stockbridge, Mass., was graduated at Williams College in 1822, and was for some years connected with the Boston *Recorder*. He carried forward for a considerable period a select school for boys at Auburndale, Mass. He died in 1877, at the age of seventy-five.

<sup>2</sup> Augustus Fitch, M. D., was a native of East Windsor, and a distinguished physician in Columbia, S. C.

<sup>3</sup> James Luce Kingsley, LL. D., was one of the most unique and attractive professors that Yale College has ever had. As stu-

dent, tutor, and professor, he was connected with the college between fifty and sixty years. He was eminently a college man, and was thoroughly at home in the classic shades of New Haven. His brightness and wit were proverbial. He was born in Windham, Ct., Aug. 28, 1778, and died in New Haven, Aug. 31, 1852.

<sup>4</sup> Here again seventeen days drop out. The signs begin to thicken about us, that we are drawing towards the end. The pen that traces the entries now is no longer easy, graceful, facile, as in the early years, but trembling and constrained.



down with a severe dysentery. For a few days my case was considered quite doubtful. I remember but little of the same. For about ten days I have been gradually convalescing, through great mercy. I am no more my own, but all his for time and eternity. I hope that I may be restored to some health and usefulness, but choose to leave it all with Him. I have not suffered greatly. On the 14th paid Mr. Morgan, my nurse in sickness, seven days, seven dollars. 17th Mr. Hosmer paid me \$125.00, completing my salary for the year ending Sept. 1, 1851. I paid him \$24.70, for the walk in front of the Atheneum. I have paid several small sums, say \$2.25.

21. I had calls from many friends during my sickness. My cousin J. Le Baron,<sup>1</sup> from Mattapoisett, J. Battell,<sup>2</sup> New York, sister Battell and numbers of her connections, and numbers from Windsor. Quite warm.

22. Wrote to Mr. Elisha Whittlesey, Washington. The mercury at summer heat. Took the stage and went to South Windsor.

23. A good deal of sickness in Mrs. Wolcott's family. The crops here pretty good. Walked out; I hope to advantage. Ursula has a hard task. Can do but little. Much less movement in this street than years ago.

24. Rode home.<sup>3</sup> I hope I am gradually convalescing. The approaching presidential election produces great attention.

25. I fear some of my books and other articles are lost. Much occupied with visitors. Good fruit is quite plenty.

26. Attended meeting at the South. Mr. Clarke has declined a call from New York. My strength gradually increases. Read Bible.

27. Received a letter from Mr. Lenox, of New York. Much occupied with visitors. The public fair begins today. Wrote. Lent Mr. P. B. Gleason \$10.00. Am quite feeble.

28. People are collecting much for the fair. Rode with Dr. Hawes to West Hartford, and met with our Association. Had services from ministers from a distance. Attended to consociational business. Kindly accommodated.

29. The Consociation earnestly employed on a case of discipline relative to a church. Adjourned in the afternoon, and we came home. A very great political meeting yesterday at New Haven.

30. Yesterday received a letter from Williams College respecting funds. They are much in want. Have many calls from visitors. The town is much filled with people, mostly by the fair. Read the Bible. My strength gradually increases.

#### OCTOBER.

1. Much occupied with company. Went into the fair. The collection of articles great, and very fine. I can do but little. I have had a good number of calls from friends this week.

2. The present week has been very favorable for the fair, and other

<sup>1</sup> John Allen Le Baron, his cousin.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Battell, his nephew.

<sup>3</sup> He probably went back to Hartford

sooner than he expected, because of the sickness in the family. He would not make any addition to the household burdens.

objects. Wrote. It is difficult for me to remember all things that I would be glad to. Read.

3. Read the Bible. Dr. Hawes preached both parts of the day. At evening attended the monthly concert of prayer. My health improves gradually.

4. Wrote. Afternoon took the stage and rode to South Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott's colored girl is quite sick. Mrs. Haskell is there. Ursula has a hard task.

5. Returned to Hartford. Attended to company. Begin to have regular fire.

6. Wrote. Have to walk out for exercise. Received from Mr. E. Whittlesey,<sup>1</sup> of Washington, four of my early diaries lent to him. At evening walked out.

7. Have taken some cold. Looked over some books and papers. I fear that some things are lost. Read.

8. We have fine showers. Wrote. Find it quite laborious to look over money. Have many visitors from a distance.

9. Mr. Wright deposited \$200.00 in the savings bank for me. Wrote.

10. Dr. Hawes preached. Attended the sacrament. Several new members added to the church. Wet and rainy.

11. Much occupied with visitors of character. The late great meeting of Congregationalism at Albany<sup>2</sup> was a very important transaction.

12. Have received from Rev. Preston Cummings a copy of Basket's<sup>3</sup> Bible, two quartos, 1743, Oxford; \$6.00 to be paid for it. Am a good deal unwell. Read Bible.

13. Received from Hartford Bank, \$32.50, dividend. The prospects of the presidential election occupies great attention.

14. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. At evening attended a meeting. Dr. Hawes dismissed thirty-six members of his church, to be united with the new one to be soon organized.<sup>4</sup>

15. Attended at the funeral of the aged Mrs. Perkins. At evening the

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, born in Washington, Ct., in 1783, removed to the Western Reserve, Ohio, in 1806, and was a Member of Congress from Ohio, 1823-1839. President Harrison made him Auditor for the Post Office Department, and President Taylor made him First Comptroller of the Treasury, which office he held through President Pierce's administration, until President Buchanan began his administration in 1857.

<sup>2</sup> This great meeting at Albany was the first general representative Council of Congregationalists from all parts of the country, since the Synod at Cambridge in 1648, which issued the Cambridge Platform of church government. No meeting of this kind was

held again until 1865, when the first regular Council in the triennial line convened at Boston, and as we write (October, 1886,) the Eighth National Council has just finished its session at Chicago.

<sup>3</sup> There were in England during the last century at least three publishers of the name Baskett or Basket: Thomas, Mark, and John. Which one of these it was that published the work purchased by Dr. Robbins, we have have not been able to determine. They were all living about the middle of the last century.

<sup>4</sup> This was the Pearl Street Church, which was to be organized the next day, Oct. 15, 1852.

new church was organized in the new meeting-house; about ninety members, thirty-six from the First Church, some from each of the others. The new house is very elegant.

16. Had a cold night. Mercury at 40°. Wrote. Much occupied with company. A good deal of frost.

17. Attended at a small Baptist meeting; afternoon at the First Church. Read Bible.

18. Mr. George Wright is very sick. Received a letter from Mr. Thomas R. Foster, of New York. Wrote to Mr. Cummings, of Leicester, Mass., and sent to him for Basket's Bible, \$5.00.

19. Worked at my room. Mr. Wright is severely sick; obstruction of the bowels. Mr. Webster is dangerously sick at his home.<sup>1</sup>

20. Have visitors from a distance of high character. Can do but little for myself. Read. This morning my excellent friend died. He was a faithful Christian, and a fine scholar. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

21. The death of Mr. Wright excites great attention and sympathy. Occupied with attention to the concerns of our family. Read. On the 11th of this month our new Association had a good meeting at Dr. Hawes's. We hope to sustain the cause of Orthodoxy.

22. We had the funeral of Mr. Wright. A great collection of people.

23. Our house is a place of mourning. Many kind and sympathizing friends call and offer assistance. Mr. George Terry Wright graduated at Yale College in 1845. I have to keep mostly at my room. He was much esteemed in the town.

24. I go in mourning with Mrs. Wright and her family. Dr. Hawes preached in the forenoon in reference to the death of Mr. Wright. A great collection of people. Attended a very full charitable meeting in the evening.

25. Have a good many visitors. *Mr. Daniel Webster died yesterday.* The great man of our country. The impression in the country is very great and universal. My diary has got to be quite in the rear. Cold and frost.

26. Worked at my room. I fear I have lost some articles. I think that, by the divine favor, I am gradually gaining strength.

27. Wrote; employed at my library. Some articles, I fear, are lost. I do but little in the evenings. Cold and frost.

28. I find some difficulty in collecting past occurrences.

29. The funeral day of Mr. Webster. Probably observed all over the country. A great deal of firing and cessation of business, emblems of mourning, and public meetings. All classes seem to be agreed. Much like the death of Washington.<sup>2</sup> Warm. Got much fatigued.

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<sup>1</sup> At his home in Marshfield, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> The writer attended the funeral of Mr. Webster. At that time no railroad ran nearer than eight miles to Mr. Webster's house. The teams of every variety that gathered on that mild October day were

almost countless. Mr. Webster gave directions that his funeral services should be conducted by the Congregational pastor of Marshfield, Rev. Ebenezer Alden. It was the simple ordinary country service at a funeral, and after this his body, followed by an

30. Wrote. Waited on company. Have little time for reading. There is great anxiety about the approaching election.

31. Attending at the new Presbyterian meeting both parts of the day. Read in the evening. The young preacher, Mr. Barnes, performed very well.

#### NOVEMBER.

1. Much occupied with visitors. Mr. Wolcott called here. Their family continues quite sickly. Read *Modern History*.

2. A wet day. The day of the great election of electors for President. The excitement is very great. Went and voted amidst a tumultuous crowd of people. A great portion of them appear to be of quite ordinary character.<sup>1</sup> The result is with God.

3. The result of the election is mostly known in the greater part of the country this morning. Painfully bad. I fear we shall not go four years without war.<sup>2</sup>

4. Much occupied with company. Have little time for study. At evening read a good history of the battle of Waterloo.

5. Wrote. Did errands. The accounts from all parts of the country relative to the election are much alike; the triumphs of Democracy. I expect a war to take place before the end of Pierce's presidency.

6. Wrote a letter to Mr. Thomas R. Foster,<sup>3</sup> of New York, my valuable kinsman. I walk considerably. Read at evening.

7. Rainy. At meeting at Dr. Hawes's. Mr. Goodrich<sup>4</sup> preached in the afternoon. Have a good deal of company. Read.

8. Mr. Wolcott came here. His colored woman is dead. She has been in the family, I suppose, more than twenty years. Read.

9. Received of Mr. James B. Hosmer \$200.00, on salary. Occupied with company. At evening our society had a good meeting.

10. Wrote. Attended to pecuniary matters. I believe I have lost some money. Much occupied with visitors.

11. Attended a large and important temperance meeting. Many people from a distance. Much fatigued.

12. Have but little time for domestic attentions. Dined at Mr. Day's.<sup>5</sup> Attended the continued temperance meeting. Was out very late in the evening.

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immense procession on foot, was laid to rest in the little burial ground on the hill, east of the house, and overlooking the ocean.

<sup>1</sup> That is about the way the voting companies generally look. We have to depend mainly upon the *ordinary* man. The *extraordinary* people, by the term itself, are rare.

<sup>2</sup> It was *eight* years instead of *four*. We did not have war till we elected Abraham Lincoln, the noblest style of a President.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Robbins Foster, who is claimed by Dr. Robbins as of his kindred (and his

name certainly indicates this), was a commission merchant at No. 5 South Street, New York city, and his dwelling-house was at No. 68 Fifth Avenue.

<sup>4</sup> This may have been Rev. William H. Goodrich, who was pastor at Bristol, Ct., 1850-1854, or Rev. Chauncey Goodrich, who was pastor at Watertown, Ct., 1849-1856, or it may have been their father, Prof. Chauncey A. Goodrich, D.D., of Yale College, who was yet in active life.

<sup>5</sup> Hon. Thomas Day.

13. Am fatigued with cares. Am apt to neglect my diary. Read in the Bible much in the evening.
14. At meeting at the North. A stranger preached. Afternoon heard Dr. Hawes; also at evening. Mr. Clarke preached at the Centre. Very cold, mercury at freezing.
15. Worked at my papers. Much neglected. Hindered by visitors.
16. Paid for books, \$2.25. We had a cold night. Wrote. Attended to company.
17. Read. Rode in the stage to South Windsor. The agricultural products in this vicinity are better than has been expected.
18. Rode home. Heard a very good address to a Sabbath convention.
19. Had a hard task in bringing up my diary. Too much neglected. Read in my Bible. Much fatigued.
20. Kept close in my room through the day, and ate nothing at dinner. Attended three public religious services.<sup>1</sup>
21. Rainy. Attended and voted at the annual town meeting. There was a great confusion and contest.
22. I had a lad come here for assistance at my library. Had brought in a box of books, Parliamentary debate,<sup>2</sup> eighty-one volumes, to be paid \$35.00. Paid my barber, \$1.00.
23. Paid at my usual store, Thacher & Co., \$26.00. Had a very fine pair of bed blankets; gave one of them to Mrs. Wright. Much occupied in my chamber.
24. Wrote to Mr. Charles B. Norton, of New York, a book agent. Last evening we had a very fine address on the late death of Prof. Kingsley, Yale College. Was out late.
25. Worked at my library with my helper. Had a hard rain; very salutary. Thanksgiving. Dr. Hawes had a full congregation, and good sermon. The two families in our dwelling-house united in their home. A pleasant household. A very fine season.
26. Walked some and visited. Many visitors in my room. The Thanksgiving now runs through most of the States.<sup>3</sup>
27. We have a hard rain. Wrote in my diary; too much neglected. Can do but little in the short days. Had a good deal of company. Read. Donation, \$1.00.
28. Dr. Hawes preached very well. An Irish wedding at Mrs. Wright's. An arbitrary matter, the wedding last evening.<sup>4</sup> Read. Much movement in the town.

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<sup>1</sup> This was feeding the intellectual and spiritual man at the expense of the physical.

<sup>2</sup> Hansard's *Parliamentary Debates*, of which he had already a large number of volumes. Luke Hansard, born in 1752, was the man who first brought the Hansard family into public notice. The family still exists,

and the work of publishing the debates of Parliament is still in its hands.

<sup>3</sup> It was not, however, made universal among the States, until President Lincoln appointed national Thanksgivings.

<sup>4</sup> A brief and comely way of telling a disagreeable story.

29. Worked with my assistant at my library. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. The earth is very frosty. Am feeble.

30. Make many mistakes in writing. I fear I have lost some of my books.

DECEMBER.

1. Much occupied in arranging books. An interesting day for this city. The new Pearl Street Church, a splendid edifice, was dedicated,<sup>1</sup> and an able and accomplished minister was installed; Mr. Beadle.<sup>2</sup> A very great congregation. The public services very well performed. Much fatigued.

2. Paid Mrs. Wright on my board bill, \$50.00. Was out late in the evening.

3. Paid my lad, Charles Hempsted, \$2.00. Some few of my books seem to be lost. Read in a long evening pretty closely.

4. Wrote. Wet. Took the stage and rode to South Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott is about the house.

5. Rainy. Attended meeting in the forenoon. Mr. Hooker preaches well. His congregation is not large. Mrs. Wolcott's family is very small.

6. Rode home. Wet and bad walking. Read in the evening. Was up late. My system is feeble.

7. Worked in my room. At evening attended a very interesting and learned lecture from Mr. Holmes,<sup>3</sup> of Boston.

8. We have remarkably mild and pleasant weather for the season. Mr. Holmes called in here. Wrote. At evening we had a meeting relative to the Insane Retreat. The building to be extended.

9. Wolcott friends in here. We have respectable visitors. Paid towards Miss Wolcott's watch, \$5.00. Read.

10. Am quite feeble with the very mild weather. Wrote. Paid Burke, .50.

11. Paid Hempsted, \$2.00. Wrote. Many visitors this week.

12. Worked some in my chamber. Attended meeting at the new church. Mr. Beadle preached very well. Did not go out at evening service.

13. Received a letter from W. C. Fowler,<sup>4</sup> of Amherst. Read. Had some snow. This year's diary is a pretty poor one.

14. Had much company; quite respectable. Mild weather. Wrote. At evening read the old catechism through.<sup>5</sup> Donation, \$1.20.

<sup>1</sup> The church itself, it will be remembered, was organized October 15, but its house for public worship was not completed and dedicated until December 1.

<sup>2</sup> Elias R. Beadle, D. D., was sent as a missionary of the American Board to Syria in 1840, but owing to the disturbed condition of things in consequence of the war then prevailing, he and other missionaries came home in 1843. Dr. Beadle's ministry at Hartford continued from Dec. 1, 1852, to March 18, 1863. He was afterwards settled over a Presbyterian church in Philadelphia, where he died in 1879. He was a very

gentle and companionable man, of good abilities, and much beloved as a pastor.

<sup>3</sup> Probably Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, who, for several years about that time, gave himself largely to lyceum lecturing.

<sup>4</sup> Prof. William Chauncey Fowler, LL. D. He was Professor of Rhetoric both in Middlebury and Amherst Colleges. He was born in Clinton, Ct., 1793, graduated at Yale, 1816. He died in 1881.

<sup>5</sup> When he was a boy, he used doubtless to repeat it all through, as did thousands of the girls and boys in New England from generation to generation.

15. Very cold. Mercury at 20°. Occupied by company. At evening attended a public lecture on temperance.

16. My visitors diminish by reason of the cold. Mrs. Wright's family is reduced, but I am well accommodated. Wrote. At evening heard an able public lecture from Mr. Beecher, of Brooklyn.<sup>1</sup>

17. Rainy and cold. Can do but little in the short days. Burke, \$1.00.

18. Very cold and tedious. For my room and labor, \$1.80. Worked at my library.

19. Dr. Hawes preached well. Did not go out in the evening. Read Bible.

20. Our new Association<sup>2</sup> had a session at Mr. Clarke's; fourteen members. I trust it will have the divine favor. I am quite feeble. Much fatigued.

21. Worked at my library. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Heard a good public lecture. Read considerably at home.

22. Did errands. Windsor friends were here. Mrs. Wolcott is quite feeble.

23. Yesterday purchased Miss Caulkins's *History of New London*.<sup>3</sup> Paid for it, \$2.50. Very cold. The mercury at 13°. Ice in the river.

24. The ground is covered with ice. Miss Caulkins's volume is a work of very much labor, and great value.

25. Christmas is much observed. I was, as heretofore, at the upper Episcopal church. Much company at Mrs. Wright's. At evening kept at home. Donation, \$2.00.

26. Dr. Hawes had help in the afternoon. Read Miss Caulkins's *History*; a laborious work. The cold abates. The places of worship here are becoming numerous.

27. Much occupied with visitors. I am hardly able to attend to my calls.

28. We had a very heavy rain through the day. At evening had company at our house from out of and in town.

29. We are soon to come upon a new year. I have sensibly grown old the year past. Wrote. Get fatigued by attending on visitors. Read.

30. Did errands. Had very respectable visitors. At evening attended a meeting of Dr. Hawes and his Sabbath-school. It is large, and has done very well for the year past.

31. Wrote. The season is yet moderate. Have made considerable addition to my library the present year. In the greatness of divine mercy I have been permitted to live another year. Have been preserved in health and severe sickness. I have health with the debility of age. The mercies received are very great, and I desire to commit my all to God for the time to come.

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, when he was about forty years old.

<sup>2</sup> This was the Hartford Fourth Association, organized Oct. 18, 1852.

<sup>3</sup> Miss Frances Manwaring Caulkins, who also wrote the *History of Norwich, Ct.*, both able works, ranking among the better specimens of our town histories.

1858.

JANUARY.

1. Endeavored early in the morning to commit to my Father in Heaven my life, and all my spiritual and temporal interests for the coming year; with thanks for the great mercies of the past, and the like mercies to come, through the riches of divine grace. Had quite a number of visitors, and notices of the new year. Called on the city mayor,<sup>1</sup> with many others. Kindly received. Read. A wet day.

2. Dr. Hawes preached in the morning, and a stranger in the afternoon. We had very extensively a great contribution for meeting-houses in the Western countries.<sup>2</sup>

3. It is a day of much movement. Had many calls and visitors. Did errands. Quite cold. It is said that there is sleighing at the north. Attended to my library. I fear some books are lost.

4. Worked with this diary. Find it difficult to perform my many duties. Attended to visitors. My library much noticed by distinguished characters. Read.

5. We have had a very cold night. Have to settle some accounts with traders and others. I have finished paying for Miss Wolcott's watch, \$25.00. Read.

6. Waited on visitors. Dr. Rogers brought me a bill of \$34.50. He attended me very judiciously in two hard turns of sickness. By divine mercy I am restored to health.

7. Attended to my diary. I am apt to get into the rear. Paid Dr. Rogers his bill of \$34.50. Did errands.

8. Wrote. Difficult to find time for common duties. Very mild and clear weather. Rode in the stage to South Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott has very much declined intellectually without sickness.<sup>3</sup> The Baptists here are getting strength.<sup>4</sup> We have had a very mild week.

9. Walked to meeting and heard Dr. Hooker. Afternoon rode. Great changes in this congregation. There was a congregational contribution for the West.

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<sup>1</sup> The Mayor of Hartford, at that time, holding office from April 21, 1851, to April 18, 1853, was Ebenezer Fowler, Esq. His successor, chosen in the following April, was William James Hamersley, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> This was in accordance with the recommendation of the General Congregational Convention at Albany, a few months before, to raise \$100,000 for church building purposes. This was done, and now the Ameri-

can Congregational Union raises for that purpose a larger sum year by year.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Wolcott was then over eighty years of age.

<sup>4</sup> The Baptist church in South Windsor has never been a strong organization. The church was formed in 1823, though there had been occasional preaching there by Baptist ministers from the beginning of the century.



10. Came home. My sister Battell came to the city. Her health is very favorably continued. At evening read.
11. Political matters are very quiet. Worked some at my library. Am feeble.
12. Was with sister Battell and her daughter Irene. They went off to New Haven.
13. We had a hard snow through the day. The first of any account for the present season. Was out in the storm a part of the time. Wrote to Miss Wolcott, of South Windsor.
14. The snow is deep. Sleighs begin to move. Purchased a pair of boots for Miss Wolcott; an article in fashion in this town.<sup>1</sup> Wrote.
15. The sleighing is very good, and used abundantly. Have many visitors. Read my Bible. Many evenings in the week are held for various purposes.
16. Dr. Hawes preached. Severe cold. It increased the most of the day. Did not go out in the evening.
17. Our Association had a meeting at Wethersfield. I did not go on account of the cold. Made a beginning on a catalogue of my library; hope to be succeeded in the great work. Read history. Received from Hartford Bank, dividend, \$17.50.
18. The cold abates some. Wrote diary. Wrote.
19. Did errands. Paid for books, \$10.71, and for the Connecticut *Courant*, \$1.50. Very good sleighing. Read *History of the Middle Ages*.<sup>2</sup> Wrote.
20. Worked in an attempt to arrange my Bibles in my library. A difficult task. The Connecticut River is frozen. Read.
21. Had much company. Read history.
22. Much occupied with company. There has been a week of very good sleighing. Read the Bible. Have recently been quite well. Rainy.
23. Quite wet. I have lately read considerably in the Bible. I hope to complete the present course which I have considered doubtful. I leave all with my Heavenly Father.
24. Much occupied at my room. Have quite a number of visitors. The snow is falling. At evening read.
25. Much occupied with visitors. I find little time for writing. Get fatigued with labors.
26. The snow falls. Was called unexpectedly to go to South Windsor. At evening attended a Baptist singing-school. Cold and stormy. Got much fatigued.
27. Was unwell in the night and this morning. Rode home. Unwell through the day by fatigue and cold. Kept at home.

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins, being now seventy-five years old, is careful that Miss Ursula Wolcott shall have her boots in city fashion. He is very thoughtful of her wants.

<sup>2</sup> Henry Hallam published his great work on the *Middle Ages*, in two volumes, in 1818. This was the work probably which Dr. Robbins was reading.

28. Very cold. Great quantities of ice for preservation. Have a good deal of company. Am mostly unable to write.

29. The mercury has been at cipher. Am little able to write, or attend to company. Occupied with company in our family. Not able to write but little.

30. Was requested to preach in a vacant pulpit; not able. Am considerably unwell, and conclude not to go to public worship. Read a good many chapters in the Epistles. Conversed in the family.

31. Am not able to do much business. Had calls from friends at a distance. A tremor affects my writing. It is getting common for ministers to move.<sup>1</sup> By the divine blessing, I am brought through the first month of the year. At evening wrote at home.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Am quite feeble and unwell. Wrote for the closing of the last month and beginning of this. Am not able to do but little. Paid Mrs. Wright a board bill, \$10.00. Read Bible.

2. Occupied with company. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Hope I am convalescing. Read much in the evening. Some rain.

3. Wrote. Am affected with tremor. Not quite as well as I have been. At evening read Bible.

4. Am some affected with headache. Wrote to my sister Battell. Am not able to write but little. The snow declining.

5. Wrote to Miss Wolcott, South Windsor. Am able in great mercy to *write* better than in times past.<sup>2</sup> Read Bible.

6. Wet and rainy. Dr. Hawes's congregation come out well in unfavorable weather. Last evening I read the whole of the Book of Revelation. This finishes the volume in course. Soon will these notices close.<sup>3</sup>

7. Wrote. My diary is not as full and correct as I could wish. I do not attend many evening meetings.

8. Had a good deal of company. The winter seems to be passing away. I am feeble and easily get fatigued. Read, and was up late.

9. Wrote. Much occupied with company. Went into an associational meeting. Wrote to sister Battell; long in writing.

10. There was a very good religious meeting here of different congregations. Received a very interesting letter from Mr. James Brown, Esq., of New York. Paid for Miss Wolcott's boots, \$2.25.

11. Had a very respectable company of visitors from Springfield.

12. Had a call from a large committee of Massachusetts Legislature, sent

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<sup>1</sup> Through two hundred years of New England history the Congregational ministers were settled for life, and as a rule they remained through life in the parishes where they were settled in their youth. But before the middle of the present century this ancient

custom began to be broken up, and now it is comparatively rare to find an elderly minister in the parish where he was first settled.

<sup>2</sup> He means than in some times past.

<sup>3</sup> The notes made in his diary on these Bible readings.

to visit the Retreat. They speak very favorably of our library. Received of Mr. Hosmer a payment on my salary of \$100.00. Much company.

13. We have a hard snow-storm. Did not go to public worship. Wrote diary. Read. Began the Testament. Hope by favor of heaven to finish it.

14. Have a good deal of company. A good number from Springfield. Good sleighing and cold. Was out on errands. Read.

15. We have had a very cold night. Paid .75 for a good knife. Have much company. I am pretty feeble with the seasons. Wrote to Miss Wolcott.

16. Attended on company. We had a hard rain. I have to take much sleep.

17. Quite cold. Our new President, Gen. Franklin Pierce, passed through this town on his way to Washington.<sup>1</sup>

18. It is cold and rough weather, but no sleighing. Read some, but find little time to do it. Attended to company. Had a letter from Miss Wolcott. Read Revolutionary War.

19. We have much company to see some new articles in the Atheneum. Read Bible. I do not perform much business.

20. Kept in my room in the forenoon, and was at public worship in the afternoon and evening. Read. Dr. Hawes does much for the youth and children.

21. Had former friends in my rooms from New Milford. Read the well fought and successful battle of Saratoga. Read late and cold.

22. I make many errors in writing. We had a very hard rainy day. Wrote to my sister Battell. Paid for work, \$1.00.

23. I have a great number of visitors. A new collection of articles. The snow, a large body, is mostly gone.\* Our little river is very high.

24. I am writing, with some inconvenience, to family connections. Political movements excite much attention. Read history.

25. We have weather quite cold and tedious. Wrote. Affected with much tremor. My friend, who keeps much with me, has lost a son-in-law in Savannah; a man of large property.

26. Attended on visitors. Get quite fatigued with my labors. Wrote to family friends. Read Bible.

27. Attended public worship at the South meeting-house. Mr. Clarke preached very well. I keep much at my boarding-house on the Sabbath. The air is cold.

28. Wrote to Mr. Elisha Whittlesey at Washington; my pupil at school in the year 1800,\* now a very respectable and useful man.

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<sup>1</sup> To be in readiness for the 4th of March.

\* In the year 1800, it may be remembered, Dr. Robbins, then a young man of twenty-three, was teaching in Danbury, and preaching in neighboring churches. There were several families of Whittleseys in Danbury,

but Elisha was born in Washington, Ct., Oct. 19, 1783, and was attending the Danbury Academy in 1800, being then seventeen years of age. He did not have a college education, but became a very able, honorable, upright man, and was entrusted with many high offices.

## MARCH.

1. A tedious snow-storm. Employed on my diary. Attended to accounts and my histories. I write with considerable labor.
2. Attended to my money matters. Have much assistance from Miss Wright, of my boarding family. My pecuniary arrangements are in much need of improvement.
3. Wrote to Miss Helen Robbins, of East Lexington, Mass. We have a heavy body of snow. Am much troubled with tremor.
4. The day to install the new President. We expect quietness and hope for peace. Wrote on my Lexington letter; considerable labor. Have many calls for charity.
5. Read the new President's address to the nation. Did errands. Last evening heard a very good lecture from Mr. Coxe,<sup>1</sup> on old Rome and St. Paul's Church.
6. Our snow is going off; a large portion is gone. Attended meeting at Pearl Street Church. Mr. Beadle<sup>2</sup> is a very good preacher. The churches are well occupied.
7. Wrote on letters to distant friends. Have difficulty in writing to be read by others.<sup>3</sup> Have much company.
8. Lent to John Burke, \$3.00. Rainy. A good deal unwell. Had much company. Read historical works. Attended to my money matters. The banks have done very well. Mr. Wright affords me assistance; an excellent hand.
9. Had a great rain upon the snow. Unwell and kept at the house. Great parade at Washington at the inauguration of the new President. Had a large numbers of visitors.
10. Am a good deal unwell. Am too apt to delay my diary. Read my Bible.
11. Worked at my library. We have some very intelligent visitors.
12. Wrote diary. Much occupied with company. Was kept out till dark. Read Scripture.
13. Attended meeting at the South. Had very good preaching from Mr. Clarke. Had meeting at the South. People much removed in their seats. Read Scripture.
14. Worked at my books. There is much need of arrangement. Am feeble, and easily get fatigued.
15. Very cold. The mercury at zero. Read. The cold keeps persons and dwellings very quiet. Read. The days sensibly lengthen. Made a call on Dr. Hawes. Wrote.
16. The cold abates gradually. I am feeble as to health. Have to do a good deal for my books. Reading the New Testament in course.

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<sup>1</sup> Arthur Cleveland Coxe, D.D., who was a man of a very scholarly mind.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Elias R. Beadle, D.D.

<sup>3</sup> This is not true as respects his entries

in the diary. Though his hand trembles and the signs of age distinctly appear, yet there is no trouble whatever, as yet, in reading what he writes.

17. The Irish people are out in great numbers for St. Patrick's Day. Have much company. Was in at a neighbor's.

18. Had a good deal of rain. Wrote diary. Several young ladies were in, going to the West as missionaries.<sup>1</sup> Had to write.

19. Have a good deal of company. Am feeble, and can perform but little labor. Read Bible. Cannot well go out of town.

20. Heard Dr. Hawes. Much change in the seats at the meeting-house.<sup>2</sup> Attended the evening meeting. We have had a cold week.

21. Worked at my books. They need a new arrangement. Have much company.

22. The season grows warmer. Am feeble, and labor of any kind is burdensome. Looked over my will. I think it must be re-written. My days are evidently lessening. Read Bible; in the New Testament, and perhaps the last time.<sup>3</sup>

23. Worked at my library. At evening we had a meeting of the managers of the Retreat. That important institution is doing very well.

24. Wrote diary. We have a cold spring. I am pretty feeble for labor.

25. Much occupied with visitors. Cannot find much time to read. Cold spring winds very oppressive.

26. Get much fatigued by attending on company. A prospect of an early spring. Read my Bible. Have the most of my evenings at home.

27. Mr. Corning<sup>4</sup> preached for Dr. Hawes. There appears to be rather a dearth of revivals. Read much in the Testament in course.

28. Labored much in the arrangement of books in the library. Quite fatigued. The green grass is quite visible.

29. Worked at my books. They have not been well arranged in some years. The prospect of political elections excites much attention.

30. At evening attended a very interesting meeting on the temperance cause. A number of gentlemen spoke very well. The subject is of great importance. I opened the meeting.

On the 25th of the month was the annual Fast. Well observed. Dr. Hawes had a public prayer-meeting in the forenoon, and preaching in the afternoon. Read my Bible. The annual Fast is very important. There is a mistake in the record of some of the latter days of this month.

31. Find it difficult to keep up my diary. Worked at my library. Am much oppressed with debility. We have been favored with an uncommonly mild and temperate winter. Scarcity was expected, but a good God has ordered it otherwise.

<sup>1</sup> More particularly teachers, sent out by Gov. Slade's Board of Education.

<sup>2</sup> Both at the South Church in Hartford, and at the Centre, the month of March seems to have been the season of re-seating the meeting-house.

<sup>3</sup> He means the last time of reading it continuously through.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. William Henry Corning, a native of Hartford, born in 1820, graduated at Trinity College in 1842, and at Yale Seminary, 1845. He was settled in Clinton, Mass., Owego, N. Y., and Whitehall, N. Y. He died at Saratoga Springs, 1862. His class in Yale Seminary was a large one, including names now well known.

## APRIL.

1. There is a great deal of moving of families and furniture in the city. Rainy. Am much occupied with domestic business.
2. Wrote on a letter to Miss Wolcott. Worked at my library. The season seems to be forward.
3. Much occupied. Attended the Sabbath-school in the morning, two common services, and the sacrament at Dr. Hawes's, and his evening meeting. Much fatigued with the varied labors.<sup>1</sup>
4. The annual State election excites great attention. Democracy has a very general prevalence. Morality and godliness cannot include the majority. Quite rainy. Wrote.
5. Am trying to arrange and improve my library. A difficult matter. It has needed it a good while. The State election comes out very poorly.<sup>2</sup>
6. Am attending to the business of a new will. A subject of much hesitancy and labor. I have much need of divine assistance. Read Bible.
7. Much occupied with company. Wrote. My diary is too much neglected. Vegetation advances. My room has had a thorough cleansing. Fatigued with labor.
8. Received of Mr. James B. Hosmer, on salary, \$50.00. Gave East Windsor public school, \$2.00. Paid for a good hat, new and made here, \$4.00. Had much company. Read at evening.
9. My cousins, Mr. Lawrence and wife, from Northampton, made me a pleasant call; Robbins Lawrence.
10. Attended meeting in the morning at the North. Had a very able sermon from Mr. Bushnell on the pretended miracles of the present day.<sup>3</sup> Afternoon was at the new meeting.
11. Attended the State election and voted. It went most miserably. All Democracy. The prospect is most discouraging. Attended the very large and impressive funeral of Miss Frances A. Strong,<sup>4</sup> granddaughter of the venerable Dr. Strong, of past years. Very numerous.
12. Wrote to my sister Battell. Get much fatigued by company. Read. Quite cool. Miss Warrener has been set to watch here.<sup>5</sup>
13. Paid Mr. Brinley, \$2.00. Waited on company. Our spring advances slowly.

<sup>1</sup> This way of spending the Sabbath, attending five public services, for an infirm man of nearly seventy-six years old, would naturally make him "much fatigued," and prepare him to heed the Scriptural advice, "Be not righteous overmuch."

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Thomas H. Seymour was again elected Governor, with Charles Hobby Pond as Lieut.-Governor. But Gov. Seymour soon received the appointment from Washington of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Belgium, and the Lieut.-Governor became the Acting Governor.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Robbins evidently begins to think better of Dr. Bushnell than he did.

<sup>4</sup> Miss Frances Ann Strong was the daughter of Nathan Strong, M. D., and was born Feb. 11, 1814, and died April 8, 1853. She was only three years old when her honored grandfather, Nathan Strong, D. D., died. She was at the head of the young ladies' school, founded in 1822 by Miss Catharine Beecher, and kept by her until 1832.

<sup>5</sup> That is, in the library, to see if she can detect thieving on the part of any of the visitors.

14. Am trying to write a new will. A difficult task. Walked and did errands. Quite rainy and wet.

15. Worked at my books. Am feeble, and cannot perform much labor. Am taken up with unprofitable company.

16. Much occupied with company. Read Bible. The spring advances gradually.

17. Dr. Hawes preached in reference to the death of Miss Strong. That seems to close the family of the eminent Dr. Strong. I am feeble, and can do but little.

18. Am employed in my room. Wrote on a part of a new will. My hand trembles, and I write slowly. It will be wanted at no distant time. I pray for divine assistance.

19. Am in some degree unwell. We have intelligence of the death of the Vice-President, the Hon. Rufus King.<sup>1</sup> Unmarried, something over seventy years of age. Set out on a journey to Norfolk. Rode to Canton, and spent the night at a tavern. Considerably fatigued.

20. Rode in the stage to Norfolk, the beloved place of my birth. Stayed at my sister Battell's. Rainy. Something fatigued.

21. The people here are enlarging the public green, strange as it may seem, for the first time. Looked at my cousin Battell's very fine horse.<sup>2</sup> He is very elegant and profitable.

22. Had a pretty poor night at a tavern at Canton. Rainy and wet. Rode home in the stage. Much fatigued. A young woman is taken into my room as an assistant. She appears well.

23. Employed in writing. I get into the rear with my diary. I believe that I have lost money. I conclude by theft; stolen from my room. If it be real it will be a severe, though just, divine chastisement. It may be restored; the sum was fifty dollars.

24. Attended meeting at the South Church. The preacher a stranger. Read Bible.

25. Wrote to sister Battell at Norfolk. Have many calls from visitors. We find a prospect of military movements. The season advances.

26. Have much to do in bringing up my diary. Attended to my writing. The population of our country, I think, never increased more rapidly.

27. Paid for a new valuable book, \$2.25; *Vespucius*.<sup>3</sup> Am trying to get up my diary. Read with difficulty at times.

28. Wrote in my diary. Am apt to forget passing events. Am much occupied with the calls of visitors.

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<sup>1</sup> Hon. William Rufus King, born in North Carolina, April 7, 1786, died in Cahaba, Ala., April 18, 1853. He had been from early life in high civil offices, United States Senator for thirty years, Minister to France, and Secretary of Legation to Russia.

<sup>2</sup> Robbins Battell, Esq., has been for a long course of years much interested in

improving the breed of horses. Some twelve or thirteen years since, he brought over, at great expense, a superior Russian horse, from which there are now in the country many specimens.

<sup>3</sup> Amerigo Vespucci, a distinguished navigator, who falsely gave his name to this country. He died in 1512 or 1514.

29. Warm. The spring advances rapidly. Wrote diligently on my testament.<sup>1</sup> A laborious matter. Have calls for taxes frequently.

30. Have many and distant visitors. This month has been favorable for vegetation. Read considerably.

#### MAY.

1. Attended meeting with Mrs. Wright. A full congregation. Did not go out in the evening. Read in the evening.

2. Wrote on my Testament. I cannot write without many mistakes. The season comes on very favorably. Many strangers coming into town.

3. Am afflicted some; a rheumatism in my hip. Have many visitors. Wrote as much as I could have strength and time to do.

4. We had a great old-fashioned election day. The weather very fine, a great collection of people, much military display, and various processions. I could not bear much of the public scene.

5. Yesterday I shut up the most of the time.<sup>2</sup> Today we have many calls and visitors. Received of Mr. Hosmer, \$50.00. Attended to my domestic concerns.

6. Wrote. Vegetation is unusually prosperous. Paid Mrs. Wright on my board bill, \$25.00.

7. Prayed with the Senate<sup>3</sup> in their session, and gave an invitation to the members to call into my room, during their session, as they thought proper. There has been a most terrible disaster on the railroad in Norwalk. More than forty lives lost, and many are injured. Hardly equaled in the history of railroads.<sup>4</sup>

8. The funeral of Dr. Welch,<sup>5</sup> near our Atheneum, drowned at Norwalk, was attended here. A valuable man and physician. There has been a large medical meeting at New York, and many of the number have been lost in the great catastrophe. Rainy.

9. The fatal event, which we have feared, has been confirmed. Mrs. Robbins,<sup>6</sup> of Lenox, widow of my brother James, with her daughter, drowned at the great catastrophe. I believe such a distressing occurrence has not taken place in this country. Waited on company.

10. Finished a work on which I have been long looking and laboring. I have written and finished my will. It has been declared and acknowledged

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robbins, having no children to whom his little property would naturally descend, felt called upon, as his kindred, one by one, passed away, to adjust his will to the new circumstances. This made him much labor.

<sup>2</sup> That is, closed the library.

<sup>3</sup> It was remarkable, amid the infirmities of his old age, that he should be called, year after year, to perform this service. It implies that there was something fitting and becoming in his manner of doing it.

<sup>4</sup> This was that dreadful accident, in

which a train coming from New York on the New York & New Haven, ran into an open drawbridge at Norwalk. The train carried many of the leading physicians of New England, returning from a Medical Convention. This accident happened Friday, May 6.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Archibald Welch, born in Mansfield, Ct., in 1794. He first practiced in Windham County, but in 1832 removed to Wethersfield, and in 1848 to Hartford, where he was a prominent physician.

<sup>6</sup> Mrs. James W. Robbins, of Lenox, had



before witnesses. It will be, I fully believe, my last. It has been a work of great labor to me. A few days since I paid a town tax of \$3.64. A mistake. It has been re-paid.

11. Much occupied with company. Have much to do in my writing. Get quite fatigued. Can read but little. All newspapers are occupied with the scenes and results of the Norwalk disaster.

12. Visited the House of Representatives, and invited the members to visit the Atheneum, during the session, as they thought proper. I was treated with great cordiality and kindness. Have to sleep a good deal.

13. My sister Battell and niece Eldridge came here very unexpectedly. Gave to friends, \$2.00. Had a pleasant visit from my sister. Am quite feeble.

14. The season advances rapidly. My sister went off for home, after a good visit. Read considerably. Not able to do much in my room.

15. Heard Dr. Hawes both parts of the day. Read. I am much debilitated. I think there are indications in the community of the increase of religious errors.

16. Attended a regular meeting of our Association<sup>1</sup> at Dr. Hawes's. Our new Association prospers. I think will be useful. The mercury today at summer heat.

17. Wrote diary. Wrote to Mr. Herrick, librarian, Yale College. Quite warm. I am not able to do but little labor.

18. Rode with friends to Glastonbury, and attended a great and very interesting celebration of the commencement of the third year from the beginning of the town.<sup>2</sup> A very interesting occasion. A great number of people. It is hoped that other histories of the early towns may be made out. Got home early.

19. We have hard showers; very salutary. Am considerably troubled with dimness of eyes.

20. Quite cold. Wrote. Have to do a good deal in my room. Much occupied with company. The Legislature are very busy. Wrote.

21. Wrote. Rainy. Am a good deal unwell. Attended at the South. It is cold, and I took considerable cold. Read.

22. I was quite cold, and became considerably ill. The air is cold and chilly. The season advances slowly. I am not able to do much labor of any kind. Attended some to my Bible.

23. Slept last night but poorly. Did but little at my business.

24. My illness is a cold and severe soreness in the throat. I sent for Dr. Rogers. He says it is a common complaint of the season.

25. Do not go to my chamber at the Atheneum, but am very well accommodated at my home. I sleep pretty well.

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been a widow about six years. Her husband died in 1847.

<sup>1</sup> The Hartford Fourth Association, formed Oct. 18, 1852.

<sup>2</sup> Glastonbury was organized as a town,

May 8, 1690, so that the celebration was not, at the exact completion of any round number of years, but apparently at the convenience of the inhabitants. Up to that time Glastonbury had been a part of Wethersfield.

26. Read. Can do but little. Am troubled with wandering mind. Attended to friends.

27. Some days we have much company. A very convenient place for members of the Legislature. Am quite feeble.

28. Am better than I have been, through great mercy. Wrote considerably in diary. Read Bible.

29. Am feeble. It is burdensome for me to perform much labor of any kind. Did not attend public worship at forenoon. Finished reading the New Testament in course; begun several months since. Was at meeting in the afternoon.

30. Very warm for the season. Vegetation is unusually forward. Wrote to G. W. Fellows, Esq., New York.

31. Have to change clothes and bedding on account of the warm weather. I go out but little. Have a good deal of company. Read.

#### JUNE.

1. It is very difficult for me to avoid making mistakes in writing. Much occupied with company. Very much company in town. A learned gentleman from England called here. He spoke very well of my library.

2. Quite unwell the most of the day. Kept mostly at home. Have much headache. Many strangers in town, in addition to Legislature. Kept my bed much.

3. Am troubled with a rheumatism. Had much very respectable company. There is an unusual number in the town. Wrote; bringing up arrears. Troubled with want of sleep.

4. Had a very ill night; sleepless. Wrote. Am quite feeble from labor. Rode to South Windsor. Mrs. Wolcott is very feeble and old.<sup>1</sup> A long time since I was here.<sup>2</sup> Vegetation very flourishing and forward.

5. Attended meeting; was carried. Dr. Hooker preaches very well, but that old congregation is reduced. Miss Ursula Wolcott has a laborious task with her mother.

6. Returned to my home, Mrs. Wright's. Public efforts are making here to destroy revealed religion. Neglected writing. Expenses about \$2.56.

7. I am too apt to neglect my diary. One of the mornings this week I have prayed with the Senate. My memory fails.

8. My money is not as well attended to as it ought to be. Have much company. Have company highly respected. The town here is quite full of all characters.

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<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Abiel Wolcott (Ursula Tudor) was then eighty years old. She died Oct. 24, 1854, at the age of eighty-nine. She came, as we have before had occasion to notice, of a very long-lived family, and of her five children, two are yet living between eighty and ninety, and another died at the age of eighty-seven.

<sup>2</sup> It was indeed a very long time (quite a number of months) since Dr. Robbins's last visit to South Windsor, where he used to go almost every other week. The burden of years began to press heavily upon him, and his life work was almost done. His decline was marked by a child-like gentleness of spirit.

9. Am troubled with rheumatism. Have been exposed to night air quite too much.

10. Try to walk considerably, though it is fatiguing. Wrote diary. It gets too much neglected. I forget names and occurrences. Read Bible. It has been a very growing season for a good while. Wrote diary.

11. Very languid air. Can get about but a little. Wrote. Saw some very fine strawberries, and other fruit. Very early. Am very uncommonly unwell. The Lord be my helper.

12. The weather is warm and languid. Mr. Strong<sup>1</sup> preached. Early crops are forward and promising. Read Bible.

13. Am feeble, and little able for labor of any kind. I am wishing to improve my library, but cannot perform the requisite labor. Prospect of great changes in the Eastern world. The Lord governs the world, even Asia.

14. A very hot day. The mercury near 90°. Am quite unwell with the heat. Not able to read but little.

15. My writing is very poor. Our company diminishes some, with the heat increasing. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. I am not able to make an arrangement of my books as I wish to do.

16. Wrote some, but can do but little. The mercury is at 89°. I have to lay aside much of my business. Our Legislature do but little business. Wrote on a letter to Miss Wolcott.

17. Had a very favorable rain. A good Providence has shown great mercies the present year. We have very hot nights.

18. Have very respectable company and numerous. We have had a hot and very productive week. Much affected with debility. Have to keep the house most of the time.

19. Meeting rather thin. Dr. Hawes preached very well. Read my Bible. Keep much retired.

20. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. The mercury at 84°. The weather very oppressive.

21. Attended to company. Wrote. Am poorly able for any labor. Very little abatement.

22. Went into the meeting of the House of Representatives. Heard a very interesting debate on the Maine law.<sup>2</sup> Very kindly treated. A very long session. Very tired.

23. Received a letter from Mr. George Fellows, Niagara Falls. Rode to South Windsor in the stage.<sup>3</sup> The heat abates a little. Mrs. Wolcott is aged and feeble.

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<sup>1</sup> Probably Edward Strong, D.D., then pastor of the College Street Church, New Haven. He was a native of Somers, Ct., and son of Rev. William L. Strong.

<sup>2</sup> The Maine Liquor Law (which is still under constant discussion), prohibiting, with some few exceptions, the manufacture and

sale of intoxicating drinks, was enacted in 1851.

<sup>3</sup> His last visit to South Windsor, previous to this, appears to have been on the 4th of December preceding, though he had kept his intercourse with the Wolcott family by frequent letters.

24. Attended to my diary. Read. Walked considerably in this old street. The crops are in a flourishing state. Miss Ursula Wolcott has a hard task in her work.

25. Rode home in the stage. Much fatigued. The weather is growing cool, after the long very hot season. Attended to company. Feeble.

26. People complain much of the heat and debility. Attended to people in my room. Have some assistance.

27. Had strangers to preach for Dr. Hawes. Rather moderate. Read my Bible. Some difficulty in fixing attention.

28. Had a hard and very refreshing rain. Find it difficult to write. Went to the House of Representatives. Sat long and got quite fatigued. The members were laborious. Many of them performed well. I was treated very kindly.

29. Able to write considerably. Some attempts to promote false religion. Have some headache.

30. Our Legislature are about closing their long and feeble session. Showers. Haying is begun considerably. Wrote.

#### JULY.

1. Attended to my diary. Wrote a letter to Miss Ursula Wolcott. A good deal of extensive travel. Oppressed with debility.

2. Received of Mr. James B. Olmsted, \$50.00. A good supply of fruits are collected here at the Atheneum weekly.

3. Dr. Hawes preached very well. I am not able to read much. There was a very great funeral, the woman the daughter of Gov. Ellsworth.

4. Independence. Very many people in the streets and in my Atheneum. Much occupied with company. The mercury near 90°.

5. There was a very great exhibition of performances yesterday at Springfield. I conclude there was an uncommon celebration through the land. Wrote to Miss Wolcott. Am very feeble. Great noise continues in our streets.

6. I am injured by exposure to the open night air. The heat abates some. This Independence season excites great attention. Attended no public meeting.

7. Much occupied with visitors. At evening a gentleman called on me from New York, a remote kinsman, Mr. Thomas Robbins Foster,<sup>1</sup> originally from our vicinity. A very respectable man.

8. Mr. Foster called on me this morning, conversed, and wrote a good deal. He invited me to come to see him at New York. A very warm and faint day; toward night a refreshing shower. Wrote. Am quite feeble. Had a great many visitors. A good deal of rain.

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Foster has been before noticed. He bore Dr. Robbins's name, for his baptismal names, but what the exact relationship between them was, we have not been able to

discover. Not long after this Mr. Foster died, and his widow lived for a time in Bolton, Mass. Mr. Foster was a merchant in South Street, New York.

10. Dr. Bacon, of New Haven, preached here. We have at Mrs. Wright's a very small family. Have refreshing showers.

11. Had to write a good deal. Talked considerably on college questions, and subjects of public occasions. Many strangers present.

12. Am feeble and have headache. We have warm and sultry nights. Have much and respectable company. My library is much noticed. Wrote to my brother Samuel, but do not know his residence to send it to him; much fatigued. Disappointed of getting to South Windsor. Left by the stage.

13. I am able to do but little of any business. There is a good deal of public traveling. Often hear of old acquaintances, at the eastward particularly.

14. I deposited with Miss Ursula Wolcott, to be permanently hers if not disposed of otherwise, with her consent, \$16.50. Rode in the stage to East Hartford and South Windsor. Spent the night at Miss Ursula Wolcott's. The aged Mrs. Wolcott still lives, but low in muscular and mental strength.

15. Wrote diary. I have mistakes and omissions. Had a good deal of company. People have commenced their harvest. Had company late. Am pretty feeble.

16. A wet day and a hard rain. Not able to perform much labor. The great Crystal Palace<sup>1</sup> at New York excites great attention through the land.

17. Read Bible. Dr. Hawes preached, and very well. My health is feeble. My memory fails a good deal. We have summer. Crops are prosperous.

18. Am troubled with debility. Much occupied with company; some quite intelligent. Not able to do much. I am getting less acquainted with relatives and friends. Wrote considerably. Easily get fatigued. My memory fails considerably. The heat abates.

19. We had hard thunder-showers this morning. There are very great movements in the country, mostly for pleasure. Industrious people can do more than gain a comfortable living.

20. Received for attentions to the Legislature, \$6.00.

21. Am a good deal unwell. Had a poor night. In the afternoon my sister Sarah came here from Norfolk. We had a very pleasant visit.

22. Can do but little. Quite warm. They have today at New Haven a tremendous performance of music. Wrote.

23. Wrote to President Hopkins, of Williams College, and resigned my office as member of the corporation of that institution. On account of feeble health, I have not been able to attend regularly for years past on the duties of the office. Attended on company.

24. Dr. Hawes exchanged. Mr. Kellogg<sup>2</sup> preached very well. There is

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<sup>1</sup> Built for the World's Fair in 1854.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Rev. Martin Kellogg, born in Vernon, Ct., in 1828, graduated at Yale in 1850. He was in 1853 in the latter part of his theological course in Union Seminary,

and has since labored in the ministry in California, and as a professor in Oakland College, and now employed in the University of California. He descended from Rev. Ebenezer Kellogg, first minister of Vernon, Ct.

a great deal of traveling and moving. Read Bible. I fear there is an increasing disregard of the sacredness of the Sabbath. Am able to do but little.

25. Accounts from various parts of the country are very favorable as to the season. Quite warm.

26. Quite rainy. Kept much in my room. I get fatigued very easily. They have a very great musical exhibition at New Haven. Our country has great expenses. Mrs. Wright assisted me in arranging my room.

27. Rainy. Read much and got wearied. Am able to sit up but little.

28. The Commencement of the college in this town took place, and was well performed. It prospers well. Its operations are Episcopal. I was not able to go out and attend on the exercises. Wrote some. Had some fine visitors from the South.

29. Set out on a journey, and came to the centre of Norfolk. The place of my birth.

30. Am quite feeble. I have much tremor and a steel-pen.<sup>1</sup> I am troubled in writing. I see various people here of former days. Great changes here in the lands and buildings.

31. Attended public worship at the ancient house. Mr. Holley<sup>2</sup> preached. A number of our friends here are gone to Europe, mostly for health.

#### AUGUST.

1. The public green in the centre of the town has lately been enclosed for cultivation, and they have taken from it a crop of hay. Walked and visited objects familiar in my childhood.

2. Am quite feeble. Our connections here are very well situated. Some of them are absent in Europe.

3. Read in the noted novel of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.<sup>3</sup> A very popular work against slavery. Great movements in our country.

4. Wrote. A steel pen is a poor article in the hand of a poor writer.<sup>4</sup> My sister Battell, and some others of the household, went off for Saratoga, and other places. Find little to do.

5. This old agricultural town is industrious and improving. Some increasing manufactures. I hope my health is a little improving.

6. Left Norfolk yesterday afternoon and came to Winsted. Stayed at a tavern, and started very early this morning and came to Hartford.<sup>5</sup> Much fatigued.

<sup>1</sup> Not a desirable combination.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Platt Tyler Holley, born in Greenwich, Ct., 1808, graduated at Yale College, 1828, and at Yale Theological School in 1832, pastor, 1832-1851, at Sandisfield, Mass., and a teacher at West Winsted, 1851-1855. He afterward preached at Sharon, Ct., Fairfield, Ct., and at Bridgeport, Ct. He is now (1886) living in Bridgeport.

<sup>3</sup> This famous story had appeared in num-

bers in the *National Era*, at Washington, but was first published in book form by John P. Jewett & Co., Boston, in 1852, and its circulation in different countries and different languages has been marvelous.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Robbins had done his great work as a writer in the *goose-quill* age, and he shared the disgust, with multitudes of others, when he first undertook to use steel pens.

<sup>5</sup> The writer of this took the same journey,

7. Dr. Hawes preached very well. We had the sacrament. Could read but little. My books and library are a good deal out of order. Am able to write but little.

8. A very warm morning. We have many accounts of travels and discoveries and diversions all over the country. Our population must be greatly increasing.

9. Have found my cane, which I have feared a good while was lost. Wrote after some neglect. Am much debilitated.

10. Read. Am not able to labor intellectually. My company continues undiminished.

11. In the greatness of divine mercy I have closed the seventy-sixth year of my life, and entered upon the seventy-seventh year. I would ascribe thanksgiving to a holy God, and enter upon another year, committing health, life, and soul all to him for time and eternity. Looked over money matters. Wrote. The heat is very great; the mercury above 90°. Much company. My cane is restored with great kindness.

12. The severe heat continues unabated. Much of the afternoon the mercury was about 90°. Attended a little on company. Am quite weak. Dreadful yellow fever at New Orleans.

13. There seems to be no abatement of the heat. The mercury from 90° to 95° several hours. Am much debilitated. Have calls from a great distance. Wrote.

14. Mr. Cleaveland,<sup>1</sup> of New Haven, preached here very well. Toward evening we had a hard rain. A great blessing. Wrote.

15. Received a present of a very valuable new edition of Mather's *Magnalia* from Silas Andrus & Son, finely executed.\* The late rain has produced a great change in the season. Am greatly obliged.

16. Am unwell and very feeble; had to take to my bed. Much company at my boarding-house.

17. Rainy. Wrote. I get frequently quite fatigued with little labor. The season is unusually productive.

18. Much occupied with company. We have a cool air. Am better able to write than in time past. Have to sleep much. Read.

19. Wrote to Miss Ursula Wolcott. Get fatigued very easily. Very much riding and traveling over the country.

20. Attended the funeral of my very respected neighbor, Mr. Nichols,<sup>3</sup> after a short illness, aged eighty; supposed to be the effect of the late great heat. Read Bible. Many visitors of people of distinction. Cool.

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staying over night at Winsted, several years later. There was then railroad communication between Winsted and Hartford, but none between Norfolk and Winsted.

<sup>1</sup> Elisha Lord Cleaveland, D.D., pastor of Third Church, New Haven, 1833, to his death, Feb. 16, 1866.

<sup>2</sup> Silas Andrus, of Hartford, published

the first American edition of Dr. Cotton Mather's *Magnalia* in 1820. Dr. Robbins wrote the introduction. Dr. Robbins had also superintended the publication of the second edition published in 1853, though the amount of additional work was slight.

<sup>3</sup> James Nichols, Esq., before time Judge of Probate.

21. In the absence of Dr. Hawes we had two preachers from a distance. They performed well. The sickness at the South continues very destructive. Am still weak.

22. Mr. Gad Newell<sup>1</sup> made me a good visit. Graduated at Yale College, 1786. Gave for a Western institution, \$3.00. Read.

23. Am feeble with regard to muscular labor. My library is much admired by characters from a distance for its rare books. Some volumes are rare and of great value. Miss Wolcott was here.

24. Employed in domestic duties. Rode to South Windsor in the stage. Found Miss Ursula Wolcott and others. Mrs. Wolcott is very old. Am quite weak.

25. Wrote for Miss Wolcott. Crops here in the best order. This place is much decayed from times past.

26. Rode home. Many people in my room during the day. Wrote. Can do but little labor of any kind.

27. Burdened with keeping days and nights in distinction.<sup>2</sup> Wrote.

30. The heat continues without any material abatement.

31. We have been employed in various ways for some time. Have been at Norfolk, rather to Windsor; and a record here is confused. This last week has been confused.<sup>3</sup> I have been a good deal unwell. I am unwell with rheumatism. Have been up.

#### SEPTEMBER.

1. An aged Baptist minister was in here, aged ninety-three. I write with difficulty. I consulted my physician.

7. I have been more or less sick the most of the time, since writing this, September 7th. I have at times been comfortable, but able to do but little. Holy is the Lord. I now write but little. I think it best to attempt a little in an epistolary way. It seems likely that my diary, commenced in 1796, must now draw to a close.

10. I have not been able to write regularly in my diary for some time, but hope, in divine mercy, that I may again have the privilege.

September, about the 15th. Paid, by Miss Wright, \$5.00, for Foreign Missions.

Wednesday morning, Sept. 28, 1853. I have been quite unwell of late, and had little employment. Yesterday the Consociation met here. I attended at the body. Today I am better, by divine favor. The weather is cool, and we have fires. Wrote some, but make errors.

September. I have been much unwell this month. Have had little opportunity to write diary. My memory fails. Paid money, taxes, \$7.74. Tailor, \$2.18.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Gad Newell, a native of Southington, Ct., who was graduated at Yale, 1786 (ten years before Dr. Robbins), and lived till 1859, seventy-three years after graduation.

<sup>2</sup> That is, remembering on what particu-

lar days and nights certain things took place.

<sup>3</sup> This entry, just as it stands, reveals in some measure the state of mind which he describes under August 27.



## OCTOBER.

1. This month has been neglected very much with regard to diary. I have been quite unwell the most of the time. Quite feeble and difficult for the most of the time, been at my library some portion of the time, and attended public worship on the most of the Sabbaths.

2. Dr. Hawes and another minister preached. Read. Cool.

3. My good sister Battell came here. Had a very good visit from them. A strength from them.

4. Barber, \$3.00. I have been unwell more or less, so much that my diary has been unfortunately neglected. For some days I have been the whole day. The holy God has done it, and I do love to have him in all things glorify himself. The state of things for some time past in a Christian view, in a month past, has been remarkably worldly, cold, and dead; nothing but infinite grace can open the sleep. It is a period of much wordly action and business. I have, by divine mercy, done something. October is much past. Cannot fill out this month. Occupied some by friends. We have a remarkably fine weather. It has been much so through September, and thus far through October.

## DECEMBER.

Mr. Abner Stone, of St. Louis, Mo., and Miss Helen A. Robbins, of East Lexington, Mass., called here and I married them, at their request, and they went on their journey to the West. I suppose that Miss Robbins who was married is of the same stock with me. Mr. Hosmer, \$50.00.

## 1854.

### JANUARY.

1. First, I commit my all to my Heavenly Father for another year. Very uncertain whether I see the end.

3. I am not able to write daily. We have had hitherto this week severe cold, and much sleighing. Much ice and slippery. Our city voted to establish a large public park.<sup>1</sup> Paid for clothing, \$4.00. We have a good deal of company.

7. Wrote. It is difficult for me to do it daily. Very cold. Had excellent services from Dr. Hawes. Read; but small portions.

9. Can do but little abroad. At evening we had a very fine biographical history of Dr. Dwight. Have paid recently for clothing and to merchants, about \$7.00.

10. Wrote. The walking is difficult on account of the ice in the streets.

11. I am feeble, and not able to do much; yesterday there was a famous singing-meeting of aged people,<sup>2</sup> mostly in the first society. An interesting occasion.

12. Read. A hard rain. Paid for tracts, extensively sent abroad, \$5.00. Have many calls for money.

13. I am not able to read much. Have a good deal of company. Read a good deal.

14. Wrote. Have many cares.

18. Paid the barber, \$2.00. Received of Mr. Hosmer, \$200.00. Paid for candles, .56. Paid or gave Burke for labor, \$2.50.

20. Wrote. I find it difficult to collect all articles that I wish to put down. My memory fails much. At evening attended on invitation a very large singing-meeting in old style tunes and singers.

21. Snowed and ice. Wrote. Difficult for me to remember. We have a great deal of ice and snow in the streets. Much occupied with company.

22. Dr. Hawes preached remarkably I think. He has done better never. Get fatigued with the duties of the Sabbath.

23. The coldest time we have had this season. The ground hard frozen.

24. I think, that in much mercy, my health is better than in weeks past. I read considerably.

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<sup>1</sup> In the *Hartford County History*, recently published, Vol. I, p. 447, we read: "It is safe to say that without Horace Bushnell, Hartford would have had no such park as that which bears his name. It was he who saw the need and the opportunity, and hammered public feeling into shape. . . The park

was laid out in 1853." That park is now as the "apple of the eye" to the city of Hartford.

<sup>2</sup> An old folks' concert which, for years, was quite common. The tunes sung were of the Billings and Holden style, which prevailed from 1770 to the beginning of the present century.

25. Am not able to do much. Various public meetings take place here for entertainments.

26. The cold is very severe. My worthy kinsman, Robbins Battell, was here. He succeeds his father successfully.<sup>1</sup>

27. Read in my library. Getting old, but very valuable. It increases in my estimation.

28. I go out regularly in the severe cold. The severity of the season seems to be extended in various directions. Can do but little.

29. Did not attend public worship on account of the state of the season. Read Bible, and other things.

30. No abatement of the cold; considerably below zero by the mercury. The past night thought to be the most of any one.

31. Received of Mr. J. Hosmer, regular payment on my receipts from him of \$50.00. Paid out \$1.00.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Some abatement of the severity of the cold. This diary has had other hands upon it than mine. I fail in my writing at a favorable time. I write poorly, and can do but little.

2. There has been unprecedented operations at Niagara; effects of the cold.

3. I have made the most of this writing today. It seems that I cannot do better. I choose to leave all with a holy God.

4. Wrote some. Can do it no better. Am quite apt to make mistakes. The severe cold has returned. Some are expecting a great European war. I think not.

5. The weather was so wet and stormy that I did not attend public worship. Read Scripture. At evening a Baptist, a stranger, preached here. I have been quite feeble a few days. Have some difficulty about locations.

7. A hard storm. I did not attend meeting. Read, but not able to do much.

12. Had a new pair of boots, \$6.50, made. They are a very good pair of new boots; undoubtedly my last. Attended public worship as usual. Severe winter weather. Severe cold, and a good deal of sleighing.

20. There appears to be much prospects of real war in the eastern world. Russia the leading power. Paid for my boots, \$6.50.

#### MARCH.

1. Very cold, and the ground much covered with ice. Paid my physician, Dr. Rogers, \$2.60. Have been greatly favored for two years and more. Have errands to do.

2. There are many public meetings, religious and others. It is difficult for me to write without many errors.

Weather favorable. Dr. Hawes gave some account of his ministry here;

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<sup>1</sup> That is a pleasant piece of alliteration, truthfully stated in any other way, and the remark is honorable to both father and son.

now thirty-six years since his ordination. Many burials, the result of the great destruction of human lives; more yet probably.

6. Received a dividend from the Phoenix Bank of \$60.00. I have been a member of that body from its beginning. They do poorly at Congress; favoring slavery. The *South* generally prevail.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> We have given the closing pages of this diary essentially as we found them. They form a picture, in their way, such as is presented in the last chapter of the Book of Ecclesiastes:

"In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened, and the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of music shall be brought low; Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail; because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets."

We see how a mind, eminently systematic and methodical through a long life, can become at last obscure, broken, and fragmentary by the infirmities of old age.

Dr. Robbins was obliged to give up the duties and pleasures of his office as librarian in this year, 1854, and to retire among his

kindred on the hills of Litchfield County, where he died in the town of Colebrook, at the house of his niece, Mrs. Elizabeth (Robbins) Allen, Sept. 13, 1856. Mrs. Allen was the daughter of his eldest brother, Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, Jr. In her quiet home her venerated uncle, during the two years before he passed away, was made as comfortable as it was possible for him to be. Indeed his decline was not marked by a complaining and unhappy spirit. Though he walked amid the mists and clouds of failing reason, it was with a meek and gentle temper, as one close on the borders of his long and heavenly rest.

Having been in almost continual converse with this diary now for nearly two and a half years, since the process of transcribing and editing it began, we confess to a feeling of sadness rather than joy, as our work draws to a close. There has been a positive pleasure in this long and minute survey of fifty-eight years of our history, with constant glances at the wider history of the world at large. This work was begun in the early summer of 1884, and the last notes were written Oct. 23, 1886.



## APPENDIX.

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THE following graphic portraiture of Dr. Robbins is from the pen of Dr. Henry R. Stiles, of Brooklyn, New York, and was published in the *Round Table*, January 6, 1866. Some of the opening paragraphs, as being of a more personal nature, were then omitted, but are now included. We are sure that the whole will be read with great pleasure.

### THE OLD LIBRARIAN.

He was an old man when, in my boyhood, I first became acquainted with him. His portrait hangs before me upon my study walls as I pen these lines, yet I scarcely need its aid to recall those features which are so distinctly photographed on my memory.

He had been my mother's pastor, and her teacher also in some of the higher branches of education, for the study of which the schools of that day afforded few facilities. And when, in the blush of her young womanhood, she gave her heart into the keeping of one who loved her well to the end of his days, this good parson had blessed the bans. So when, one day, a mere boy of twelve, I took it into my head to visit the neighboring city of Hartford, with the especial purpose of seeing "Antiquaries' Hall," my mother bade me present her kindest remembrances to Dr. Robbins. How well I remember that first visit to the hall where, so often in after days, I spent so many happy hours; and where even now I never omit to stop, if but for a moment, when I happen to pass through Hartford.

As I reached the head of the entrance stairway I found myself in the great library hall, walled round with books, filled with odds and ends of antique furniture, and garnished with strange relics of a by-gone age. Overhead the arched and groined ceiling afforded nestling places for the shadows which stealthily wove their vail over the canvas, from which, high upon the walls, solemn divines, stern soldiers, and doughty governors looked ominously down upon me. And while I stood gazing with all a boy's eager curiosity, from the farther end of the apartment there came, with sprightly step, a venerable little white-haired man, in an old-fashioned costume of black, with small-clothes, white silk stockings, and knee-buckles.

To this apparition, the quaintest I had ever seen, and which I instinctively knew to be "the Doctor," I made my respects and told my name. Well do I remember his look of pleased surprise, as lifting his gold spectacles off his nose, he placed his hand in a fatherly way on my head, and exclaimed,

in a "softly voice," "Why, is this Miss Charlotte's son?" And then followed, with voluble eagerness, question after question, concerning his old friend. My welcome was a warm one. The old gentleman devoted himself to my amusement and instruction as carefully as if I had been an older and more distinguished visitor; he showed me the relics; he bade me "rummage" at will in the book-cases and old chests, and (greatest honor of all) he invited me to sign my name in the "Visitor's Book," giving me his own pen for the purpose. More than this he did for me in my subsequent visits to the hall; for finding me "bookishly inclined," he imparted a few timely hints about my reading. He had already allowed me the freedom of the place, and now he gave my mind the bias, which it has since retained, toward his own favorite line of study, viz.: American history. He encouraged me in the collection of Indian and other relics; gave me one or two dingy pamphlets of ancient date, and impressed upon me the importance of always preserving such things. He showed me his own valuable library, then deposited with the society, and told me the history of its humble beginnings. In short, he thoroughly inoculated me with his own antiquarian spirit, and confirmed me more than ever in my attachment to books and literature.

The old librarian was the last of a line of New England divines; he had been a settled pastor for a good portion of his life, and was a good writer of sermons. A studious man by nature, books were not so much of a luxury as a necessity to him. He formed in early life the determination to accumulate a library, and on the fly-leaf of one of his volumes he wrote in a fair and clerkly hand this resolve: "By the help of God I undertake to add one hundred volumes to my library every year." As he never married, and had none but himself to care for, he was able to spend the larger part of his limited means in his favorite pursuit.

As a collector of books, the old gentleman was a regular "mouser." Nothing in the shape of printed page ever escaped his notice. Availing himself of his intimate relations as a pastor, he contrived to gain admission into the garrets of all the families of his flock, and of the whole neighborhood. Garrets, cupboards, and chests, the receptacles of cast-off things, are often inaccessible through the housewifely pride of tidy dames and housekeepers, but they never could resist his advances. With what adroitness he would parry all excuses; with what apt flattery he would soften the obdurate heart of the *mater-familias*; with what happy tact he would lull the suspicions of that class who never value these "old things" until they see that they are valued by others; with what persistence he would press his points, and ultimately gain access to the much-coveted deposit of "inconsidered trifles." The ancient dames did often declare that there was "no use in trying to keep Dr. Robbins out of garret or closet, when he was after an old book or pamphlet."

He was eager on the scent, but knew full well the value of patient waiting; weeks, months, and even years, might slip away, but he never lost the trail. Many a mile he walked or rode, many a time was obliged to double on the track, many a time was rebuffed; but, the most diffident of men

in all other matters, in his pursuit of books he had a cheek of brass, and an impudence of asking that was heroic. It is not surprising, therefore, that at a time when there were but few collectors in American history, and when more of these old and valuable tracts were in existence than now, he should have been extremely successful. He gradually accumulated a collection numbered by thousands of volumes, of sermons, discourses, almanacs, ballads, newspapers, etc. A large proportion of these ballads, pamphlets, newspapers, etc., could not have been obtained ten or fifteen years later, and perhaps can never be duplicated. It was, in its day, a wonderful library, and even now, when large private libraries begin to abound, and the value of books is so greatly enhanced, its importance both in a pecuniary and scholarly point of view, has quadrupled. So when "Antiquaries' Hall" was founded, the good old man was made its librarian; of course his collection of books came with him, and was finally purchased by the society, yielding him an annuity quite sufficient for the simple wants of his declining years, and passing, at his death, into the full possession of the institution.

It was a pleasant arrangement this, by which the books, which he had spent so great a portion of his life in collecting, should thus repay his loving care by giving to his old age the little comforts which it needed. As they had filled for him the places of wife, children, and family in the spring and summer of his long and useful life, so now they became in a double sense ministering spirits to both body and mind in his "sere and yellow leaf." Oh, how the old librarian loved his books. Each little tract had a history of its own. With what gusto he could tell you of the trouble, and the rebuffs, and the little incidents connected with its acquisition. How he loved to "fight o'er and o'er again" the "Battle of the Books," how at times he used to wander around the library, looking simply at the backs of the volumes as they stood in orderly rows upon the shelves, as if he could draw inspiration from the very sight and feel of the leather binding.

He had a valuable, and perhaps at that time the largest, collection of Bibles in the country, noted editions, huge polyglots, all sizes, all languages, all sorts. His especial pride, however, was a superbly bound copy of the "Duke of Sussex's Bible," sent to him by the duke himself, with an autograph letter. I well remember with what a parade of affectionate care he was wont to exhibit this volume to a favored few; how, whisking out his large red silk handkerchief, and carefully dusting off the table, he spread the handkerchief upon it. Then with what appetizing importance of manner he proceeded to unlock the case, with what reverence he lifted the volume from its place, and placed it upon the handkerchief, and with what glistening eyes of exultation he opened its sacred pages, and turned them over, not allowing any hand but his own to touch them, while he expatiated upon its typographical beauties and its rarity.

Another amusing instance of this excessive fastidiousness in the care of his books, has been often related to me by my mother, who was once his pupil. While studying French under his tuition, and needing a Testament in that language as a text-book, the Doctor kindly offered to loan her one of his



copies (at that time French Testaments were not as easily procurable as now), stipulating, however, that it should receive the very best care, as it was of a choice edition, and that a messenger should be sent for it to the parsonage with a wheelbarrow. The offer was accepted, and the conditions, albeit with some girlish merriment, complied with; but the boy soon returned, saying that the Doctor had sent him back with his compliments, and a request that a rose-blanket should be sent to him. Much wondering, the strange request was promptly acceded to, and in due time the messenger returned, carefully wheeling before him in the barrow the promised French Testament, tenderly wrapped up in the rose-blanket.

"Antiquaries' Hall" was a rare and fitting shrine for such a character. Old portraits, old chairs and chests out of the Mayflower, Captain Miles Standish's dinner-pot, Indian relics, worm-eaten manuscripts, old battle-flags, hacked, haggled, and rent, and scraps of ancient costume, were the appropriate surroundings of this old librarian, with his small-clothes and knee-buckles, and his white silk stockings, or white top-boots with their silken tassels.

And when, with inimitable grace, he took from its case the veritable cocked hat of old Governor Trumbull, and placed it upon his own venerable head, or made a courtly bow as he tucked it under his arm, saying, "Ladies, this is the way the Governor wore this hat," one involuntarily looked up to the portraits on the wall to see which one of those ancient worthies had stepped out of the canvas and mingled again with the living. It was truly as exquisite a piece of acting as one could wish to see. The Doctor was indeed a "gentleman of the old school." He inherited his politeness from a line of Puritan divines, than whom there never existed a class of men more punctiliously observant and exacting of the respect due to themselves and to others. It was to him like his costume, a part and parcel of the past; and, moreover, it was the natural manifestation of his own unaffected simplicity and kindness of heart.

He was learned in books, and he knew little of the world, and was unfitted for general contact with its roughness and its heartlessness. This innocent gentleness of disposition detracted much even from his usefulness and efficiency in the pastoral office; and so Providence led him by the pleasant paths of literature into this more retired and gentle "cove," where, undisturbed and usefully employed, he might pass the remainder of his life. Here old age deepened insensibly the mellow shadows of life; death wooed him so gently that he knew it not; his memory failed, old friends could scarcely get from him their accustomed recognition; the current events of the day lost their interest, and became a blank to him; his beloved books alone were able to detain, and then only for a moment, his wandering thoughts. An assistant was procured for him, but the old man scarcely knew the change; when weather and strength permitted he tottered feebly to the hall, and took his accustomed seat with a vain show of engaging in his usual duties. Many an hour would he sit thus, gazing wistfully and lovingly upon the books which surrounded him, and receiving with bewildered yet ceremonious manner the

few visitors who tried to press their former acquaintance upon him. One day he sat down, and with trembling hand commenced a letter to his brother, who had died some two years before. His assistant observing it, reminded him that his brother was dead. He seemed surprised and grieved that he should have forgotten it. The next day, however, he sat down at his accustomed table, and commenced another letter to the same brother. He never finished it. I saw it when I last visited the hall, lying as he left it in his private drawer, with its "Dear Brother, I have," and there it faltered out.

The old man never sat again in his high-backed chair; never lovingly fingered his pet books; never bowed again with courtly grace to visitors. To him there came that hour when he must exchange the companionship of his treasured volumes for the contemplation of that great book of knowledge upon which mortal eyes rest not; that hour when all the past, which he so revered, must be merged and lost in the illimitable expansion of the eternal future. And with a few friends ministering to his comfort, this old librarian passed gently away.

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## ORDINATION.

Dr. Thomas Robbins was ordained, June 19, 1803, at Norfolk, Connecticut, to go forth on his missionary work to New Connecticut, on which occasion Dr. Nathan Strong, of Hartford, preached the sermon from Matthew xxviii: 19, 20; and Dr. Nathan Perkins gave the right hand of fellowship.

The charge given by the Rev. AMMI RUHAMAH ROBBINS, the father of the ordained, and pastor of the church in Norfolk, Connecticut, was as follows:

Sir: You having been now separated to the work of the evangelical ministry, by prayer and the laying on of the hands of this Presbytery; and ordained an evangelist to go forth into the vineyard of Christ; invested with authority to perform the duties of a gospel minister in its various branches; it remains that we exhort and charge you faithfully to fulfil the ministry now committed to you. We do, therefore, before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead, at his appearing, in the presence of the elect angels and this numerous assembly, solemnly charge you, THOMAS, to be a faithful minister of Jesus Christ. And as you have now devoted yourself to his service, so "Do thou the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry."

Take heed to your own soul; and watch for the souls of those to whom you may minister, and with whom you may be called to labor in the gospel. See to it that you know and supremely love the true God and Jesus Christ. That you feel and experience the power of his sanctifying grace in your heart. That in the view of the glory of Christ, you can say with Thomas, "My Lord and my God." Maintain daily a humble intercourse with heaven, and put your trust in Christ, your divine Master. Hereby you will derive grace and

strength to support you in the trials, temptations, and burdens which ever await a Christian minister.

We charge you to be faithful in your work in all its duties. *Pray* much ; alone, and with others. "*Preach* the word ; be instant in season and out of season." Preach plainly and faithfully, opening and inculcating the great doctrines of the gospel, and urging its duties and precepts. Seek not to please men, but Christ who hath chosen you to be a soldier.

We need not descend to a particular consideration of the doctrines and precepts you are to preach and urge. They are revealed. They are before you. Take this sacred book [giving him a Bible], keep it near your heart. Meditate therein, and "Study to shew thyself a workman that needeth not to be ashamed," and giving to every one a portion in due season.

Declare plainly the whole counsel of God, whether men will hear or forbear. The importance of this you will readily feel, when you reflect that "Faith cometh by hearing," and that it "pleaseth God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." Warn the wicked, and sound the alarm to the secure, stupid sinner. Reprove the vicious with a spirit of meekness. Instruct the ignorant, and endeavor to convince the erroneous. Guide the doubting, comfort the desponding. Invite the weary and heavy-laden to Christ, speak comfortably to the people of God, and endeavor to establish them more and more in his truth, and in his love.

We also charge you to administer the seals of the covenant of grace, baptism and the Lord's Supper, to those who appear to be the proper and qualified subjects. Affix the seal of Christ to those who profess to believe in him, and to their dear offspring whom they desire to dedicate to him. Exhibit the sacred emblems of Christ crucified to his followers, commune with them around his table, and sweetly recognize the dying of the Lord Jesus.

Be an example of faith and holiness to all around you wherever you go, and with whom you reside, that they may take knowledge of you that you have been with Jesus. Visit the sick and wounded, both in body and spirit, and let your sympathy, instruction, and counsels be mixed with prayer.

And whenever you may be called to exercise the minister's trust, in ordaining and setting apart others to the holy ministry, see to it on a faithful examination and due acquaintance, in a judgment of Christian charity, they be men of God, and experimentally acquainted with the religion of Jesus, sound in the faith, of good ability, and able to teach others ; that the ministry be not blamed, and the gospel contemned, by the subtle artifices or open attacks of the enemies of God. Mind, therefore, the direction of the holy apostle, and "Lay hands suddenly on no man." Thus we charge you faithfully to perform all the duties of your office as a Christian minister, devoting yourself to this great and good work with assiduity, constancy, and perseverance.

And now, if you shall be enabled by divine grace and assistance to keep this charge, you shall be accepted of Christ when you shall have finished your course ; and when the Chief Shepherd shall appear you shall receive a crown of glory.

And now, MY SON, having given you this charge in the name of Christ, and by the direction and appointment of this venerable council, I shall now, while you stand here before God, on this solemn occasion, take the freedom to exhort and counsel you, as I have often done from your childhood to this time.

*Dear Child,* remember you were early devoted to God. You have been trained up with care and solicitude, that, by the blessing of heaven, you might be enabled to do some service for Christ in your day and generation. Consider the peculiar obligations you are under to live near to God; to be humble and thankful, and do all in your power for the honor of Christ, the advancement of his great kingdom, and the conversion and salvation of your fellow-men. Maintain a humble walk with God, and daily commune with the Lord Jesus. Watch against the enemies of your soul, and "Fight the good fight of faith."

You may expect trials, both inward and outward. But exercising a humble trust and fixed confidence in God, you will be supported and carried through them. Be little in your own view, sensible of your own weakness, but "Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." Let the honor of God ever lie near your heart; and be kindly affectioned to your fellow-men.

You are now to go forth to preach and administer, to catechise and instruct, in the wilderness far remote. There you will find people of every description, the friends and the enemies of the cross of Christ. You are sent and employed under God by those who have the management of an institution, the most sacred, the most auspicious and favorable in the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom and the souls of men, that has ever existed in our land, and on which the smiles of heaven have been conspicuous, to the great joy of all the friends of Zion. Love and pray for the Missionary Society, for its missionaries and all its friends, and we will pray for you.

Go, my son, and the Lord be with you. Be not afraid, be not discouraged. It is safe to go where Christ the Master calls you. Cleave to him in all your journeyings and itinerations from place to place, or in the lonely desert. Look up to Christ, cast all your burdens upon him, and he will be your help and support, and as your day is so shall your strength be. In your preaching, conversations, visits, and all your ministerial instruction, be prudent, be cautious, be watchful. What shall I say more? "Be wise as a serpent and harmless as a dove."

I desire now renewedly to give you up to Christ. May you be the Lord's, and faithfully serve him. And when I am dead, and gone to give an account of my stewardship, may you live many days and do eminent service in the Church of Christ. May a double portion of his blessed spirit rest upon you, that you may long live to be a faithful, and (may God grant it) a successful, minister, an instrument in turning many to righteousness. And may you through infinite sovereign mercy not be a castaway after you have preached to others, but be graciously accepted of your eternal Judge, and give up your account with exceeding joy. I conclude in the words of David to Solomon, "Now, my son, the Lord be with thee, and prosper thee."

## PUBLISHED WORKS.

This list of published books and pamphlets from the pen of Dr. Robbins is more nearly complete than any which has before been published, but we are not certain that it contains every one that would properly find place here.

1. An oration occasioned by the death of General Washington, delivered at Danbury, Connecticut, January 2, 1800, with a sketch of his life. Danbury, pp. 16.

Two or three editions of this were published. This was four years after leaving college, and while he was Principal of the Danbury Academy.

2. A Century Sermon, 1801. Danbury.

3. Fast Sermon. Middletown, 1815, pp. 21.

4. *Historical View of the First Planters of New England*, Hartford. First edition, 1815, second edition, 1843, pp. 300.

5. Sermon on the Interment of the Rev. Nehemiah Prudden, Hartford, 1816, pp. 19.

6. Sermon on the Divinity of Christ, preached at East Windsor, Hartford, 1820.

7. Sermon at Installation of the Rev. Eber L. Clark, 1820.

8. Sermon to the Military at Hartford, 1822.

9. Sermon on the Death of E. B. Cook, 1823.

10. *View of All Religions*. Third edition, 1824.

11. The Design and Tendency of Christianity to Diminish the Miseries and Increase the Happiness of Mankind. Address at the Dedication of the Retreat for the Insane at Hartford. Hartford, 1824, pp. 16.

12. The Dying Believer Committing his Soul to Christ. Sermon on the Death of Mrs. Cynthia Fairchild, Hartford, 1824.

13. Sermon at Installation of the Rev. E. Burt, 1825.

14. Sermon on the Death of Rev. Abel Flint, Hartford, 1825, pp. 23.

15. Discourse on the Doctrine of the Trinity, New Bedford, 1836, 12mo.

16. Sermon at the Funeral of the Rev. Lemuel Le Baron, New Bedford, 1837, pp. 20.

17. Address before the Society of the Alumni of Williams College, Boston, 1843, pp. 51.

The volume, entitled *Historical View of the First Planters of New England*, was first published in twenty numbers, in the *Connecticut Evangelical Magazine*. They were written at the suggestion of Dr. Nathan Strong, of Hartford, the editor of the *Magazine*, and were commenced in the eleventh volume of that periodical.

18. Dr. Robbins was also the editor of the first (1820) and second (1853)

American editions of Mather's *Magnalia*. He wrote the prefaces and explanatory notes. Before the American edition of 1820 was published, we had no copy of this work, except the large English edition of 1702, which was becoming rare and costly.

19. He furnished the articles upon his father, Ammi Ruhamah, and his grandfather, Philemon Robbins, in Dr. Sprague's *Annals of the American Pulpit*. In addition he assisted Dr. Sprague, by original letters, in illustrating the lives of the Rev. Cotton Mather Smith, Dr. Chandler Robbins, Rev. Nathaniel Taylor, Dr. David McClure, and Dr. Nathan Strong. Some of these letters have been copied to make a part of this general appendix.

20. He also revised and continued Tytler's *Elements of General History*, 1815.

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Articles from the pen of Dr. Robbins for Sprague's *Annals of the American Pulpit*. Trinitarian Congregationalists. Vol. II, pp. 37 and 38 :

#### DR. NATHAN STRONG, OF HARTFORD.

*My Dear Sir:* Dr. Strong was for many years my neighbor and intimate friend. I had an opportunity of observing him under various circumstances, and in different relations; and there is perhaps no man who has departed, in respect to whose character I have a more definite and well-considered opinion. The reverence which I bear for his memory renders it only a labor of love for me, to comply with your request, by furnishing you some of my many recollections concerning him.

As a man of intellect I set him down as belonging to the very first class. He seemed to me never to get to his limit. Judge Daggett has lately told me that the late Chief-Justice Mitchell, who was his tutor in college, pronounced him a man of the greatest original powers of mind he ever knew. He had the most perfect command of all his faculties. When writing on a most critical, profound, or solemn subject, he would leave it at any time for business or relaxation, and return to it, and take up the train of thought without the least apparent embarrassment. He wrote with great rapidity, and usually depended on his first thoughts. On this account most of his printed works bear marks of haste, and are no doubt less perfect as compositions than they would have been if he had subjected them to a careful revision. But a small portion of his work entitled *Benevolence and Misery* was written when the printing began, but the manuscript was constantly supplied as it was called for.

He was a great economist of time. He was habitually an early riser; and all the hours that could be spared from the active duties of his profession and other engagements were sacredly devoted to study. By this incessant application he not only became eminent as a divine, but was possessed of eminent and varied erudition. His memory was at once minute and retentive

to a remarkable degree. Such was his original power of investigation that it seemed necessary to give him only a single hint on a subject, to his working it out by an independent process in all its various ramifications. And for nothing perhaps was he more distinguished than his almost intuitive insight into the human character. It was this particularly, in connection with his sound judgment, that gave him an influence, which to many appeared wholly unaccountable, and enabled him to realize most of his expectations. I will only add, in respect to his high intellectual character, that the most eminent men of his day, and those who had the best opportunity of judging of his powers—such as Judge Trumbull, Doctors Bellamy, Goodrich, Smalley, Edwards, Dwight, and many others, fully sustained the reputation which I have given of him.

In theology, as on every other subject, he would call no man master, but formed his opinions by a careful study of God's word. Nevertheless he did not think it necessary to his independence that he should needlessly dissent from others, and he was glad to concur with them as far as he could. He was not fond of oral discussion; being in this respect like President Edwards the elder, but quite the opposite of President Edwards the younger. During a time of revival, Dr. Edwards, being at Hartford with Dr. Strong, said to him with much emotion, "Why do the influences of the Holy Spirit attend your preaching so much more than mine, when our congregations are so much alike, and we preach the same system of truth?" Said Dr. Strong: "The reason is that *you* present gospel truth as a proposition to be proved, and go on and prove it; whereas *I* endeavor to exhibit it as something already admitted, and to impress it upon the heart and conscience." I should think that the most striking peculiarity of his preaching consisted in direct, concise, and effective statements of the doctrines and precepts of the gospel.

He was eminently devoted to the interests of his flock. In seasons of revival especially he labored with the utmost fervor and assiduity. His house was always open for religious meetings, and his study always accessible to religious inquirers. It was not uncommon for him, at these seasons, to preach four or five times a week; and there is little doubt that during the last four years of his life, he preached a greater number of sermons than any other settled minister in the State. When the last revival under his ministry commenced, and he became fully satisfied that the Holy Spirit was in the midst of his congregation, his mind was so much agitated with alternate hopes and fears for a fortnight, that he did not—as he stated to a friend—have an hour of uninterrupted sleep at a time.

Dr. Strong exerted a commanding influence in a deliberative body. He was accustomed to make himself thoroughly familiar with every difficult question that came up, and it was seldom that an opinion contrary to his own prevailed. He would fasten at once on the main points of a question, however involved, and by a few sentences would relieve it from all difficulty, and throw it into the light of noonday.

With all his constitutional cheerfulness, approaching, it must be acknowledged, too near to levity, he had still a deeply spiritual mind. I remember to

have been present on one occasion when a neighboring minister put to him the question, "Are you ready to go yet?" and he replied, "Yes, tomorrow, if God pleases;" but after a long pause he added: "If God will do with me as he does sometimes, I am ready." In seasons of revival he seemed desirous to keep himself out of view as much as possible, that God might be all in all. In times of trouble he manifested a truly submissive spirit, and appeared chiefly concerned that his afflictions might make him a better Christian, and a more devoted minister. One of the greatest trials of his life was the loss of his second son, who was drowned in Connecticut River. Various circumstances conspired to give to that affliction an unwonted sting. But he conducted in a most becoming manner, fixing his mind firmly on the appointment of God. He refused to be informed of the particular circumstances of the event. But I suppose he never crossed Connecticut River after this occurrence. Several years afterward he inquired of me about the bridge and causeway, in a time of high water, and he said he had never seen them. The bridge was built shortly after his son's death.

Hoping that the above reminiscences may avail to your purpose, I am, as ever, sincerely yours,  
 THOMAS ROBBINS.

From Sprague's *Annals of the American Pulpit*. Trinitarian Congregationalists. Vol. I, pp. 367-370:

REV. PHILEMON ROBBINS AND REV. AMMI RUHAMAH ROBBINS.

HARTFORD, May 3, 1850.

*My Dear Sir:* You ask me for what I know concerning my venerable grandfather and father, both of whom were, for a long time, ministers of Connecticut. It may seem a delicate matter that I should speak of either of them, and yet I am unwilling to return a negative answer to your request, while I am more than willing to pay a reasonable tribute to their memories.

My grandfather, PHILEMON ROBBINS, was the grandson of Nathaniel Robbins, who emigrated from Scotland to Massachusetts in 1670, and settled at Charlestown, where he died in 1719, aged seventy.<sup>1</sup> He was the son of Nathaniel Robbins, who lived in the same place, and died in 1741, also aged seventy. He was graduated at Harvard College in 1729. My impression is that he taught school for some time after his graduation, and studied theology under Rev. Nathaniel Appleton, of Cambridge. He commenced preaching in the neighborhood of Boston, and was invited to accept a pastoral charge at Harvard, Massachusetts, but declined the invitation. Shortly after this, he went with one of his classmates to Connecticut, to attend Commencement at the

<sup>1</sup> This was Dr. Thomas Robbins's belief as to the origin of his family in this country, and as this paper upon his honored father and grandfather was written in 1850, only six years before his own death, he doubtless held this belief to the last. But later and fuller genealogical studies make it plain that this Nathan-

iel, who was supposed to have come from Scotland, was himself born in this country, and that Richard Robbins, father of Nathaniel, was the first American ancestor in this line. Richard first lived in Charlestown, but soon removed to Cambridge, which was the home of the family for several generations.



"Wooden College," as Yale College was then often called, this being the first visit that he ever made to the colony. While he was at New Haven, some one came from Branford to procure some one to preach as a candidate; and he, being recommended as a suitable person, consented to go in that capacity. The result was that he received a call to settle there; in compliance with which he was ordained on the 7th of February, 1732. Here he continued, experiencing more than the ordinary vicissitudes of clerical life, to the end of his days.

After he had been in the ministry about seven years, he was the subject of a great revolution of religious feeling, which he was accustomed to consider as marking the commencement of his religious life; though I believe his Christian friends, who had the best means of judging on the subject, did not agree with him in this opinion. When the great revival of about 1740 commenced in connection with the labors of Whitefield and his coadjutors, my grandfather was found among the most zealous of that party. He was, however, naturally of a remarkably mild and benevolent spirit, and reprobated many of the extravagances of the times. As an instance, I have heard that the celebrated Davenport was about to preach for him, and on his way to the meeting-house broke out in loud and boisterous singing in the hearing of many persons; whereupon my grandfather reproved him for being so regardless of Christian decorum.

The Legislature of Connecticut, with a view, if possible, to arrest the progress of New Lightism, had, about that time, enacted the famous law forbidding any minister to preach within the limits of any other minister's parish, on penalty of forfeiting the privilege of collecting his salary according to law. The people in the outskirts of Wallingford, a town bordering on Branford, having become somewhat excited on the subject of religion, invited their pastor, the Rev. Samuel Whittlesey, to hold meetings during the week in their neighborhood; but he, not sympathizing with the exciting state of things, at least in some of its features, declined their request. They then applied to my grandfather, who, though reluctant to offend against the existing statute, still felt himself constrained to accede to their wishes, and actually went and preached among them. He was forthwith arraigned by the Consociation to which he belonged; and after a long trial, which was continued through one or two years, and attended with great agitation and considerable pamphleteering, he was formerly deposed from his office, several members of the Consociation however dissenting in the final issue. He felt that he could not possibly recognize the validity of the sentence, which was designed thus to separate him from the ministry, and as the mass of his congregation adhered to him, he met them the next Sabbath as usual, and preached to them on the text, "Wo is me if I preach not the gospel." There was some interference of the civil authority in the case, in consequence of which he appeared before the Legislature of the colony, and made his own defence, and did it with so much address as not only to gain his point, but greatly increase his popularity. The result was that the civil penalty to which he had rendered himself liable was remitted; and though for three years he

received his salary as a mere voluntary matter on the part of his people, yet he never had occasion to complain of them for the least delinquency, but on the contrary, received his dues even more punctually than when he could claim the guardianship of the law. The ministers of the Consociation who had favored him on his trial, and who sympathized with him in his general views, I believe never refused to exchange with him; and gradually the circle of his exchanges was enlarged, until it included all, or nearly all, of the ministers around him. He forbore, for a while, attending meetings of the Association, from which he had really been expelled, but at length he ventured to go, and was kindly received by his brethren, and without any action in the way of restoring him, he was tacitly considered a member, and lived on terms of Christian and ministerial fellowship with them ever afterwards.

I remember to have seen my grandfather in my childhood, though of course my knowledge of him is chiefly inherited from my father. In his person he was about of the middle height, but rather inclined to corpulency. He was distinguished rather for activity and readiness of mind, and for a quick and retentive memory, than for a taste or a talent for profound investigation. He had a strong and pleasant voice, and his manner was free and engaging, and breathed much of the natural benevolence of his spirit. He preached from short notes, and had a ready command of language in extemporaneous speaking.

He was married to Hannah, daughter of Isaac and Rebecca Foot, of Branford, December 24, 1735. She was a highly estimable person, and a notable housekeeper. She died June 16, 1776; it was on the Sabbath, and my grandfather remained at her bedside, while her son (my father) was supplying his pulpit. My grandfather was married October 21, 1778, to widow Jane Mills, of Kent, a lady of excellent character and most devoted piety, the mother of the venerable Samuel J. Mills, of Torrington. She died July 30, 1798, aged eighty-six. By his first marriage he had nine children, three sons, one of whom died while a member of college, and the other two were ministers of the gospel.

My grandfather was highly favored in respect to his end. The Sabbath before his death he preached with unusual animation, and closed his sermon with "*glory, glory.*" The next day he sat down in his arm-chair to take his usual indulgence with his pipe. His wife, having left the room for a short time, on her return found him apparently asleep, but when she sought to awake him, she got no response. Alarmed she called to some one who was at hand, and he quickly procured the presence of the physician; but when he asked the doctor what the matter was with his father, the reply was, "It is death." The silver cord had been loosed, and the decisive transition had been made, probably without a pang. He died on the 13th of August, 1781.

His publications, so far as I know, are the following: A plain narrative of the proceedings of the Reverend Association and Consociation of New Haven County, against the Rev. Mr. Robbins, of Branford, since the year 1841, and the doings of his church and people; and with some remarks by

another hand in a letter to a friend, 1743. A sermon, preached at the ordination of his son, Chandler Robbins, at Plymouth, 1760. A sermon, preached at the ordination of his son, Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, at Norfolk, Connecticut, 1761.

My father, Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, was born at Branford, in September, 1740. He was fitted for college by his father, and was first entered at Nassau Hall, on account of the intimacy which existed between President Burr and my grandfather. As President Burr, however, died during my father's Freshman year, he was then transferred to Yale, on account of being nearer home. I have heard him say that, when he entered at Yale, there was great indignation among the Sophomore class to which he was admitted, that he should have escaped the degrading servilities of the Freshman year, which were then in vogue; but by the advice of his father, with a view to propitiate his classmates, he made a general entertainment for them one evening, at which, unfortunately, some participated so deeply, according to the custom of the times, that it might have been appropriately enough said or sung concerning them, "Io triumphe Bacche!" However, the measure had its desired effect, and, so far as his classmates were concerned, answered the purpose of a regular freshman ship.

He was graduated in the year 1760; after which he spent some time in teaching a school at Plymouth, Massachusetts. He then engaged in the study of theology at the same time with his classmate, Mr. Levi Hart, afterwards Dr. Hart, of Preston, under the instruction of Dr. Bellamy. He was licensed by the Litchfield Association, and was ordained at Norfolk, October 28, 1761, within thirteen months after his graduation.

When the Revolution came on he was thoroughly awake to his country's interest, and volunteered to share the perils of that eventful period by becoming a chaplain in the army. In March, 1776, he joined Gen. Schuyler's brigade at Albany, went to Canada, and was with the army when it was so fearfully visited with the small-pox. He was himself very unwell, but still attended faithfully to his official duties, having prayers regularly every morning, and ministering both temporal and spiritual relief to the sick, as he had occasion or opportunity. He returned home in feeble health in August, after an absence of nearly a year.

The church with which my father became connected was new, but under his ministry it grew into one of the largest and most prosperous churches in the State. He was privileged to witness an uncommon degree of harmony among his people, and though there were frequent instances in which the discipline of the church was put in requisition, it never subjected him to any serious trouble. He continued to labor with great fidelity, until disease disabled him, and finally death closed his career. There were four considerable revivals of religion in the course of his ministry, and one in 1798 and 1799 of unusual power. With his ministerial labors he connected those of a teacher, having almost always with him a greater or less number of students fitting for college. He had naturally a good constitution, and during nearly the whole of his life vigorous health. He preached on the first Sabbath of May,

1813, and the next morning complained of pain in one of his eyes. Presently something which looked like a sty appeared, which grew more and more painful, resisting all applications that were made to it, and it gradually matured into a cancer, and without the usual external development worked its way to the seat of life. His latter days were days of great suffering, but he was able to sustain himself in calmness, in the faith of God's gracious promises.

In his person he was short and thick; in his manners affable and courteous. He had a fine, loud, mellow voice, and could make himself heard with ease by the largest congregation. He had a happy talent for extemporizing, and he exercised it pretty constantly, being subject to a nervous headache, which rendered it difficult for him to write. He was, however, very industrious in respect to all the great objects of his ministry. His religious views were substantially those which he imbibed from his instructor, Dr. Bellamy.

He was married shortly after his settlement at Norfolk, to Elizabeth, daughter of Lazarus Le Baron, of Plymouth, Massachusetts, of French extraction, and a descendant of the Huguenots.

They had thirteen children, five of whom died in infancy. Two of them were ministers of the gospel. Francis, my younger brother, born December 30, 1787, was graduated at Williams College in 1808, studied theology chiefly with Dr. Austin, of Worcester, was ordained pastor of the church of Enfield, Connecticut, April 24, 1816, and died in April of the current year (1850).

My father's publications were a sermon at the ordination of the Rev. Joshua Knapp,<sup>1</sup> 1772; an Election Sermon, 1789; a Half Century Sermon, 1811.

With these brief sketches of my revered ancestors, I subscribe myself,

Faithfully yours,

THOMAS ROBBINS.

Sprague's *Annals of the American Pulpit*. Trinitarian Congregationalists. Vol. I, p. 503:

### REV. COTTON MATHER SMITH.

HARTFORD, 4th May, 1850.

*My Dear Sir:* The Rev. Cotton Mather Smith was minister of a parish in the immediate neighborhood of my father,<sup>2</sup> and was often a visitor at our house, and often exchanged pulpits with my father during my early years. My personal acquaintance with him was chiefly at that period, but it was continued, with more or less intimacy, till the close of his life. I feel as if I was tolerably well acquainted with his character, and I am quite willing to give you my impressions concerning it.

<sup>1</sup> Joshua Knapp was graduated at Yale College in 1770; was ordained first pastor of the church in Winchester, Connecticut, in 1772; was dismissed in 1789, and died in 1816.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Smith was pastor in Sharon, Connecticut, 1755-1806. He was the father of Hon. John Cotton Smith, LL. D., one of the honored governors of Connecticut.

Mr. Smith was a man of middle size, rather tall than otherwise, and united great benignity and intelligence in the expression of his countenance. His manners were remarkably polished, so that he might have appeared to advantage even in a court; they were a delightful compound of simplicity, gracefulness, and dignity; while, on the other hand, they were entirely free from hauteur or ostentation, and he could make the humblest man in the community feel at home in his company. In his intercourse with his people and with society at large, he was distinguished for his prudence. He never performed an act or uttered a word that was fitted needlessly to wound others, or to impair the dignity, or lessen the influence of his own character. He possessed an exquisite sensibility, which was sometimes a source of great pleasure to him, and not unfrequently, of no inconsiderable pain. His sense of right and wrong was exceedingly nice, and with all his mildness he was capable of dealing out severe reproofs to obstinate offenders. An illustration of this remark now occurs to me. He was sent at an early period, as were several of his brethren, by the Litchfield County Association as a missionary into Vermont, which was then very sparsely settled, and in some parts by a population of rather an equivocal character. Some of the inhabitants—I think Ethan Allen, of infidel notoriety, was among them—took it in high dudgeon that he should have come on such an errand, as if there was some implication that they needed to be converted from a state of heathenism. They even attacked him in the most rude and opprobrious manner in the public papers, and he replied to their wanton attack with dignified severity. I remember that the closing words of his answer, which certainly showed an intelligent sense of injury, were, “The Lord rebuke thee Satan.”

Mr. Smith was not only a polished gentleman, and a discreet and affectionate pastor, but a devout and earnest Christian, and an instructive and animated preacher. He had a good deal of unction in the pulpit, but his manner was simple, natural, and graceful. His views of divine truth were substantially those held by Dr. Bellamy, but his gentle and urbane manner prevented him from ever giving needless offence. I do not think of any clergyman whom he more nearly resembled in his winning and attractive qualities than your venerable predecessor, Dr. Lathrop, of West Springfield. You are aware that his son, the late Hon. John Cotton Smith, was not only distinguished for the symmetry and consistency of both his natural and Christian character, but was a model of all the Christian virtues and graces. I cannot better describe the father than by saying that the son inherited his fine qualities.

I am truly yours,

THOMAS ROBBINS.

## EXTRACTS FROM DR. ROBBINS'S PREACHING RECORD.

The first records we find on this subject belong to 1798, when he was twenty-one years old, and two years out of college. He says:

"I was licensed to preach the gospel by the Northern Association of Litchfield County, Connecticut, September 26, 1798. I had then ten sermons written under the inspection of Rev. Dr. West, of Stockbridge."

His manner of keeping his weekly record was as follows:

Sept. 30,	at Goshen,	from Eph. iv: 24, and Jer. viii: 26 — 2.
Oct. 7,	" Norfolk, "	Luke xii: 32, and Rom. vii: 24 — 2.
" 10, "	" " "	Isa. xxvi: 4 — 1.
" 14, "	" " "	Isa. xxviii: 18, Jer. viii: 20 — 2.

And so on, from month to month, and from year to year. Certain small signs were added to designate whether the sermon was a written one, or preached from a few brief notes.

The result of the few months, reaching from September 30, to December 30, 1798, is summed up as follows:

"Fourteen Sabbaths. One I did not preach, one I preached once, the remainder twice in each. Besides the Sabbaths, I preached five times. In the whole thirty times. Six of the Sabbaths I was under pay."

The opening of the year 1799 found him at Marlborough, Connecticut, where he remained as a supply until the middle of April. Then, after preaching a few Sabbaths in Norfolk and the neighborhood, he went on his Vermont missionary tour, which occupied the time till the first of September. For the remainder of the year he preached miscellaneously, ending at Danbury. This is the general record he leaves for that year:

"Fifty-two Sabbaths. Four of them I did not preach. Three of them I preached once, the remainder twice in each. Besides the Sabbaths I preached thirty-one times. In the whole one hundred and thirty-four times. Thirty of the Sabbaths I was under pay."

The following is a general record covering the whole period from his license to his ordination in Norfolk, July 20, 1802, just before going on his missionary tour to Ohio.

"I was a candidate for the ministry about four years and ten months, in which time there were two hundred and fifty-one Sabbaths. In two hundred and forty-one of these I preached. The remaining ten, three I was sick, seven I had no particular employment. Of the two hundred and forty-one Sabbaths, on fifteen I preached once, on two, three times, on the remainder twice in each, making four hundred and sixty-nine times. Exclusive of the Sabbaths, I preached in this period one hundred and five times, in the whole

five hundred and seventy-four times. Of the two hundred and forty-one Sabbaths, one hundred and sixty-nine I was under pay.

"At New Hartford I received six dollars a Sabbath, at Ridgebury four dollars a Sabbath. For the remainder I received generally five dollars a Sabbath."

Passing on two or three years we give the summary of the last full year which he spent in his missionary service on the Western Reserve. This was the close of the year 1805.

"Fifty-two Sabbaths. On all of them I preached. On eight of the Sabbaths I preached three times, and on six once in each (on the rest twice). Besides the Sabbaths I preached one hundred and five times. In the whole two hundred and eleven times. Probably more than I ever shall do in any other year. I was constantly under pay from the Missionary Society."

The reader may notice, by the above record, that if his preachings had been wholly confined to the Sabbath, it would have been more than four for every Sabbath throughout the year.

We will turn forward now to the close of the year 1816, which was midway in his ministry at East Windsor, and his summing up is as follows:

"Fifty-two Sabbaths. By the goodness of God I have been permitted to preach on every one. On forty-eight, I have preached twice; on three, three times, and on one, four times, making one hundred and nine times. I have preached twenty-six times on week days, making one hundred and thirty-five times. I have been at home forty Sabbaths, have exchanged eleven, and one have left my people destitute."

These specimens of his preaching record, which was continued through his life, will suffice to show the methodical habit of his mind. According to the statistics thus preserved he must have preached, during the forty-six years of his active ministerial life, more than six thousand times. We reckon the forty-six years, up to his residence in Hartford as librarian, 1798-1844. During this life in Hartford he preached very frequently, especially in the earlier years of his residence there.

In a little manuscript book, such as would very easily be held in his hand, and which he calls his Missionary Book, are plans (each one occupying a page) of not far from two hundred sermons in outline, such as he used in his journeys through the new settlements of Ohio, 1803-1806. Rarely did he preach in a meeting-house in those days. His services were in the open air, in school-houses, in barns, in log-cabins, as the church edifices were not then built.

## A PAGE FROM ONE OF DR. ROBBINS'S ACCOUNT BOOKS.

This was while he was at Mattapoisett, boarding in the family of Dea. Nathaniel Crosby. By his accounts it will be seen how thoroughly he identifies himself with the family, just as he did with Major Wolcott's family, during all his life at East Windsor, 1808-1827.

1836.		
Feb. 9.	Lent Mrs. Crosby, at New Bedford, to pay milliner . . .	\$1.20
Feb. 11.	Let Mrs. C. have at Fairhaven to pay a milliner . . .	2.00
Mar. 10.	Let Mr. Crosby have a quart of P. Wine . . . . .	.37
Mar. 23.	Let Mrs. C. have . . . . .	1.00
Mar. 26.	Paid at Boston for a book for Anne . . . . .	.42
Mar. 30.	Let Mr. C. have . . . . .	1.00
April 1.	Mr. Crosby had . . . . .	.15
April 30.	Paid for Mrs. C. at (New) Bedford . . . . .	.20
April 30.	Paid for a book for Elizabeth . . . . .	.62
June 14.	Paid for Mrs. C. at Bedford . . . . .	.46
July 25.	Let Mrs. C. have . . . . .	50.00
Aug. 19.	Mr. Crosby had of Mr. White . . . . .	3.00
Sept.	Mr. Crosby had stockings . . . . .	.50
Sept.	Mrs. Crosby had P. Wine . . . . .	.37
Sept. 29.	Let Mrs. Crosby have four Testaments . . . . .	.50
Oct. 14.	Paid for Mrs. C. at B'd boots, \$1.62, Br'y, .50 . . . .	2.12
Oct. 22.	Let Mrs. Crosby have . . . . .	1.00
Nov. 23.	Paid for Mrs. C. at B'd boots, \$1.42, Bourne, \$1.00 . .	2.42
Dec. 8.	Paid Mr. Crosby . . . . .	41.30
Dec. 29.	Paid at New Bedford for paper . . . . .	.20
Dec. 29.	A flag handkerchief . . . . .	.55
Dec. 30.	Reckoned with Mr. Crosby the board bill to Dec. 19, other accounts to this date. His charge is	
	Board . . . . .	\$117.00
	Horse and carriage . . . . .	29.56
	Other charges . . . . .	4.15
	Wood . . . . .	23.94
		<hr/> \$174.65
	Have paid him during the year . . .	\$109.28
	Have now endorsed on his note . . .	23.00
	Have now paid him . . . . .	42.37
		<hr/> \$174.65
Balanced accounts.		



## WEDDING JOURNEY OF REV. AMMI RUHAMAH ROBBINS.

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THESE extracts are from the manuscript diary of the Rev. Ammi R. Robbins, who had the same habit of keeping a short daily record of passing events as his son, Rev. Thomas Robbins, D.D.

The journey, described in the following brief record, begins May 3, 1762. The writer of it, Rev. Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, had been ordained and settled in the ministry at Norfolk, Oct. 28, 1761. He now sets out for Plymouth, Mass., to take to himself a young wife, whose acquaintance he made while teaching school in that town, where his older brother Chandler had been two years before settled in the ministry.

He goes first alone to Branford, Ct., where his father, Philemon, is the minister. From there in a carriage, with his father and mother and sister Sarah (whom he calls Sally, and who was afterwards the wife of Rev. Peter Starr), they set off for Plymouth, reaching there on the fourth day from Branford.

### 1762.

May 1. Studied all day. Dined at Mr. Bunce's. Rained afternoon.

May 2. Sabbath. Preached afternoon Psalms v: 6-12. Sacrament afternoon; Luke xiii: 24. Very serious congregation. This day a child born of Sarah Burr in house where I live.

May 3. Set out from Norfolk on my journey to Plymouth.

May 4. Rode to Branford. At noon tarried and prepared for journey.

May 5. Set out with parents and Sally for Plymouth. Came to Mr. Griswold's.<sup>1</sup>

May 6. Reached Mr. Rowland's.<sup>2</sup> Turned over chaise; not hurt.

May 7. Rained most all day, but we went to Pawtucket.

May 8. At sunset arrived safe to Plymouth. Found dearest and all well.

May 9. Sabbath. Father preached all day for his brother, we with him in pulpit.

May 10. Dined at Dr. Le Baron's.<sup>3</sup> Spent afternoon there agreeably.

May 11. Dined at brother's; spent day at Dr. Le Baron's.

May 12. Dined at Dr. Le Baron's. Brother Elkanah<sup>3</sup> came from Boston.

---

<sup>1</sup> These were not ministers, but probably friends or relations.

<sup>2</sup> Lazarus Le Baron, M.D., father of the bride.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Lazarus Le Baron's wife (*nee* Lydia

Bradford) had been for a few years married to Elkanah Cushman when he died, leaving a son Elkanah. He was half brother of Elizabeth Le Baron, and the young lover, though not yet married, calls him brother.

May 13. Happy day! May it be long remembered with gratitude, for I was at evening married to Miss Elizabeth Le Baron.

May 14. Pleasant day. All dined at father Le Baron's.

May 15. Dined and spent day at father's. Visitors came.

May 16. Sabbath. Father preached. We appeared in the desirable character of bridegroom and bride.

May 17. Father and brother went to Boston. We dined at Mr. Russell's.<sup>1</sup>

May 18. Rode out to uncle Thomas's.<sup>2</sup> All of us dined there.

May 19. Dined and spent afternoon at brother Goodwin's.

May 20. We dined at sister's. Afternoon and evening we visited.

May 21. Mrs. Robbins and I rode to Kingston.

May 22. Spent day at father's. Afternoon studied.

May 23. Sabbath. Preached in the morning on Christian Warfare, and afternoon on the Trinity. Large audience.

May 24. Dined and spent most of the day at father Le Baron's. Visited a sick woman. At Col. Watson's in the evening.

May 25. Read some. Spent day at father's. Hot weather.

May 26. Had visitors all day. My dearest gloomy about leaving home.

May 27. Had visitors. Spent day at father Le Baron's. Father Robbins and brother returned from Boston. In preparation for our journey.

May 28. All things prepared, at twelve o'clock my wife and I took leave of dear friends at Plymouth for Connecticut. Brother Lemuel<sup>3</sup> accompanied us. Hard parting. Lodged at Dean's.

May 29. Rained in the morning, but we rode to Bristol.

May 30. Sabbath. I preached all day for Mr. Burt.<sup>4</sup> Forenoon on the Trinity, afternoon on "Strive to enter in at the straight gate."

May 31. Spent afternoon at Dr. Bradford's.<sup>5</sup> Afternoon rode to Providence. Found parents, and all lodged at Olney's.

June 1. Parents, wife, and I rode from Providence to South Kingston.

June 2. Rode to Groton. Rained afternoon. Lodged at Mr. Barber's.<sup>6</sup>

June 3. Rained forenoon. We rode to Lyme. Father ill at New London.

June 4. Father overtook us, and we all came to Guilford.

June 5. Arrived safe at Branford at noon. Found Mr. Smith and wife there. My wife likes Branford.

<sup>1</sup> The Russell family of Plymouth afterwards intermarried with the Le Barons, but at this point of time were probably entertaining the new bride and bridegroom simply as friends.

<sup>2</sup> This was some uncle of his new wife, whose name does not appear, but he was not of the Le Baron name.

<sup>3</sup> Younger brother of the bride. He was then *fifteen* years old, and she *seventeen*.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. John Burt, who was pastor of Congregational church at Bristol, R. I., 1741-1775.

<sup>5</sup> William Bradford, M. D.

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Jonathan Barber, pastor at Groton, Ct., 1758-1768.

## CORRECTIONS IN INDEX OF VOLUME I.

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Page 402.	Note 1	for son read cousin.	Rev. Salmon King was son of Gideon, not of Col. Oliver King.
" 427.	" 6	" son read cousin.	
" 437.	" 1	" " " "	
" 438.	" 4	" Eli read Epaphras.	
" 456.	" 3	" " " "	
" 508.	" 5	" Dea. Reed died at last at Toledo, aged ninety-four.	
" 520.	" 6	" Andover, Ct., read Andover, Mass.	
" 523.	" 4	" " " " " "	
" 566.	" 6	" Matthew read Martin.	
" 662.	" 3	" Ring read King.	
" 691.	" 4	" typhus read typhoid.	
" 709.	" 3	" Eliphalet read John Pearson, Bishop of Chester, England.	
" 730.	" 1	" Edmund Spenser read Rev. Thomas Spencer.	
" 730.	" 5	" daughters read granddaughters.	
" 891.	" 3	" James W. Robbins, of Lenox, Mass., read Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, of Colebrook, Ct.	
" 903.	" 8	" James W. Robbins, of Lenox, Mass., read Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, of Colebrook, Ct.	
" 909.	" 2	" Lenox read Colebrook, Ct.	
" 932.	" 7	" George read Shubael.	
" 949.	" 2	" death read dismissal.	Rev. Mr. Hyde died in Vernon, 1865.
" 966.	" 1	" uncle read elder brother.	
" 1005.	" 3	" Elijah read Ebenezer.	

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In Volume I, page 181, under date of September 28, 1802, may be found the following sentence: "Called at Capt. Clark's in Sheffield, and saw, I presume, the best piece of painting in America." In explanation of the meaning of this passage, Frederick J. Kingsbury, Esq., of Waterbury, Ct., of the class of 1846 at Yale College, and now a member of the Yale Corporation, writes the following very interesting letter:

"Capt. Uzziel Clark was a native of Connecticut (Haddam, I think). He was a sea-captain, and made many voyages to the West Indies, and other foreign parts. Later in life he bought a farm in the southern part of Sheffield, Mass., not far from the Canaan line, and there established a hotel which he kept for some years, and which bore a high reputation.

"The picture here referred to was doubtless a painting of 'Antony and Cleopatra,' by the Italian artist Pompea G. Battoni. This picture was presented to Capt. Clark by a French family whom he rescued from one of the West India Islands at the time of a negro insurrection and massacre. The family, or a portion of them who escaped, took refuge on Capt. Clark's vessel, to which also some of their effects were afterwards transferred.

"The only daughter of Capt. Clark married Joseph Burton, Esq., of Waterbury, and the picture was taken to Waterbury, and was afterward sold by Mr. Burton to Hezekiah Huntington, Esq., of Hartford, and is still owned by his widow."

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